

GlassCuts

The Journal of the British Glass Foundation;
the Voice of Stourbridge Glass Museum

STOURBRIDGE
GLASS MUSEUM

Edition: 195

Dated: 22.2.22

note the date: Palindrome Days happen when the day's date can be read the same way backward and forward. The dates are similar to word palindromes in that they are symmetrical.

Days to SGM opening on 9th April ...

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Admiring the view

Our thanks to *Express & Star* for permission to reproduce this stunning aerial image from an angle that many of us will have never seen before. It is part of a delightful online feature (*click link below - Ed*) where E&S kindly reported on approval of our recent planning applications for signage, windows and other miscellanies.



Yes, that is the former Stuart Crystal factory. Yes, it is now the Stourbridge Glass Museum. And yes, we're rather chuffed. Make that note in your diary for Saturday 9th April and come see for yourself.

www.expressandstar.com/news/local-hubs/dudley/stourbridge/2022/02/04/stourbridge-glass-museum-plans-approved/

And still that flag flies

In the last edition we reported on our Patron David Williams-Thomas, the last family Managing Director of Royal Brierley (formerly Stevens & Williams), handing over the company's flag to SGM for safe keeping in perpetuity.

It clearly sparked some fond memories and we were delighted to subsequently hear from reader Allan W. Brookes who told us: 'I have a picture with that flag; we did an 'it's a knockout' competition at Wordsley Park in 1968, and Simon Williams-Thomas, David's brother bought it along. We won a first prize of £25 with which we bought a football strip and started the very successful Steven's and Williams Sunday football team. This eventually changed to The Vine, once again a very successful team. How's that for a bit of history (*great! – Ed*) with a number of us then playing for Stuart's under the managership of Reg Everton of Dawn Crystal at Audnam'.



Then this, from John Taylor via David Williams-Thomas who kindly forwarded it sent it to us. John says: 'I remember the football team and Allan Brookes. My start was July 1969. The football team was in existence and they played in the Cradley Heath Sunday league. Roger Guest managed them. They had a good side. The Brierley players were mainly from the cutting shop. Les Prosser was a good player, playing semi-professionally on Saturdays for Tividale. Danny Mason also featured as did Allan Brookes. There was also a young cutting apprentice who was excellent and he was signed by Cardiff City and left us. He suffered a badly broken leg which finished his professional career. I cannot think of other players except there were a number of very good players who were not employed at Brierley. I even managed one game but was not good enough'.

But John was clearly 'good enough' in other aspects, as David explains: 'John Taylor was Works Manager and a very important guy at Brierley. He went from us to become the Manager and Chief Instructor at the International Glass centre in Moor Lane Brierley Hill. This was the imposing Victorian building on the right on the way up to Brierley Hill from the Pensnett direction. It was originally the Brierley Hill Library and Glass Museum, but after the amalgamation with Dudley the Brierley Hill collection went to Broadfield House. The building was turned over to training studio glassmakers and many of today's Studio craftsmen/women were trained by John. Yes...a fun correspondence! Thanks for all you are doing!'

All of these recollections, plus many more names and tales from yesteryear, are still out there in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{®GF} and deserve recording for future generations to learn from and enjoy. Do keep sending us yours.

It's all here

The *What's On* guide for our first year of opening is being put together as we speak. And it's looking good. Watch this space for more details.

Star turn

Portrait of Britain

British Journal
of Photography

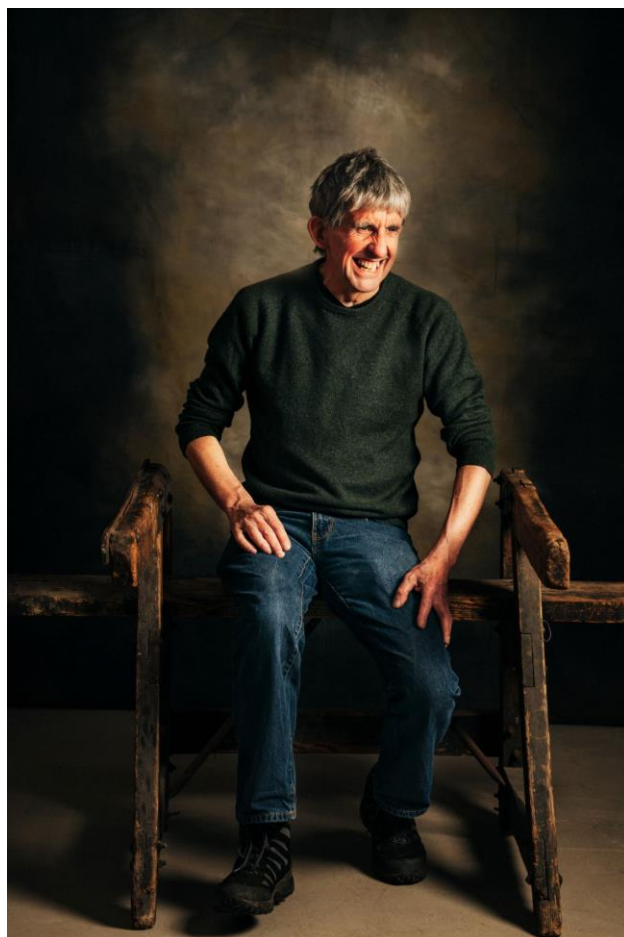


We are truly delighted to hear that Sarah Hall, the freelance photographer who took portrait photographs of glassworkers for the *Voices of the Cones* oral histories, has hit the heights. Sarah went to university with Ollie Buckley, who noticed she has become a highly talented portrait photographer, and invited her to come to Stourbridge Glass Museum to take portraits of the Glassmakers to go with the oral histories and line the walls of the museum.

Her efforts have been rewarded in *Portrait of Britain 2021: the UK's biggest annual photography exhibition in collaboration with JCDecaux*. Her portrait of a RNLI Lifeboat seaman was shortlisted as one of 100 winning images, each capturing the changing face of our nation in their own unique way, and selected by a panel of industry-leading judges. The winning images are currently being exhibited on JCDecaux digital screens and bus stops across the UK. Her portrait was awarded overall winner of Portrait of Britain 2021. All shortlisted images will be published in a book by Hoxton mini press.



On behalf of all at BGF and SGM we congratulate Sarah on her achievement.



Richard Lamming – Voices From The Cones

Working together



Dudley MBC is one of our principal sponsors. But their philanthropy extends far beyond our organisation, as exemplified by the annual Mayor's Charity Appeal. We are always happy to recognise this event and reciprocate DMBC's support of our work so here is the Mayoral message for this year from Councillor Anne Millward, Mayor of Dudley ...

Dear BGF,

I am writing to ask for your help in supporting a number of local charities which are close to my heart. During my year as Mayor I have chosen to support two very important organisations as part of my charity appeal. These amazing charities help and support many people in our communities.

The charities are:

- **Black Country Mental Health** who work to promote the preservation and maintenance of good mental wellbeing as well as assisting people experiencing emotional or mental distress. They treat everyone as a unique individual recognising that everyone's journey is different and have a dedicated staff team, volunteer force and board of trustees who work tirelessly to ensure no-one is left unsupported.
- **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** which gives young people aged 14-24 the opportunity to take on personal challenges, surpass their own expectations and achieve goals they may have previously thought impossible. The charity empowers young people; to support them as they learn new skills, overcome obstacles, and build confidence and resilience.

To raise vital funds for the charities I will be hosting the Mayor's Ball and Civic Awards on Friday 8 April at The Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill. I hope to raise more money than ever before which is why I am writing to you to ask for your help.

We are looking for donations for an auction, raffle and tombola, items such as luxury hampers, wine, chocolates, gift or experience vouchers, electronics etc. With your help I hope to make a huge difference to the families and people supported by these important charities.

If you are able to help or would like to attend the Mayor's Ball and Civic Awards please contact the Mayoral team on 01384 811561 or email capa.admin@dudley.gov.uk. More information can be found at www.mayorofdudley.org.uk

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

Funding and maintaining a revenue stream is an ongoing requirement, and one that has never been more crucial. We greatly value your gifts and donations; thank you.

In addition to cash donations (see below as to how you can do this), readers are reminded of the opportunity to secure a lasting *memento* in the new museum by way of purchasing one of Allister Malcolm's engraved glass plaques. Details via the usual BGF address.

BGF routinely reviews its donation procedures. Enhancements are announced as and when but in the meantime we continue to accept donations direct by cash, cheque and BACS. **We would respectfully ask that *all* cheques and orders be made payable to BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION.**

For donations by BACS our bank details are:

HSBC Bank
Branch Identifier Code: MIDLGB2108U
Sort code: 40-38-07
Account number: 72076780

To donate from anywhere in the world through *Paypal* visit <https://www.paypal.com/uk/for-you/transfer-money/send-money> and donate to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

To donate through our website visit www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk and hit the 'Donate' button.

Donations made by a UK taxpayer can attract Gift Aid, which is a great supplement to our funds and costs the donor nothing. All we need to claim this is your Gift Aid declaration; contact us for details if you have not already supplied us with relevant particulars.

Please note: In acknowledging the support of donors *GlassCuts* generally will not reveal either the details of the donor or the amount donated unless the donor indicates otherwise or the circumstances are in the public domain or public interest. This does not preclude the possibility of details, including the amount donated and/or the donor's particulars, appearing elsewhere in BGF material.

All donations are greatly appreciated. BGF is entirely philanthropic and its Trustees are unremunerated. BGF policy is that all monies received go directly to the cause. Donations can be as one-off contributions or standing order.

Notes and queries

Whilst we are happy to facilitate this *ad hoc* information exchange on unusual items of interest BGF cannot undertake valuations or offer comment other than that supplied by our correspondents. Submission does not guarantee publication. No responsibility ... etc (*usual caveats apply*)

We are examining ways of continuing this facility post-opening as a service to our readers.

PARISH NOTICES

tell us the news from your world

As lockdown restrictions ease we welcome back this pre-pandemic favourite. Send us your latest from anywhere in the world and we'll try to mention it. No guarantees other than we'll do our best.

* Latest news from the Contemporary Glass Society including on-going information regarding their 25th anniversary celebrations. www.cgs.org.uk

* *Alan J. Poole newsletter* latest edition. alanipoole@aol.com

* *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Regular updates, forthcoming Zoom presentations and more. info@glass-sellers.co.uk

* *Glass Arts Society Visiting Artists Summer Workshops 2022*. communications@glassart.org

From the Hot Studio:

www.allistermalcolm.com **Facebook** @allistermalcolmglass **Twitter** @allistermalcolm **Instagram** @allistermalcolmglassltd

It's a busy time down there right now, as Allister tells us ...

* With the museum opening we are excited to announce our 'Have a go workshops' are starting in April kicking off with a Hotshop taster session. You can play with molten glass! *(in complete safety, of course - Ed).*



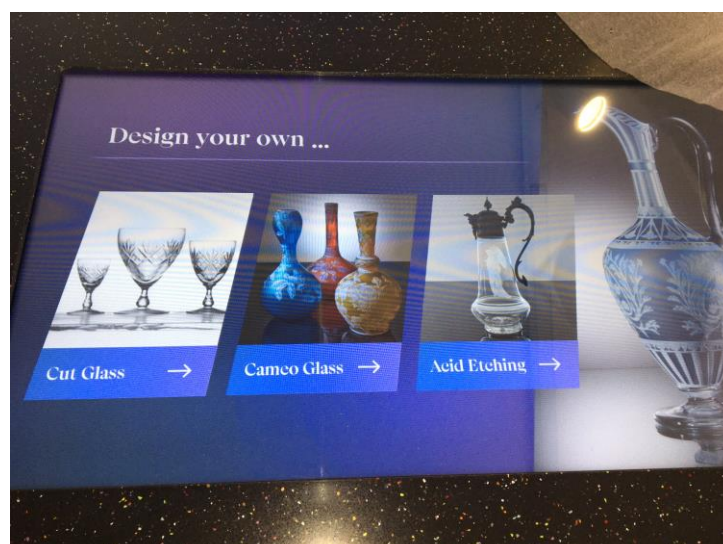
Click on the link to find out more - we are taking bookings. We can't wait to meet you.

<https://www.allistermalcolm.com/product/hot-glass-taster-session-make-your-own-paperweight-april-2022/>

In addition we will have many other exciting workshops that you can have a go at! Here's the link to check them all out! <https://www.allistermalcolm.com/product-category/workshops/>

* Here's a sneak preview of something else: to give an idea of the 'interactives' that will be available in the new museum, click on this link:

www.dropbox.com/s/riu01mwhokwgbkh/design%20yur%20own%20interactive%20.mov?dl=0



Just a reminder in these troubled times

If you've got something 'glassy' to say and you want it said to somebody else, consider sending it to us and we'll do our best to help pass the information via *GlassCuts*. Usual address.

And finally, a word from our political correspondent ...

'I really don't know what the fuss is all about with this Vladimir Putin. Personally I would be much more concerned by the antics of his great-grandfather Ras'.

I'll start the car.

Graham Fisher MBE FRGS
Press & Publicity
pp British Glass Foundation
www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Getting involved

Would you like to be part of a vibrant and enthusiastic group of volunteers dedicated to supporting the British Glass Foundation and its work at the new glass museum?

Specialist skills or knowledge are welcome but not essential. We are committed to equal opportunities and full training will be given where necessary. To find out more, contact us via the usual address and we will be delighted to do the rest.

Promotional opportunities

Black Country Radio broadcasts throughout the Black Country on 102.5 FM and also via DAB and on-line around the world. If your event satisfies the criteria of not-for-profit, charitable or philanthropic and is community orientated there is no charge.

Go to www.blackcountryradio.co.uk hover over 'Local' and click 'Local Events Guide'. Submit the form you'll find at upper left under '+ Add Event'. Your announcement will then appear on the *Events Guide*. Allow sufficient notice and the event may be 'voiced' and broadcast live on air during daytime broadcasting. Depending on the number of events, yours might be broadcast several times; there's no guarantee but it should appear at least once. Meanwhile it stays on the *Events Guide* listings on the world-wide web until the day itself.

Keeping in touch

Museum Director Ollie Buckley

Direct Line: 01384 900447

Email: info@stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk

BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE

Direct Line: 01384 900447

Email: bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Both by snail-mail at:

Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB



These are the QR codes for the British Glass Foundation (left) and Virgin Money Giving (right).

Scan to browse the work of the BGF or to make a donation. If you are donating by VMG then please note that VMG's own commission fees, over which BGF has no control, may apply.



THE BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND



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Fund

... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enover Community Trust, Ibstock Enover Trust, Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity



BGF would also like to acknowledge the following, *inter alia*, for their support and generosity ...

Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership Growing Places Fund : Garfield Weston : Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust : The Headley Trust : The Charles Hayward Foundation : W.A. Cadbury Charitable Trust : John Ellerman Foundation : The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London : The Pilgrim Trust

... together with many other contributions from other trusts, foundations and individuals. (E&OE)

Full details of BGF partners, supporters and sponsors at: www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/

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<https://www.instagram.com/glassmuseumuk/>

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Disclaimer

We comply with the provisions of Data Protection and so we must remind you that *GlassCuts* exists solely for the information of its supporters, our Privacy Statement is outlined in detail on our website at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk and subscribers can withdraw at any time just by sending an email to the bgf address below with 'stop' in the subject header.

No responsibility etc. etc ... (usual caveats apply)

We welcome you passing *GlassCuts* on to anyone you feel may be interested in our work. You know the rest but if in any doubt then please communicate with us directly in the first instance via bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk



British Glass Foundation

www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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