

# 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>

Edition: 225

Dated: 18.7.23

## Glass in future (1)



We normally feature our resident glassmaker Allister in his own little slot at the end of each *GlassCuts* but the latest news from the Hot Studio simply has to take precedence over everything else this time around since he is working on a 'word's first'. So look out all you glassmakers, this could be the way forward. Here he goes:

**GREAT NEWS!** We are excited to announce that we will be taking a new concept, the 'EGO' (electric gloryhole / reheating chamber) for a test drive over the coming months. We are looking forward to seeing how it performs and are working closely with Interpower Induction UK in developing it. As it's the first of its kind we have our fingers crossed that it represents the future of studio glassmaking. Keep following to see how we get on or why not pop in and see it in the flesh Stourbridge Glass Museum or you can check out

#glassblowing #furnace #energyefficiency  
#watchthisspace #news #groundbreaking  
#excitingtimes

**Editor's note:** For a couple of Allister's *WhatsApp* short clips click [here](#) and [here](#).

## Glass in future (2)

And there's more great news from St Helens with the official opening of the *Glass Futures Global Centre of Excellence*. This £54m venture in St Helens will soon be home to a unique experimental furnace and other technology that will pioneer ways of making carbon neutral glass.

Speaking at an event on the 6th of June Richard Katz, CEO of Glass Futures said: *'I don't let go in a hurry and a decade after the idea of Glass Futures was first conceived that dream has come to fruition. Removing carbon emissions from global manufacturing is our world's greatest challenge, and we need to change how we do things. The glass industry and the wider foundation industries (ceramics, steel, metal, chemicals, paper, and cement) need to decarbonise, to use energy sustainably and move away from natural gas as their main energy source. That's why we exist and it's thanks to the ongoing support of our founders, members, funders and supporters that we're standing here today - but this really is just the start.'*

More about *Glass Futures Global Centre of Excellence* [here](#).

## Bye bye and thank you

As part of our 'People's Museum' remit we consider it part of our role – and a very rewarding part - to assist others, especially newcomers, on their journey into the *Wonderful World of Glass*®<sup>GF</sup>

We seek noting in return other than the satisfaction in seeing new talent developing, so it is especially gratifying when we receive unsolicited plaudits we know they are all the more genuine for it. We are therefore gushing with pride to receive a testimonial from one of our stars of the future, Ivet Benova. She has been with us since October 2022 as Assistant Curator and has been singularly helpful in developing key aspects of our exhibitions. Ivet returned to her studies at Wolverhampton University on 15<sup>th</sup> July, but not before leaving her placement report which she is happy for us to reproduce *verbatim* here:

'The main benefit of my placement must be the opportunity to forge an unbeatable support system, that exceeded all my expectations. Being in a different country presents unique challenges and adapting to a new cultural and artistic landscape can be both exciting and daunting. The language barrier has always hindered my ability to communicate effectively with local communities and to create bonds. Each country has its own cultural norms, values, and artistic traditions and adapting to a new cultural context can be a complex process and I needed to understand and appreciate the local artistic traditions.

A support system is crucial for every human being indifferent to where they are. Receiving encouragement and motivation to succeed helps with the demanding and full of uncertainties pursuit of a career in the arts. Self-doubts, creativity blocks and emotional challenges have previously affected my productivity, but the group of people I met during my placement created a safe space, where they recognised and validated my abilities. Alongside the gain of knowledge and qualifications, I formed a clear perspective on my personal preferences and feeling inspired by the variety of artworks and individuals I met, I owe my incredible experience and development to the kindness of the people that I worked with, naming some.

Harrison Davies, with his incredible knowledge, dedication, and methodical approach, has been instrumental in guiding and looking out for me throughout my placement. Alexander Goodger's unwavering support and trust in my abilities have provided me with numerous opportunities to showcase my skills. Lynn Boleyn, a role model in every sense, has exemplified the qualities of a successful businesswoman and has inspired me to strive for excellence. Moemi Madigan, with her precision has consistently provided me with knowledge and support, always willing to lend a helping hand. Corrina Field has been a constant source of ideas and collaboration, bringing her positive energy to everything she does. And the incredible volunteers at the museum, with their impressive knowledge and willingness to engage with me, have been an invaluable part of my experience. Special thanks to Antonia Barnsley, Alison Davies, Billie Gennard, Eileen Sanders, Gloria Jenkins, Hannah Davies, Heather Shotton, Jane Ferguson, Jane Palmer, Janice Stanton, Jennifer Hardey, Judith Clarke, Natalie and Philip Costin Kelly, Nicole Samms, Pauline Rollason, Rachel George, Roy Cartwright, Shirley Parker, Steve Davies, Susan Helm, Susan Cooper, Tracy Nash, and others.'

We wish Ivet well and on behalf of all at BGF and SGM, we look forward to seeing how high her star will rise in the future.



## Claws Out: Battle to Save Ticket Office and George's Home



Campaigners are battling to prevent the Stourbridge Junction railway station ticket office from closure – and keep George the station cat from being turfed out on the streets.

A Save Stourbridge Junction Ticket Office page has been set up on Facebook to help save chief mouse catcher George and his human co-workers. The campaign to save George, who has amassed more than 61,000 followers on his Twitter page has already attracted national attention on news sites and society media.

Read more in Bev Holder's report in the Stourbridge News:  
<https://www.stourbridgenews.co.uk/news/23650483.bid-save-stourbridge-ticket-office-george-cat/>

You can help George by signing the online petition here:

[https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/636542?fbclid=IwAR3EGphyZXdQJqi4mkdHhZV-EL8APF\\_o84kXXx-Nd2BqLOAW6jOvwqtBdmU](https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/636542?fbclid=IwAR3EGphyZXdQJqi4mkdHhZV-EL8APF_o84kXXx-Nd2BqLOAW6jOvwqtBdmU)

### Auction house changes

Now here's something a bit novel; our friends at Fieldings Auctioneers of Stourbridge have broadened how they do things, which all seem to make good sense. Henceforth they will be offering three different styles of auction; briefly these are:

**Antiques** - we reckon this one is self-explanatory

**Bazaar** - an online auction marketplace with the spirit of a traditional bazaar and an ever-changing variety of goods.

**Everyday**—a series of online-only timed auctions offering our clients more affordable choices, where bidding is offered without reserve.

We give you only the broad-brush here; doubtless prospective buyers and auction-fans will want to know more about viewing, fees, commissions, delivery social media connections and any manner of things that go on both before and after that hammer hits the gavel so try here in the first instance:

<http://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk/>

### European visit proposals

The Paperweight Collectors Circle inform us they have been invited to make a trip to glass centres in Poland and Czech Republic (the former historic areas of Silesia and Bohemia) by Marek Kordasiewicz in September 2024. Marek was the curator of the first exhibition of glass paperweights in Poland at the Karkonoskie Museum in Jelenia Gora. In 2009 he opened a private glass and paperweight museum in Carlsthal-Orle, in a reconditioned building of the former glassworks grinding house. This closed in 2012, but reopened in 2017 in Szklarska Poreba (Schreiberhau) near to the Josephinenhütte (Josephine Glassworks).

The trip will start from a mutual meeting spot at Prague Airport and will take in numerous places of interest along the way, all accompanied by glorious scenery. Indications of interest for planning purposes are sought via [paperweightcollectorscircle@gmail.com](mailto:paperweightcollectorscircle@gmail.com) no later than 31<sup>st</sup> August this year; hotel, coach costs etc can then be calculated and you will be advised. Your participation would then have to be confirmed by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024 when a £100 per person deposit will be required.

## 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=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXZpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmcuY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjIxNDIhNDUxMjk1NzdlODgzOFRiZihkMDQ=>

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*)

Keep 'em coming. Our track record for solving your little difficulties is admirable. And if we can't sort it, we almost certainly know someone who can.

## 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. [info@glass-sellers.co.uk](mailto:info@glass-sellers.co.uk)

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

\* *38<sup>th</sup> International Glass Conference*. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023, Istanbul. More [here](#)

## From the **Hot Studio**:

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

see news above

### 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 ...

You have to feel sorry for my mate down the pub. *"I've got a date with a new girlfriend"* he told me the other night. *'Trouble is, she's one of these modern girls who identifies as a wheelie bin. Now I don't know whether I should take her out on Wednesdays or Thursdays'*.

Oh, and before I forget, for all of you who have been asking us for a list of Bug's Bunny's best catchphrases you can find them on our latest WhatsApp doc.

Thanks. I'll be on my way now.

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. And it's all entirely free of charge.

### Keeping in touch

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

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

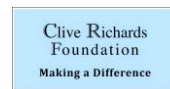


EUROPEAN UNION  
Investing in Your Future  
European Regional  
Development Fund 2007-13



Made possible with  
**Heritage  
Fund**

... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enovert Community Trust, Ibstock Enovert 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 : FCC Communities Foundation

... 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/)

Follow us ...



<https://m.facebook.com/GlassMuseumUK/>



<https://twitter.com/glassmuseumuk>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/glassmuseumuk/>

- fin -

#### 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)

Registered Charity No 1139252 / Registered Company No 7344291