

'Another step closer to opening' edition

More on 'Our Fred'



Back in early February we reported in *GC173* on the sad news of the death of Fred Bridges, who passed away peacefully in Somerset in the early hours of Thursday 28th January, just a few days shy of his 96th birthday. His funeral was held in Somerset on 16th February and due to Covid restrictions it was streamed. In view of Fred's provenance within the glass world Richard graciously suggested donations to the new museum would be appropriate, for which many thanks from all at BGF.

This was *per se* a most generous gesture but we have now been advised that Richard and sister Mary Scott have arranged for part of Fred's estate to be donated to BGF. It would be inappropriate for BGF to reveal fine details at this juncture but we can state the sum is considerable. Our thoughts and gratitude remain with Fred's family and it perhaps some comfort for them to know that whilst he may no longer be with us his generosity of spirit and support for our work will remain with us in perpetuity. Richard has kindly

offered an overview of Fred's remarkable life and as a tribute to this wonderful man we are pleased to reproduce it verbatim as a special supplement to this issue.

Fred Bridges 1925 - 2021. R.I.P. And thank you.

Farewell, and thanks. And hello.

After 21 years as a local Councillor our good friend Dave Tyler retired in May. He is to be made an Honorary Alderman for his services, which is just about as high an accolade as one can get and a richly deserved recognition for his dedication. Quite apart from his rounds of civic duties Dave was always one of the most vociferous advocates for the Stourbridge Glass collection and has been a supporter of BGF from the outset, for which we will always be grateful. Our best wishes to him and our thanks for his support over the years.

We also note that Cllr Anne Millward, Gornal Ward, has been appointed Mayor of Dudley. Cllr Millward is another long-time supporter of our efforts and we look forward to the welcoming her to our new museum during her term of office. Congratulations, Ma'am.



That sign

Our pal Ian Dury has been raiding the memory banks. *'Hello there. This photo of the Stuart Sign confirms it was on the end of the building when you enter the Red House site'*. (Elf 'n Safety note: that was then. Don't try this at home, kids).



Across the pond

The latest exhibition at Corning Museum of Glass over in New York is a delightful celebration of British glass. But if you're not planning on going to the States just now you can instead enjoy the overview of *In Sparkling Company: Glass and the Costs of Social Life in Britain During the 1700s* here: <https://whatson.cmog.org/exhibitions-galleries/sparkling-company-glass-and-costs-social-life-britain-during-1700s>



Pair of Harlequin Earrings, about 1760.
Probably England. Cut glass; silver.

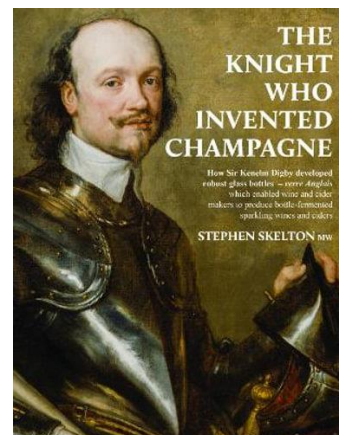


Pair of girandoles, about 1785. Probably Josiah Wedgwood & Sons Ltd. (plaques), probably England,

So that's how it's done; the on-line presentation



Back in GC180 we carried news of the latest book by wine expert Stephen Skelton *The Knight Who Invented Champagne*, an absorbing tale of the development of the champagne bottle. Well now our friends at The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London are extending an invite to a Zoom presentation by the author at 7pm on Tuesday June 2021. Follow the link



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87014051160?pwd=WURmcnEvODRwa3Q2K1NScERZUEI6UT09> and use ID 870 1405 1160 with passcode 552691

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

BGF is currently seeking to secure further substantial community funding and so we are grateful to Cllr Patrick Harley, Leader of DMBC who has graciously offered a letter of support in our quest. Quite apart from monetary considerations - for which, many thanks - we are delighted to promote this wonderful gesture by Cllr Harley as an indication of the level of cooperation between BGF and Dudley MBC in getting the job done. We have maintained all along that cooperation is crucial, and here it is in action. Thank you, Sir.

ps ... we have since also received similar letters from Dave Tyler (see above) and Corning Museum of Glass. Trust us folks, we're going to do this !

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**

BGF recognizes those who wish to donate via *Virgin Money Giving*. Go via the *Virgin Money Giving* QR code listed below or click here: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1005650> **Potential donors are advised that contributions via VMG may invoke commission fees that are beyond the control of BGF.**

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 seem to have satisfied you for the moment but there are no doubt more out there!

Living la vida lockdown, part 22 (*soon time for a hug - Ed*)

* More *Dispatches From The Attic* and loads of other news from CGS. 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

* *Cambridge Invitational Art Contest and Exhibition*. Call to artists (deadline 1.7.2021) and schedule of event timings all at: www.camartcontest.com

From the Hot Studio:

'Look who popped in to the studio this week' says Allister. 'Two stars from the Glass scene Andy McConnell @decanterman of @bbcantiquesroadshow & @christopherdayglass from @wlvuni discussing his latest piece. Nice to catch up with you both! It gave us a good excuse to tidy the workshop!'



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, the BGF reader's query for the day ...

'Dear Editor. I have an ex-RAF friend whose handlebar moustache is longer on one side than the other, and I swear that every time I look at him his face is telling me that the time is twenty past eight. Or is it just me? Please advise'.

I'll be on my way.

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 White House Cone *museum of glass*?

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 submit the form you'll find under *Events*. 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. *(Temporarily suspended due to lockdown; back in due course - Ed)*

Keeping in touch

Museum Director Ollie Buckley

Direct Line: 01384 431760; Mobile: 07483 157242

Email: obuckley@stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk

BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE

Direct Line: 01384 900447; Mobile: 07747 563623

Email: bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Both by snail-mail at:

[Stourbridge Glass Museum](#), High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

Museum Wi-Fi:

SSID: NET-SGM-WIFI-GUEST Wi-Fi pass: cOne1!



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



EUROPEAN UNION
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European Regional
Development Fund 2007-13



... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enover Community Trust, Istock 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/

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter



<https://m.facebook.com/The-White-House-Cone-Museum-of-Glass-1783619608579416/>



<https://twitter.com/whitehousecone>

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Disclaimer

The coronavirus pandemic is a serious matter and our services have been curtailed. But we are still obliged to 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 and subscribers can withdraw at any time just by telling us to stop.

We also 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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