

# 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/](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/) or <https://grahamfisher.co.uk/resources>

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Days since SGM opening on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022

3

4

7

## Thanks to you

*Media colleagues: c'mon, this deserves to be splashed Big-time*

In GC216 dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023, we reported with great pride how we had been rated 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Trip Advisor 'Things To Do In Stourbridge' and suggested that with a good push we might just hit the top spot.

Well, how you pushed! We are thrilled to announce that, as at the time of compiling this *GlassCuts*, we are now officially Top of The Shop of things to do in Stourbridge. And we haven't even been open a year yet. (*that anniversary is soon – Ed*). This really is a major achievement that should be shouted from the rooftops. See for yourself at [https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowUserReviews-g616275-d23980250-r839221009-Stourbridge\\_Glass\\_Museum-Stourbridge\\_West\\_Midlands\\_England.html](https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowUserReviews-g616275-d23980250-r839221009-Stourbridge_Glass_Museum-Stourbridge_West_Midlands_England.html)

Our thanks to each and every one of you who have made this possible, and after such a short length of time that we have existed. Marvellous, marvellous and nay thrice times marvellous.

## It's Carnival time



Our friends at the Carnival Glass Society <https://www.thecgs.co.uk> are pulling out all the stops this year to celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary so you can just imagine how chuffed we are that they have elected to hold their Big Bash at our place. So, here's all the news that is news together with the official invite *verbatim* from the society's Trudy Auty ...

**Invitation to the Opening Reception of the Carnival Glass Society's 40th Anniversary Exhibition at Stourbridge Glass Museum, 1800hrs Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**

*celebrating the Beauty, Creativity and Ingenuity of pressed iridised glass*

The exhibition runs from 8<sup>th</sup> April to 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023 showing around 300 items of iridescent pressed glass including rarities not often seen. Please join us for a reception on 22<sup>nd</sup> April where we travel on a journey that starts by looking at the inspirations for carnival glass and the early years after its introduction in America in 1907, through its spread across the world in the 1920s and 1930s as glassmakers in Europe, Australia, India and South America started making pressed iridised glass with their own unique designs and styles. The exhibition also shows later carnival glass made in the second part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, when the interest of collectors spawned a revival, and beyond.

Underpinning the exhibition is a 'Stourbridge Glass Success Story' as it looks at how the pioneers from this area helped spark a craze for carnival glass which spread the legacy of Stourbridge's glass making creativity and expertise worldwide. After a welcome drink and chance to browse the museum, the Carnival Glass Society Team will give a talk in the exhibition area, providing you with an insight into the exhibition, and take you on a tour of the exhibits, telling you some of the intriguing stories behind them. So do please join us as we would love to see you there.

Book a ticket for this reception via [The Carnival Glass Society's 40th Anniversary Exhibition Tickets, Sat 22 Apr 2023 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#) or if you would like more information contact Stourbridge Glass Museum as indicated in the mauve *Keeping in touch* panel below.

## 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/>

### Continuing the tale

Made In Stourbridge; *the story of The 2012 Portland Vase Project* is the latest instalment in the extraordinary on-going tale of the 2012 Portland Vase, a replica of the original iconic Roman version, that was created in Stourbridge by a team of contemporary glass artisans.

### MADE IN STOURBRIDGE

the story of  
THE 2012 PORTLAND VASE PROJECT



How an idea to showcase the glassmaking talent in the Stourbridge area produced these fabulous items.

Now on display in  
**Stourbridge Glass Museum**

A project devised by Ian Dury and chronicled by Graham Fisher MBE FRGS

Lifelong glass-man and Project Coordinator Ian Dury wanted to demonstrate that the glassmakers of Stourbridge still possessed the inherent skills and talents that are a prerequisite in reproducing one of the most enigmatic pieces of ancient glass ever produced. His efforts to recreate not only the vase but also several other 'mini-masterpieces' including the Auldjo Jug, caused a sensation on their launch in 2012, with a proud Ian promising they would be housed in the new Stourbridge Glass museum as a testament to the area's rich heritage and its promising future.

That moment has arrived; the new museum is now open and the 2012 Portland Vase is on display. *Made In Stourbridge* has been jointly created by Yours Truly and Mary Spence MBE of Sparrow Publishing (*declaration of interest - who happens to be my 'other half'*) both working *pro bono*, and with Ian Dury kindly funding printing costs.

The result is a pocket-sized commemorative brochure explaining the significance of the vase to visitors and identifying its place within the global world of glass. It is available at nominal cost from the museum with all proceeds to British Glass Foundation. Those wishing to learn more can also read *The 2012 Portland Vase; Replication of a Masterpiece*, the full authorised biography by the same author and publisher, which is also available from the museum and again with proceeds to BGF.

**Made In Stourbridge; the story of The 2012 Portland Vase Project**

ISBN 9 781739 921217

Softback fold-out brochure format, text with full colour illustrations

**Nominal cover cost £1.00** with all monies to BGF

Released March 2023

## Book release invitation

Leanne O'Connor is Marketing & Content Coordinator for Blowfish Glass which, 'as any fule kno', is based just over the road from us at Red House Glass Cone. And we can tell you that right now Leanne is a'jumping up and down with excitement at a forthcoming event she is inviting us all to attend. Here's the low-down in her own words ...

*Creative and Professional Development for Glass Artists* by Catherine Dunstan, will be released on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023. It is a practical guide for glass artists looking to find their creative voice and plan their journey in the world of glass. It features insights from numerous glass artists and industry professionals, including contributions from Tamsin Abbott, Simon Alderson, Catherine Dunstan, Anthony Amoako Attah, Juliet Forrest, Katherine Huskie, Julie Light, Verity Pulford, Laura Quinn, Elliot Walker and Bethany Wood.

In celebration of the book launch, an exhibition will simultaneously be launched at Blowfish Glass UK, in the hybrid gallery and hot glass studio founded by Bethany Wood and Elliot Walker.

The event will also feature:

- Book signing by author Catherine Dunstan.
- Live Demonstrations in Hot, Stained, Kiln-Formed Glass and Glass Painting by the exhibiting artists.
- First access to the PROCESS and fringe exhibition DRIVEN, with an opportunity to meet the artists.

It will open all day from 10:30am, with speeches and drinks at 6:00pm.

The launch is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March, and the exhibitions will run through to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Entry is free, and no ticket is required.

Online talks and panel discussions on creative and professional development will run during the exhibition. There will be a small fee for these and tickets can be booked on Catherine Dunstan's website via: <https://www.catherinedunstanglass.co.uk/online-courses/ticket-process-online>





## 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 we currently 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 *JustGiving* visit:

<https://donate.justgiving.com/donation-amount?uri=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmcuY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjkxYTM1NDIhNDUxMjk1NzdlODgzO TRiZjhkMDQ=>

To donate *PayPal* visit: <https://www.paypal.com/uk/for-you/transfer-money/send-money> and donate to [bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk)

To donate through our website visit: [www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk](http://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.

**In addition to cash** BGF is similarly grateful for donations of good quality glass to sell in our shop. All funds raised from the sale of donated glass go into a separate Collections Account towards future acquisitions for the museum. To make a donation directly into the **British Glass Foundation Collections Account** use sort code: **40-38-07** and account number: **52291789**.

## 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*)

\* Our reader Frank is a man on a mission. He asks: *'I have a Tudor crystal glass which I am having trouble identifying, I can't find anything like it on any selling platform or replacement sites. It measures H 130mm W 85mm, it is a stemmed glass but is square rather than round; it has strawberry or diamond cut and is signed Tudor. Could anyone give me an opinion, please?'* We admit to rare defeat on this one, so it's over to you, folks.



## PARISH NOTICES

tell us the news from your world

*Send us yours and we'll try to mention it. No guarantees other than we'll do our best.*

- \* Latest news from the *Contemporary Glass Society*. [www.cgs.org.uk](http://www.cgs.org.uk)
- \* *Alan J. Poole newsletter* latest edition. [alanjpoole@aol.com](mailto:alanjpoole@aol.com)
- \* *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Updates, forthcoming Zoom presentations and more. [info@glass-sellers.co.uk](mailto:info@glass-sellers.co.uk)
- \* *The Glass Society Events Schedule*. <http://glassassociation.org.uk>
- \* *Ireland Glass Biennale 2023*. More via [ireland\\_glass\\_biennale@ncad.ie](mailto:ireland_glass_biennale@ncad.ie)

### From the Hot Studio:

[www.allistermalcolm.com](http://www.allistermalcolm.com) **Facebook** @allistermalcolmglass **Twitter** @allistermalcolm **Instagram** @allistermalcolmglassltd

There's plenty of banging and hammering going on down there; expect a report in due course. In the meantime, SGM Manager Alex shows how it's done following an familiarisation session with Allister. See [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bgy032r0ofsd8g9/AAAJLW6Z\\_LBELm3E91mzxUeea?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bgy032r0ofsd8g9/AAAJLW6Z_LBELm3E91mzxUeea?dl=0) then check out available session dates at Allister's future events if you fancy having a go for yourself.



#### Just a reminder ...

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 ...

*'My mate moaned to me how he bought a useless Bonnie Tyler satnav that just kept telling him to turn around and every now and then it fell apart. But I was able to go one better with my latest Bob Marley phone contract: I got the tariff but I didn't get the texts for free'.*

Beam me up sharp-ish Scotty, they're gaining on me.

Graham Fisher MBE FRGS  
Trustee, PR & Comms  
pp British Glass Foundation  
[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://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

Award-winning *Black Country Radio* and *BCR Xtra* broadcast throughout the Black Country on 102.5 FM and also via DAB and on-line around the world. Part of BCR's remit is to promote local events. If you are organising an event that satisfies the criteria of not-for-profit, charitable or philanthropic and is community orientated then you may be eligible for no-fee promotion.

Go to [www.blackcountryradio.co.uk](http://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

**BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE**  
Direct Line: 01384 900447  
Email: [bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk)  
Snailmail: Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

**NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY**  
**Stourbridge Glass Museum**  
**HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY**  
**9<sup>th</sup> April 2023**



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

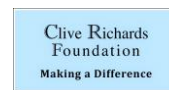


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... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enover Community Trust, Ibstock Enover Trust, Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity



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/](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/)

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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](http://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](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk)



British Glass Foundation

[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk)

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