

Know Your Place

North Somerset



Calling all artists and storytellers!!

We are hoping to turn windows across North Somerset into 'stained glass windows' using pictures inspired by the wonderful historic windows seen in churches and historic buildings across the district!

Will you help us to create a trail of originally inspired stained glass windows to bring colour and joy to North Somerset in these hard times?

Create your stained glass window picture in any way you wish using anything from tissue paper and sweet wrappers to paint, even pipe cleaners!

History of stained glass

Coloured glass has been made since ancient times. Both the Egyptians and Romans manufactured small coloured glass objects.

Stained glass windows have been used since the 12th century in Britain to tell stories, originally in religious building such as churches.

They were admired greatly in medieval times and were designed to appear like precious jewels. The way light shone through these magnificent windows would seem supernatural or 'otherworldly' to most people.



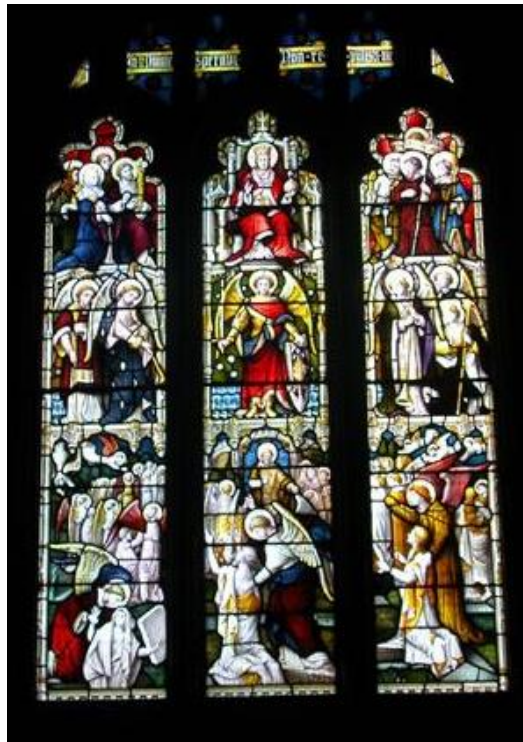
Houses at this time rarely even had normal glass windows as glass was extremely expensive.

As the technology of how to make glass and coloured glass improved these windows and their designs became bigger and bigger!

Did you know that at the time these churches were originally built, many people couldn't read or write?

Being able to read and write was considered a skill of the rich or upper classes. Poor and working-class people would not have been able to read or write.

The stained glass windows along with wall paintings inside the church told the stories within the Bible so all people could understand their message. They used to be known as the illustrated bible.



Church of St.
Michael and All
Angels Church,
Butcombe

As time went on the stained glass windows also depicted images of important people such as kings and queens or saints.



St. Nicholas's
Church,
Brockley

Modern stained glass windows are more features of art and no longer try to tell stories or include important figures connected to religion or royalty.



Tyntesfield
Chapel,
Wraxall

Now it's your turn – how about creating your very own stained glass window?

Can you think of a story about your house or make up a story and create your very own stained glass window to put in your own window?

How about your favourite North Somerset landscape or a famous painting?

How about thinking of a very important person to go in your stained glass windows for your house?

Share your stained glass windows with us on the Know Your Place Facebook

Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/638416113618702/>

**You can also share with us on Twitter: @KYPNorthSom
or by using the hashtag #KYPstainedglass**

Or email to DM.Archaeology@n-somerset.gov.uk