

GlassCuts

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

STOURBRIDGE
GLASS MUSEUM

Celebrating BGF History 2009 – 2022

Click: www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/ or <https://grahamfisher.co.uk/resources>

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Dated: 19.4.22

Days since SGM opening on 9th April ...

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY !

GlassCuts at the 200 milestone

Having served us well through all that has gone before, it is now fitting that the 200th edition of our modest little email bulletin should be celebrated by sharing in our future. Central to this future is the new Stourbridge Glass Museum that not only links our unique heritage to contemporary glassmaking but which is also our solid base from which we venture ever forward.

Welcome to the bold new world of Stourbridge Glass and its era-defining Stourbridge Glass Museum. And, having been its faithful little stalwart from the outset, let's also raise a glass to *GlassCuts* at this special 200th edition. Happy anniversary.

***GlassCuts*; a life**

From the earliest days of BGF we recognised the imperative for a publicity machine that could keep our supporters informed and help create a loyalty base.

The initial idea was for a formal quarterly newsletter interspersed with an *ad hoc* email bulletin that would fill in the gaps between the newsletters. Thus was born *GlassCuts*, the *ad hoc* bit. Or so we thought. *GlassCuts* took flight with its first edition on 11th October 2011 and rapidly soared upwards into cyberspace to the extent that the newsletter became moribund and reached its final incarnation with issue number 5 in March 2013. Search the attic; they're probably collector's items now.

By this time *GlassCuts* had established itself as our primary vehicle of broadcast and notwithstanding the advent of our website, social media and news releases, it has retained - indeed strengthened - its position as *numero uno* in spreading the word not only about our work but as an umbrella conduit for the wider world of glass. We now have subscribers and readers on just about every land mass on the planet and are regularly cited in periodicals, journals and academia. We created a monster and it needs constant feeding, so please keep those features, events, comments, images and queries coming in.

Of course, now the museum is open our attentions will be more focussed on what's going on deep in sunny Wordsley but we are pleased to continue our policy that if you extend us the courtesy of telling us anything 'glassy' then we will reciprocate however we can. All back issues are lodged at <https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/proposals/glass-cuts/>

Viva la *GlassCuts* and thanks for your continuing support. *From your Editorial team Graham & Lynn*

WHAT'S ON AT SGM

Full details of our packed programme of events are contained in our brochure (available free of charge from the Museum and other local outlets) or via the Stourbridge Glass Museum website by clicking here: <https://www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk/events/>

Forthcoming attractions: (see website for details)

Fri 22nd April: Adventures in storytelling: the Firebird
Sat 23rd April: Up and at 'em! History
Sun 24th April: Hot Glass taster session: make your own paperweight
Sun 24th April: Craft Clu

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

Funding and maintaining a revenue stream is an ongoing requirement. We greatly value your contributions. BGF Trustees are unremunerated; all monies received go to the cause. Donations can be as one-off contributions or standing order.

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.**



This is the QR code for the British Glass Foundation.
Scan to browse the work of the BGF or to make a donation.

For donations by BACS our bank details are:

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

To donate via Just giving go to:

<https://donate.justgiving.com/donation-amount?uri=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBP1c3RnaXZpbmcuY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjIxNDIhNDUxMik1NzdlODgzOTRIZjhkMDQ=>

To donate *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.

IFoG calling

Not too long now until the International Festival of Glass <https://www.ifg.org.uk> held over this August Bank Holiday, in which our new museum will be playing a key role for the first time. Festival Director Janine Christley recently sent us a press release announcing the selected artists for both the British Glass Biennale and the International Bead Biennale, together with details of judges and prizes. It is an impressive ensemble of glassmaking talent so look closely and see how many are from, or are associated with, the Stourbridge area. Quite remarkable. **We attach the release in unabridged form as a supplement to this edition so you can see for yourself.** Good luck to them all, we say.

Isle be blowed



This latest news from Isle of Wight Glass Museum is something we just had to draw to your attention. Development Manager Sue Beeby tells us about a very special event involving a much-loved name in the glass world that is particularly revered in our neck of the woods. Set your calendar for Saturday 28th May 2022 and *A Lifetime in Glass: The Story of Okra and Station Glass*. Yes, it's our ol' pal Richard Golding.

Sue gives us the details: 'This is a demonstration of the art of glassmaking by internationally renowned master craftsman Richard Golding. Hosted at the studio of the island's own Timothy Harris, of Isle of Wight Studio Glass, the demo will be followed by a Q&A session. Guests will then be treated to an audio visual presentation by Richard in the museum's Art Deco gallery, followed by a private viewing and sale of selected artworks, a guided tour by the Director, and the opportunity to engage directly with the experts, one-to-one'. Tickets are £15.00 via: 01983 716270, info@isleofwightglassmuseum.org.uk or www.isleofwightglassmuseum.org.uk/events

Whodunnit

Wordsley Amateur Dramatic Society are performing Agatha Christie's *Appointment with Death* at Crestwood School Kingswinford for 3 nights commencing Thursday 28th April. The SGM connection? Well, one of our volunteers (Andrew) is a member of the cast so we are happy to give him a mention as a small token of appreciation for all he has done for us. And if AmDram tickles your fancy, the group are looking for new members following Covid. Contact us and we'll pass it on.

Wordsley Amateur Dramatic Society
In association with Samuel French
Presents
Agatha Christie's
APPOINTMENT WITH DEATH
Directed by Andrew Rock
28th-30th April 2022
7:30pm- 10pm
Crestwood Theatre, Crestwood Secondary School,
Kingswinford, DY6 8QG
Tickets- £10 regular, £8 concession
Box Office- 01384 270228
Or email us at wordsleyamdram@outlook.com

The poster features a red and orange gradient background with a stylized sun or moon in the upper right. A syringe is positioned to the right of the title. The text is centered and uses various fonts, including a cursive script for the author's name and bold, block letters for the title and dates. The society's logo is in the top corners.

Glass on the airwaves

Following the Grand Opening we received this intriguing email from Sophie Tibbles:

'Hallo there. I'm a producer for BBC Radio 2, currently looking for people to take part in a feature called Midnight Mastermind with OJ Borg where you get to quiz him on your specialist subject. And I came across an article about Stourbridge Glass Museum on the BBC Website.

'I thought it might be a nice idea to get someone from the museum to quiz OJ on the history of Stourbridge Glass Quarter. How Midnight Mastermind works is we get you to tell OJ your specialist subject, he then has the length of one song to do his research before coming back to you to ask why you chose your subject - this is a great time to talk about the new museum opening, what people can expect, where people can find you and to talk a little about the museum itself. Then you'll ask OJ 3 questions 1-by-1. It's a lot of fun, our audience love playing along and are very open to hearing about new things. We have lots of people with families listening so may encourage them to visit with their children when they can'.

So, guess what? Yep, you guessed correctly. Stay up late after you've chucked the cat out and tune in to Radio 2 (88-91FM, on line, digital and BBC Sounds) shortly before 00.30hrs on Thursday 21st April to witness the titanic clash between Your Truly and OJ Borg. Many thanks to Sophie for thinking of us; nice one.



Bye bye Julie

Our otherwise brilliantly successful opening day was tinged with sadness by the news that Julie Nicholls died on Saturday 9th April following a short illness. Julie was front of house receptionist at Broadfield House and continued her enthusiasm for glass as a volunteer with us, also being for a while our Volunteer Coordinator. Our sincere condolences to all of her family and friends.

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*)

This brainteaser has been sent to us by reader Catherine Adie ...



'When my father retired in approx 1970 he used his monetary retirement gift to purchase a beautiful vase from Tudor Crystal that had been engraved by a young man who had recently completed his apprenticeship at the firm. There is a signature on the item which I cannot read; the best guess I can make at it is S Crannage. Would your records of people who have been engravers give me an answer? We have established that the date inscribed on the vase is 1979 which would match with the year my father retired. He was 55 when he retired after 25 years in the police force and as he was born in 1924 the date of his retirement would indeed have been November 1979.

The vase measures 8" (20.4cm) tall and 5" (12.7cm) wide at widest point. I know the 'young man' remained working with Tudor Crystal and once, when I visited the museum circa 2008 to show my daughter where the vase originated from, the man who had engraved it was actually in the museum building so had probably remained in the area during his working life. I believe the employees in the then Tudor Crystal shop at the factory told my family that the young man was one of a pair of brothers, possibly twins, who had recently trained there. I would be most grateful if you could furnish me with their names and any other information.'



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 and *The Joy of Glass* exhibition on their website. www.cgs.org.uk

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

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

* Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass 2022. 1st Aesa Bjork, 2nd Alison Lowry. www.coburger-glaspreis.de/en/home/

From the Hot Studio:

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

We are noted for our impartiality and avoidance of favouritism but when it comes to one of your own, well, one just has to yield a little bit. So, here is a sneak preview of one of the aforementioned Biennale artists, 'Our Allister'. Here he is at somewhere around about the peak of his creativity ...

Phew

Phew you are here.

Phew you are seeing this.

Phew you can enjoy this moment.

Phew I am here

Phew I'm seeing this

Phew I can enjoy this moment.

Phew we are here

Phew we are experiencing this

Phew we can enjoy this moment

Phew we've connected.



A positive note to appreciate the good moments! Phew - an emotion so prominent but accompanying it the uncertainty of how long I may enjoy the feeling. Unmistakable the image transforms. Imagery obscured by light passing through and re-emerging as you pass by it reflects an ever changing state of mind.



As a fellow Trustee and our Hot Studio man at the museum we are of course supporting 'Our Allister' but are equally pleased to refer readers to the full list of other selected artists in the *IFoG calling* feature above and the attached supplement. We wish all nominees the very best of luck and good fortune.

Just a reminder in these interesting 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.

In the next issue of *GlassCuts*

Attendees at the VIP opening of the museum on Thursday 7th April may recall BGF Chairman Graham Knowles dropping a very heavy hint about the forthcoming launch of a hugely significant initiative in support of Stourbridge Glass Museum. For those whose memory of the evening may now be hazy, and for those not actually there, we are very excited to announce that arrangements are now finalised and we will be revealing all in *GC201*. We will keep our powder dry until then, but suffice for now to say that this is an opportunity to be at the forefront of promoting SGM and being an active part of its sustainability into the future. Watch this space.

And finally, news from the local garage forecourt

'I put £30 of petrol in my car today at pump 4. It was just enough to get me to pump 3'

I'm running out of cars to start and coats to get. Please help.

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: bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Both by snail-mail at:
Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

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



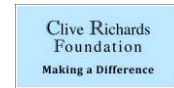
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BGF would also like to acknowledge the following, *inter alia*, for their support and generosity ...

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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Instagram

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

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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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