

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 ...

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9

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Tunnel tours

Did you know there are tunnels beneath the glass museum? Well, here's a wonderful opportunity to see these fascinating relics because our wonderful volunteers are organising a series of guided tours. Saturday 6th August 2022 is the date and full details including booking can be found here: <https://www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk/event/tunnel-tours/>



The old tunnels have long been a source of both fascination and speculation but interest in them has surged since work started on the museum. We are eager to record our history as comprehensively as possible and so were excited to receive some authoritative information from a reliable source. Roger Pauli, now retired but a Stuart's man to his bootstraps and still widely respected in the world of glass, has kindly offered us the following which we are happy to reproduce *verbatim*:

'The Red House - White House - New House tunnel is an urban myth. I was once assured by a local leading community member that it was certainly true and that a vagrant lived in it for many years! Although there is a passage between the White House tunnel and the New House caves it was a late addition installed for convenience. The White House tunnel entrance emerged on Vine Street opposite the chip shop. The coal bunkers for the White House extended underneath the gable of the adjacent building which was at one time a warehouse for shipping ware and I think an engraving workshop. Opening the canalside openings for the New House is a great idea, where the workman in the photo are removing the brick work you will be able to see a diagonal wall across the corner, this was built in about 1980 to stop a leak in the canal bank that meant the caves were continuously flooded. It is worth checking the construction dates of both the Red and White Houses, if they pre-date the invention of the Frisby feeder the caves and tunnels are probably late modifications and not contemporary. Incidentally there is a bricked up sealed basement under the canal-side buildings accessible from where the coal wharves are being opened up. The base of the feeder for the New House is quite clear and the orientation of the winding handle for the feeder is obvious. The caves and tunnel for the White House are probably now collapsed and inaccessible but I can remember the coal stored own there and it would have been interesting to know which colliery it came from. The energy density (calorific value) of the different coal types was critical for running the furnaces at the optimum temperature'.

When it comes to developing our knowledge pool for the education of generations yet to come this sort of thing is pure gold. We are immensely grateful to Roger and would, of course, welcome further contributions from anyone who can help our comprehension of our iconic site.

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 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:

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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.

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Situation Vacant

The British Glass Foundation is seeking to appoint a Marketing Manager to oversee the operations of Stourbridge Glass Museum. The position is full time and based at the Museum in High Street, Wordsley. Application deadline is midnight Friday 22nd July 2022.

Job specification and personal profile are here: <https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/museum-manager-salary-35000-p-a/>

Application details are here: <https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/131913/marketing-manager/>

Festival update

INTERNATIONAL
**FESTIVAL
OF
GLASS**
26-29 AUGUST 2022



The International Festival of Glass has just launched a bold and bright website featuring the latest news and 'a taste of what to expect' at this year's festival to be held, as usual, over the August Bank Holiday. It's packed full of information and it's all just a click away at <https://www.ifg.org.uk>

Festival Director Janine Christley adds: '*While you're having a browse around, why not join the mailing list? The Festival is currently running competitions to win back catalogues for the British Glass Biennale for its subscribers*'.

Why not indeed? - simply scroll to the bottom of the aforementioned website to subscribe.

SGM hits the airwaves

Our curator Harrison has sent us a lovely link of a few minutes of interview with our volunteers Roy and Karen about the museum and Black Country Day. They talk about the collections and the future canalside walks and tunnel tours happening during the summer. It's all good stuff. Click on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0cf7x0w> and forward to 2:16:48 approx. With thanks to all concerned, especially our wonderful volunteers.

Chance is a fine thing

Chance Conversations: The Future of Industrial Heritage is a summer series of on-line and in-person presentations focusing on aspects of the industrial revolution in and around Smethwick; which includes, of course, Chance Glassworks. Information and registration details via: info@chanceht.org



In memoriam

We are saddened to learn of the death of Erwin Eish who passed away earlier this year in Zweizel, Germany aged 93. Described as 'an essential catalyst' in the studio glass movement he was passionate about all things glass and graciously greeted our fact-finding delegation when we visited the glass museum at Frauenau in 2015.

A fulsome tribute by Katharine Coleman MBE appears in the June edition of *Glass Matters*, the journal of the Glass Society. We attach a pdf copy, with acknowledgements to the Glass Society, to this edition of GC.

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 really is a long shot but with our enviable track record it's worth a go. *An Taigh Osda @ Bruichladdich* is a luxurious small hotel on the island of Islay off the west coast of Scotland. It has many charms but one in particular is a stained glass window on the landing which, not surprisingly, the owner is eager to identify. All we have is this image. Any suggestions please?



* And another fascinating follow up to the last edition in which we solved the mystery of the kilner jar lid has come in from our good friend Stephen Pollock-Hill of Nazeing Glass, who tell us: 'Your readers may be interested to know that one of Jeremy Clarkson's ancestors invented the Kilner jar and was called 'Kilner'. See <https://www.bbc.co.uk/whodoyouthinkyouare/past-stories/jeremy-clarkson.shtml>

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 throughout 2022. 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

* *The Glass Society Events Schedule*. <http://glassassociation.org.uk>

From the Hot Studio:

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

Hard at it ready for IFOG

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.

And finally, for our more intellectual readers ...

'I am so angry I can't remember how to write 1, 1000, 51, 6 and 500 in Roman numerals. IM LIVID'

Is that car started yet?

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

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

BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE

Direct Line: 01384 900447

Email: bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Snailmail: Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

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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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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



www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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