

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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Days since SGM opening on 9th April 2022

3

6

7

REJOICE! - the crucial one-year milestone since our opening has been smashed.

Making it big

Regular readers, and television viewers, will know that *GlassCuts* has covered the exploits of 'Our Allister' and others in the popular BBC TV show *Make It At Market*. Well, now here's another opportunity to hit the small screen. The MIAM programming team are working on series 2 and are seeking glass blowers and glass artists to who would like to be mentored in turning their hobby into a business. Eligibility is just about as open as it can be; get full details at MIAM@flabbergast.tv



MAKE IT AT MARKET

SERIES 2

GLASS BLOWERS & GLASS ARTISTS WANTED FOR TV SERIES

We're on the lookout for people who would like to be mentored through the practicalities and pitfalls of turning a hobby into a business for a BBC ONE TV Series.

If you want to turn your glass hobby into a profession, get in touch - MIAM@flabbergast.tv

We welcome applications from all communities including people with disabilities, from black, Asian, or minority ethnic groups and disadvantaged backgrounds. You must be over 18 to apply. Flabbergast TV will process your personal data in accordance with its data protection policy. Please note that expressions of interest are not a guarantee of taking part. To view our privacy policy, visit flabbergast.tv/privacy

BBC ONE Flabbergast.

CGS prize and New Graduate Review 2023

The Contemporary Glass Society has announced the launch of the 2023 Graduate Prize and New Graduate Review. Quoting their latest press release: *'We are delighted that once again the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London Charity Fund has supported the Prize and Review together with Professor Michael Barnes MC FRCP and our other sponsors, Creative Glass, Pearsons Glass, Warm Glass and Neues Glas - New Glass: Art & Architecture'*.

As students emerge from their education, CGS and the Glass Sellers' aim to support graduates at the beginning of their journey towards a long career in glass making. The Graduate Review offers graduates the chance to promote their work to a worldwide audience and many previous winners have gone on to establish themselves as professional makers. There will be a Winner, 2nd Prize plus two Runners-up prizes, along with several Commendations. All will appear in the CGS – New Graduate Review 2023. Application forms are available from 5th June 2023 [here](#) with a deadline of 5:00pm 17th July 2023.

And there's more ...

CGS are also organising their 'Expanding Horizons' Discovery Days. Details are on their website but the next one is at De Montford University, Leicester on Saturday 29th April. Tickets [here](#)



Spring has sprung



Spring Rituals II - 'Fresh Eggs' is the latest exhibition courtesy of Stephen and Kate, a.k.a Gillies Jones who create sumptuous glass up in the delightful Dales of North Yorkshire. *"This new collection, principally inspired by the eggs of the now extinct Elephant bird, includes engraved forms in both transparent and opaque blown glass. The forms portray the function of the egg as a protector of new life and its inherent fragility. The fragmented patterns are universal in their structure, like cracked dry earth or breaking ice sheets"*.

The catalogue is now available, showing all of the Eggs individually, with links to purchase via a dedicated [exhibition website](#). Or click [here](#) to view the catalogue. The exhibition runs in Rosedale Abbey until 30th April 2023 (Mon to Sat – 10:00am to 4:00pm, Sun – 2:00pm to 4:00pm)

Scholarship applications invited

We hear from [Dr. Heike Brachlow](#), Tutor in Ceramics and Glass, that there are three significant scholarships available for glass applications to join the Ceramics & Glass Programme at the Royal College of Art in London. These are heavyweight programmes with funding for both tuition fees and accommodation subject to defined application criteria and are designed to open up higher levels of study. Applications are currently being welcomed. www.rca.ac.uk

Seal of approval

In the last edition we reported on our new brochure *Made In Stourbridge; the story of The 2012 Portland Vase Project*, the latest addition to the ongoing tale of this remarkable endeavour that is still tingling nerves with excitement around the glass world. Harking back exactly a decade previously to the launch of the replica vase, and page 52 of the official contemporaneous biography (*The 2012 Portland Vase Project; Replication of a Masterpiece* – also currently on sale at SGM) we welcomed a descendant of the engraver of the original 19th Century vase back in the 19th Century, John Northwood, and featured an image of John Northwood III together with children from St James's CE Primary School in Wollaston (I wonder what they are doing now? - Ed). Stourbridge Glass Museum was, at that time, still a twinkle in the eye and I remember our esteemed visitor extending his support.

Well, we are delighted to report that who should make a very welcome visit to our new museum recently but John Northwood III. We felt greatly honoured to welcome John back and 'the team' of our splendid volunteers and staff did him proud to the extent that he has very kindly sent us his congratulations and best wishes.

As an endorsement of our efforts and a tribute to what has been achieved in the interim since John's initial visit, we reckon it don't get much better than that. Thank you, Sir.



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/>

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.

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To donate via *JustGiving* visit:

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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.

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**.

In memoriam

We are saddened to learn from their latest newsletter that Kay Holford, former Managing Director of Cumbria Crystal, died recently following a cancer diagnosis last year. Our sincere commiserations to her family, friends and all at Cumbria Crystal. www.cumbriacrystal.com

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*)

* Glass enthusiast Richard Close is seeking some advice. He tells us:



'I have a piece of pressed commemorative glass of about 4 inches, possibly a cup-plate, of young Victoria (possibly 1837 Coronation) looking like the 1836 painting by F Winterhalter but in reverse direction. I have consulted Raymond Slack's standard book on English Pressed Glass (1830 to 1900) and the earliest completely pressed piece he illustrates is the Death of Albert in 1861. I can find no other young Victoria pressed glass piece in any illustration, so I am curious if this might be one of the earliest English pieces around?'

A fascinating line of enquiry most likely attracting the attentions of our pressed glass enthusiasts; any pointers for Richard please?

* And here's a short-and-sweet teaser from reader Jeff Krieger who says: *'I am trying to determine the identity of the glass mark shown in the attached photo'*. Go to it, friends.



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
- * *Alan J. Poole newsletter* latest edition. alanjpoole@aol.com
- * *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Updates. info@glass-sellers.co.uk
- * *The Glass Society Events Schedule*. <http://glassassociation.org.uk>
- * *ArtLight magazine*. Focus on stained glass. www.artlight-magazine.com
- * *Venice Glass Week* 9th-17th September 2023. Call for applications, deadline 24th April. More [here](#)
- * *Neon Workshops newsletter*. www.neonworkshops.com

From the Hot Studio:

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

The Editor writes: Thanks to Allister for allowing me to impinge on his spot. Now, I have one of those smart meters in my kitchen. Brilliant gadget, it shows to the fine penny just how close I am to financial meltdown every time I boil a couple of breakfast eggs. Thus, whilst recently doing exactly that and insouciantly risking fiscal penury by simultaneously grilling a couple of rounds of prospective soldiers to go with them I couldn't help but spare a thought for those who are boiling glass for a living. Phew, they must be on the point of selling off the kids on eBay right now.



So, it is very exciting to see how one in particular, namely our Allister, is looking to cope. And, for once, it's encouraging news on the energy front. Allister takes up the tale: 'On 1st March our gas bill doubled again to hitherto unimaginable levels of cost. As you can imagine, as gas companies announce their profits each quarter everyone in the studio goes a little quiet. That being said we are looking forward to our new electric furnace coming in the next month. It felt like the right time to make the switch. I have been working very closely with a manufacturer in Walsall with components currently being fabricated in Dudley; an exciting development for the studio that will hopefully allow glassmaking to continue in the museum for years to come'.

There's Allister's response to the problem, and of course we wish him well. But we would also be very interested to hear how you good folk in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{®GF} are coping; perhaps you may even like to share or discuss your own ideas on the way forward. Usual address please, and we'll keep some editorial space to one side for your replies.

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 ...

'Today's Top Tip: Never trust an electrician with frizzy hair'.

I won't be needing my coat, thanks. And to the thief who recently stole all my antidepressants; I hope you're happy now.

Graham Fisher MBE FRGS
Trustee, PR & Comms
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

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 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: bjf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk
Snailmail: Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

Stourbridge Glass Museum
HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY
9th April 2023

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

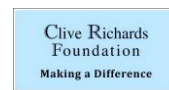


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BGF would also like to acknowledge the following, *inter alia*, for their support and generosity ...

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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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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