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# Newsletter January 2019

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From the  
Maker-In-  
Chief



Hello!

I trust everything has returned to normal now after the festive break and you actually know what day of the week it is? (To be honest, I've been struggling).

We've had a lovely offer from this month's newsletter advertiser [DEVELOP3D magazine](#) who is providing a free subscription to any GoM members in the UK .  
"DEVELOP3D keeps the product development community up to date with in-depth news, reviews and features on the very latest technologies." So if that's your sort of thing, sign up!

In other exciting news, tickets are now available for the Guild of Makers Annual Conference on 22 March. Members can purchase their tickets [here](#) (you may have to be logged in to your webcollect account to see this). Spaces are limited and we'll open bookings to non-members in February, so get yours soon.

If you'd like to sponsor the event, or maybe sponsor a free place for someone unable to otherwise attend, I would be VERY happy to talk with you.

### **Conference Details:**

**When:** Friday 22nd March 2019 10am - 5pm

**How much?** £39 members, £79 non-members (lunch included)

**Where:** [Autodesk Technology Centre](#), Small Heath Business Park, Talbot Way, Birmingham, B10 0HJ (A tour of the centre will be taking place during the day)

### **Speakers include:**

- Dan Hett: [@DanHett](#) & <https://danhett.com>

- Alfred Chow [@MakerOfThings](#) & <https://www.makerofthings.org.uk> and Sue Archer [@SueArcher6](#) & <https://www.mousevaarks.co.uk>

- Rachel Wong: [@Konichiwakitty](#) & <https://www.etsy.com/uk/listing/532427864>
- Seb Lee-Delisle: [@Seb\\_Ly](#) & <https://seb.ly>
- Hanna Varga: [@Ashleaflondon](#) & <https://linktr.ee/ashleaflondon>
- Paul Parry: [@baddogdesigns](#) & <https://www.bad-dog-designs.co.uk>

**The conference will also include a panel discussion with more great makers!**

**Workshops include:**

- Lockpicking with Nigel Tolly: [@discreetsecure](#) & [www.safeplaces.co.uk](http://www.safeplaces.co.uk)
- Paper animations with Rob Ives: [@RobIves](#) & <https://www.robives.com>
- And more!

Arguably the most important part of any conference is the networking and you'll have plenty of opportunity to say a real life hi to all those #Makers you may have met online.

Happy making!

**Dr Lucy Rogers**

**Founder, Guild of Makers**

[@DrLucyRogers](#)

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# Ten questions with a maker

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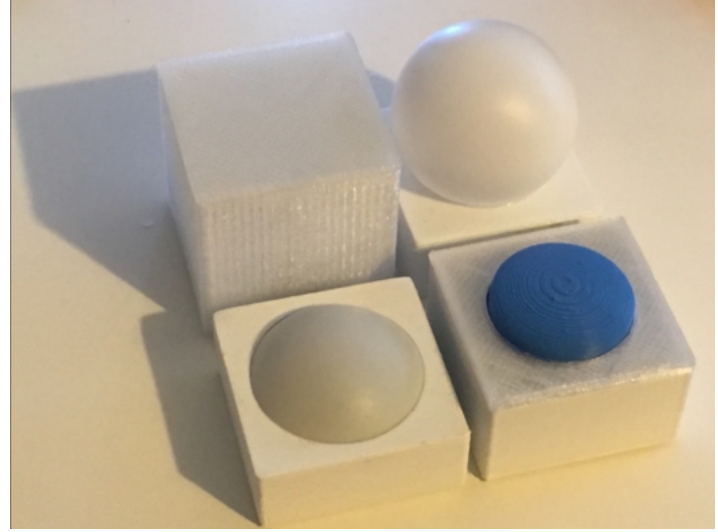
**Name:** Andy Stanford-Clark

**Website:** [stanford-clark.com](http://stanford-clark.com)

**Twitter:** [@andysc](#)

**Location:** Isle of Wight, UK





## 1. What do you make?

Internet of Things devices, wirelessly connected to the Cloud, usually displaying data in some way and often using multi-colour LEDs. My projects are usually based on the Arduino (specifically the [ESP-8266 Wemos](#)) or the Raspberry Pi. I love my 3D printer, which I use to create the cases for projects. I'm a software engineer by profession and an electronics hobbyist, so I've got the whole end-to-end skill set needed to create cool gadgets.

Recent devices include the GlowOrb family of single pixel output devices (above right) and the TideWatch (above left), which is a project I did over the Christmas holidays in collaboration with my daughter. It shows the comings and goings of the tide on the South side of the Isle of Wight where we live. Blue dots represent the sea and green dots show the exposed land as the tide goes out. Each cycle of the tide (low to high or high to low) takes about six hours, hence the six LEDs.

## 2. What does your making space look like?

Some combination of my study, where breadboards and wires fight for space with my laptop and papers on my desk; the kitchen table, which is often the production line for making batches of GlowOrbs; and my workshop at the back of the garage, which is a bit of a mess, but has tools and parts for every job around the house and garden, as well as my soldering station and electronics assembly tools.

## 3. Where do you sell your makes?

Currently just through word of mouth, mostly twitter, via a [PayPal link](#), which will get you a GlowOrb, for example. I'm planning to launch the GlowOrbs on the [RS DesignSpark MarketPlace](#), but haven't taken the plunge yet. Mostly because my day job keeps me very busy and this is very much a back-burner project.

## 4. Who inspires you?

People who come up with cool ideas and actually implement them. So many people say "you could do this" or "someone should do that". It's the people who actually have the inspiration and motivation to turn the ideas into reality who inspire me.

## **5. What's your best failure?**

My electronic river monitoring solution, which had a series of electrodes wired together along the length of a piece of wood. For some reason (mostly, I think because aluminium has an oxide layer on the outside and water isn't a great conductor of electricity) it didn't work at all. You can see me describing this and some other home automation inventions [here](#).

## **6. What's your favourite magazine / podcast / youtube channel / other making related "thing"?**

I dip into The MagPi magazine occasionally, but apart from that, I watch random YouTube videos from time to time when they show off something cool that someone's done.

## **7. Do you meet up to discuss / make with other makers? If so, where?**

I have been to a few Raspberry Jam type events, but not many. I tend to do most of my interaction online via Twitter - both in public, and through DMs.

## **8. What's been the hardest thing about making for a living for you?**

I don't earn my living as a maker - I'm very fortunate to have a great career at IBM. Making is very much a hobby.

## **9. What's the best thing about making for a living?**

I don't "make" for a living.

## **10. Whose work would you recommend that fellow Guild members should check out?**

If you're interested in some serious mechanical engineering, Lisa Milne ([@tiklishhoneybee](#)) does amazing metal work for model trains.

Dr Lucy Rogers ([@drlucyrogers](#)) is, of course, always doing cool stuff, and is very much in the inspiring category of someone who actually makes real their ideas.

Alex Lennon ([@embedded\\_iot](#)) is doing cool work at DoES Liverpool with LoRa and other emerging technologies, and has been working in the area we now know as the Internet of Things for longer than I have, which really is saying something!

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# Opportunities for members

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## Maker Advocate

There is an excellent job opportunity in Dublin within the MADE project - Maker Advocacy in Dublin for Everyone. They are seeking to hire a full-time Maker Advocate who will address the issues within the currently fragmented regional maker scene in Dublin and with the support of the team behind Dublin Maker, will plan, coordinate and execute a number of high impact actions. Closing date is 21 January. More information [here](#).

## Bright Sparks

Guild members Rachel Wong ([@Konichiwakitty](#)) and Archie Roques ([@archieroques](#)) have previously been winners of the prestigious Bright Sparks Awards. If you know any good, young (under 30) engineers, please consider nominating them (you can also nominate yourself!). Deadline is 15 February. More information [here](#).

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# Forums

Due to trouble with spammers on the forum and on the contact page of our website, they are both currently closed. However, we have opened a LinkedIn page for the Guild and we do still have the Slack channel. If you want to be added to either the Slack or the [LinkedIn group](#), please send me an [email](#).

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# Database / marketplace

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Due to \*insert feeble excuse\* this is still not done. Sorry.

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# Membership

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The current membership year ends on 5th April 2019, which is the renewal date for all those who bought membership in 2018. Anyone who has bought membership in 2019, or buys it now, it will run until 5 April 2020. After that date, the membership will be on a “year from the date you paid” basis.

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