

# GlassCuts

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

STOURBRIDGE  
GLASS MUSEUM

## Stourbridge Glass Museum – how it came into being.

*The remarkable tale of the period from the formation of BGF in 2010 to SGM official opening in 2013.*  
Now available direct from the museum. All proceeds to BGF.

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## Get it mended

If you're not already familiar with *The Repair Shop*, it's a cracking little programme on the telly in which all manner of people take all manner of stuff to a workshop. The only thing the items have in common is, as they say in Tipton, 'they'm all bosted' (*trans: they do not enjoy a good state of repair – Ed.*)

So, now you know what it's all about, here's your chance to get that precious 'bosted' bit fixed by an expert, 'live' on the box. Maj Saleem has been in touch with us with a request:

*Hallo. I am a Casting Assistant Producer working for Ricochet, which makes The Repair Shop. This highly popular show features a team of skilled craftspeople who restore items that their owners fear may be beyond saving.*

*I am hoping that you will be able to spread the word among your networks that we are looking for people and items connected to the Midlands, but there needs to be a personal connection to the item and a great story that goes with it. We would love anyone to come forward who own any Stourbridge Glass items that need to be fixed.*

*We're looking to confirm people taking part in the programme in the next few weeks, so we're acting quickly. I can be contacted on 0778 9630 442. You can also find out more about The Repair Shop at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08l581p>*

Go raid that loft, folks, and contact Maj direct.



**THE REPAIR SHOP BARN DOORS  
ARE OPENING AGAIN IN SPRING 2024.  
AND THE TEAM ARE LOOKING FOR TREASURED ITEMS IN NEED OF  
REPAIR AND RESTORATION.**

**VISIT: [WWW.BBC.CO.UK/TAKEPART](http://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/TAKEPART) EMAIL: [APPLICATIONS@RICOCHET.CO.UK](mailto:APPLICATIONS@RICOCHET.CO.UK)**

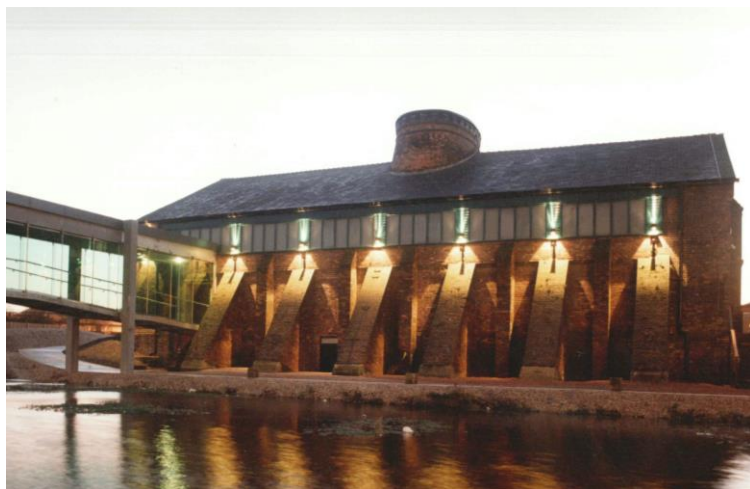
For details on how Ricochet processes your personal data and information on your data protection rights, visit: <https://www.warnermediaprivacy.com/policycenter/filmmandtalent/en-eu/>

## BGF's Big Day Out

We were recently invited to the World of Glass in St Helens. So off we went, and Secretary Lynn has kindly provided this report on the day.



'On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January Trustees, staff and volunteers visited World of Glass in St Helens to broaden our perspectives and foster knowledge exchange. Built in 2000, The World of Glass, a registered charity, has worked hard to bring a beacon of light to the town of St Helens.



We were made very welcome with tea/coffee on arrival followed by a guided tour of the museum which included the Victorian pub, a fantastic tour of the Tank House, built in 1887 by William Windle Pilkington, and the underground tunnels that brought in the gas and air that made the furnaces burn hotter and more efficiently. The Tank House is a Grade 2 listed, scheduled monument and archaeological site.

This was followed by a buffet lunch in their lovely café and then we watched a glass blowing demonstration in their hot glass studio. The Glass Gallery is an internationally important collection of glass telling the story of glass through beautiful pieces that have survived 3000 years, displayed in a jewel-like room where you can really get up close to these rare and stunning objects. A great day out which was enjoyed by everyone who visited'.

See more of what Lynn and the team saw at: <https://www.worldofglass.com/>



## The QEST is on

Laura McKee at the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) has been in touch to tell us that applications are now open for QEST's Spring funding round. Invitations are extended to all talented or aspiring craftspeople who wants to hone their skills and take their expertise to a higher level.

Individual makers can apply for up to £18,000 for [Scholarships](#), up to £10,000 for [Emerging Maker Grants](#) and up to £12,000 for [Apprenticeship](#) training. Applications close Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 5pm. More [www.qest.org.uk/](http://www.qest.org.uk/)

## New arrivals

We are delighted to announce that, courtesy of a family bequest, Stourbridge Glass Museum is the beneficiary of the Paul Budd collection. This comprises around 500 pieces of mainly Victorian pressed and blown wine glasses, tumblers, rummers and ales. All items come with comprehensive historical documentation and this significant acquisition will prove a great asset to the museum. There is yet much to do in assimilating the pieces and so we will provide updates as work progresses. In the meantime, we offer our sincere thanks to Pauls' widow Cynthia and son Richard for their largesse.

## What goes around



In the last edition we featured the exhibition later in the year by David Reekie and I referred to the time he and I sat next to each other on the Biennale jury for the 2015 International Festival of Glass. Our Chairman for our deliberations was respected glass enthusiastic and collector Mark Holford, whose eclectic collection built up over many decades concentrates on abstract sculptural studio glass, as well as vessels and engraved glass. Mark already deservedly holds numerous accolades so we are delighted to report that he has been made the first ever Patron of the Contemporary Glass Society. Our congratulations to Mark on this latest recognition. More at: <https://cgs.org.uk/artists/holford-mark/>

## Movin' on up

Glassmaker and fellow BGF Trustee Chris Day is rapidly developing his provenance in his own unique style (just take a look at his innovative exhibits already on display at SGM) and so we are delighted to see his name emblazoned in no less an organ than *The Financial Times* in a piece headed 'The vessels and vases where glassmaking meets storytelling'. Chris is a relative newcomer to the game but his work is already attracting paeons of praise for his visionary interpretation of historic and contemporary events. See for yourself [www.chrisdayglass.com](http://www.chrisdayglass.com)



Going, going ...



Will Farmer tells us he is currently consigning the forthcoming *Decades of Design* auction to be held at Fieldings Auctioneers (Stourbridge) over 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March. Items will include Art Nouveau, Arts & Crafts, Art Deco, mid-century modern and contemporary ceramics, glass, furniture, metalware and art, together with items by the legendary (and highly collectable)

Clarice Cliff. If you have any items you would like to sell at this auction, contact Will direct on 01384 444 140 or via <https://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk>

## Enchantment abounds

Applications are invited for the 11<sup>th</sup> international sculpture event *The Enchanted Garden* in Jodoige, Belgium later this year. The event integrates sculptures with other artistic expressions such as poetry, music, dance and theatre and the theme for 2024 is *Water & Fire*. Now, if you happen to be a glass artist and are wondering what this has to do with your field of expertise, then your palate may be tickled by this comment from the organisers: '*We like sculptures that combine different materials. We specialise in glass art, which is +/-50% of the sculptures*'. So there you have it.

The deadline for submissions is 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024. More information is available by phone +32 (0) 493 628 540 or by e-mailing the organiser Ignace Clarysse via [info@ignace-clarysse.com](mailto:info@ignace-clarysse.com)

## 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.

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=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBPbWp1c3RnaXZpbmVud29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjIxNDIhNDUxMjk1NzdlODgzOIRiZjhkMDQ=>

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

\* Marilyn Gleadall, our reader from New Zealand whom we featured in this spot last time around, will no doubt be chuffed to hear of a response to her query about the unidentified glasses and jug for which she holds her breath every time she cleans them. Just a reminder that the items were given to her parents as a wedding present in 1943, and as her maternal grandparents and family, named Poole, came from Stourbridge it is a reasonable hypothesis that is where they could have been made. One of our volunteers at SGM (aren't they just ace?) namely Eileen Sanders, has come up with: *'The flower design of the enquirer's glass is similar to Stuart 'Meadowsweet Collection' although it is not exactly the same. It is not possible to see the back of the enquirer's piece as there may also be some engraving. It is possible that her design was a precursor to the later edition. Not much art glass was made during World War II as all the glass houses were commissioned by government to make items for the war effort.'*



It's a great start, but if you can add more then feel free. Marilyn is at [gleadall@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gleadall@xtra.co.nz) or you can, as usual, let us know and we'll pass it on.

\* OK, calling all Glap makers. Anyone out there? Hmm ... it got us scratching our heads too, and it came about following a query from reader Barbara Straughn who asks: *'Hello, I am trying to confirm the meaning of these professions as seen on a Census from 1871 in Kingswinford. I know my great-grandfather was proprietor at the Glassmakers Arms in Amblecote (Stourbridge) but my Great Great Grandfather is listed as Glap maker. The neighbour's profession is listed as Glap Blower. At first I thought Glass was misspelt but then I read this description online and I wonder if you could help me with this please? I stated before I thought a Glap Maker was an Optician or Optical Glass-maker. This is wrong. A Glap Maker or Glapo Maker is a person who usually makes Crystal Glass Goblets with clear bowls and opaque Ruby or dark coloured stems.'* (online source unknown – Ed)

To help things along, here in the shimmering opulence that is *GlassCuts Towers* we have done a bit of mooching and can find nothing in our standard works of reference, including the late David Whitehouse's authoritative dictionary of terms, so we are inclined to suggest – only a suggestion – that it may be a parochial or local term of restricted usage, possibly Stourbridge. Who knows? Perhaps you do. Put us and Barbara out of our misery via the usual address, please.

## 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.*

- \* *Alan J. Poole newsletter* latest edition. [alanjpoole@aol.com](mailto:alanjpoole@aol.com)  
Regular comprehensive listings and goings-on of just about everything and everybody in the glass world.
- \* *Contemporary Glass Society* latest news. [www.cgs.org.uk](http://www.cgs.org.uk)  
Featuring Spring online show, 51 artists with many pieces for sale.
- \* *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Updates: [info@glass-sellers.co.uk](mailto:info@glass-sellers.co.uk)  
Featuring *The legacy of George Ravenscroft* lecture, Colin Brain, London 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024.  
*Call to Artists* for International Glass Beads Biennale 2024
- \* *The Glass Society Events Schedule*. <http://glassassociation.org.uk>
- \* *Neon Workshops newsletter*. [www.neonworkshops.com](http://www.neonworkshops.com)

## From the Hot Studio:

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

Follow all that's going on via Allister's feeds.

As described in *GCs passim* there are exciting goings-on down at the studio. Al and the team are capturing it all and uploading it regularly to his feeds where you can keep up with the latest.

### 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 ...

*'I felt ever so sorry for a mate of mine who was telling me recently about his terribly poor childhood when all his birthday parties were held in the local launderette. He had to play pass the Persil'.*

I'll get my coat when it's finished in the tumble-dryer.

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

### Volunteering at Stourbridge Glass Museum

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. And it's all entirely free of charge.

### Second time around

*GlassCuts* is compiled and edited *pro bono* and distributed to its subscribers free of charge. To receive *GlassCuts* contact our Secretary (below). However, if you miss us first time around, or if you are searching for that elusive feature, then all issues of *GlassCuts* right back to number 1 are archived [here](#).

### Keeping in touch

**BGF Secretary & Business Manager Lynn Boleyn MBE**  
01384 900447 : [bof@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bof@britishglassfoundation.org.uk) : Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

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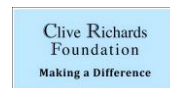


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BGF would also like to acknowledge the following, *inter alia*, for their support and generosity ...

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 : FCC Communities Foundation ... plus many 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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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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