

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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INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF GLASS

International Festival of Glass on the move

On the morning of 3rd August, shortly after GC 226 went out, we received a press release from Janine Christley, Festival Director, which we reproduce here verbatim.

We are delighted to announce that the International Festival of Glass and the British Glass Biennale have their future secured.

Five organisations presented detailed and thoughtful proposals and we are grateful for the time and commitment they have shown. Ultimately, we had to make a choice as to which organisation could best take forward the vision of the festival, provide maximum benefit for the UK glass community and continue to work with our national and international collaborators to ensure the festival and the exhibition remains a significant global event for glass.

The successful organisation is the Glass Art Society. Brandi Clark and her team at GAS have expertise in organising complex glass events, a massive following of artists and collectors from around the world and a keen eye on the strengths and weaknesses of the current glass scene. By choosing a network it opens up possibilities for positive collaboration with UK glass centres as potential host venues. We feel this will bring the festival and the UK glass community the best possible future. The handover will take place at the end of the 10th International Festival of Glass, 23rd – 26th August 2024. More: www.ifg.org.uk and www.glassart.org

Brandi Clark, Executive Director of GAS, stated: 'I am so excited the Glass Art Society has been chosen to lead the next phase of the International Festival of Glass. GAS's focus on supporting and promoting the international glass community has positioned us to steward and expand the solid foundation the Ruskin Mill Land Trust has built over the past 20 years. We are honoured to be trusted with this endeavour and are eagerly anticipating our first festival in 2026'

Janine Christley, Festival Director, says: 'We hope everyone will support GAS with the same warmth and enthusiasm that the festival has enjoyed over the last twenty years. We look forward to the festival and British Glass Biennale becoming even more ambitious and exciting under Brandi's proficiency and leadership.'

Stourbridge Glass Museum Survey



We would be most grateful if you could kindly complete this short, anonymous survey about Stourbridge Glass Museum.

[Survey](#)

At the end of the survey you can enter our **Prize Draw** to win this beautiful vase created by resident glass artist Allister Malcolm (approx. 15 inches in height).

Link to Survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfeH_Lajp9DzasF7XajbbTpMVvaYmhW1Qhk8SWbLdrFeykYQg/viewform

Extending the QUEST

We have been contacted by Communications Manager Laura McKee at Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QUEST). Laura is very excited about a new award, which we are happy to pass on to our readers. She tell us:

Heritage Crafts and *QUEST* have teamed up to launch the *QUEST and Heritage Crafts Sustainability Award*. This is open to any craftsperson working with traditional craft skills or materials, who has improved their environmental sustainability within the last 12 months. There is a £2,000 cash prize.

The winner will be invited to attend a high-profile Winners' Reception at the Vicar's Hall, Windsor Castle, on 15th November 2023, where the result will be announced.

Applications close on Friday 1st September 2023 at 5:00pm:

- To apply for the award, click [here](#).
- For more information on the award, click [here](#).

Call to artists

The Contemporary Glass Society (CGS) is collaborating again with *The World of Glass* to present a members-only exhibition. *The World of Glass* is located in St Helens and the exhibition is open to all CGS members at any stage of their careers, but with special emphasis on artists located in the North.

There is no theme but it will celebrate the diversity of contemporary glass and a broad range of techniques. All work submitted must be for sale. Wall pieces and plinth-based work are welcome. Artists can submit up to three pieces and the museum will select the artworks to be included.

The exhibition will run from Saturday 30th September to Friday 17th November 2023. The deadline for applications is 5:00pm on Friday 18th August. Details and applications via: [Curratorspace](#) (*sic*)

'Glass Royalty' visit



SGM Volunteer Eileen Sanders has kindly told us about a rather special visitor to these shores who took time to stop by at Wordsley recently. Here's her report:

Stourbridge Glass Museum has once again been truly honoured with very special Glass Royalty when, on Saturday 29th July, the Museum had an unexpected visit from David Smith and his charming wife Nola, visiting the UK and Ireland, from their home in Australia. David is descended from Paul Tyzack and also from the Henzey family as there were marriages between both. The name of Paul's father John, and the baptism of Paul himself on 26th April 1612, was the first recorded reference to any glassmaker in the area. David had particularly wanted to see where his ancestors were born and was on a whistle stop tour around local sites. He and Nola arrived at the Museum having just visited St Mary's Church, Kingswinford, where Paul Tyzack was baptised, and where Henzey gravestones are still visible.

It was a most enjoyable and memorable afternoon. David was pleased to know that Stourbridge Glass Museum was open, as he had only recently learned of its existence following the closure of Broadfield House. He was particularly happy to see reference to Paul Tyzack on the first floor gallery. David gave a generous donation to the Museum and left with a book detailing more of his family history. He has himself also collated information about the Tyzacks, and agreed to forward it to the Museum on his return home to Australia.

It was a most auspicious and convivial event, especially following notification from The Arts Council on Thursday 27th July, that Stourbridge Glass Museum had been awarded full accreditation, now being one of the best Museums in the UK., offering inspiration, enjoyment and learning for community and visitors. It seems all the stars are aligning, and the prestigious reputation of Stourbridge Glass Museum is spreading worldwide.

Sun, sea and glass

Lukas Hora works for Soneva Art & Glass studio, the first and only glass studio in the Maldives. He is looking for some experienced glass blowers/gaffers to join the team at Soneva.

Lukas tells us: 'The Soneva studio was founded in 2015 and provides a sustainable alternative to shipping waste glass to recycling companies. Instead, we collect used bottles from Soneva and local islands which are cleaned, crushed and melted. We use this melted glass to showcase incredible examples of 'Waste to Wealth'.

Here's where it gets intriguing: 'Every year we invite three or four artists from all parts of the world to come here for three weeks of residency. The first artist invited to our studio was Lino and after him we've been working here with Howard Ben Tre, Martin Janecky, Janusz Pozniak, Cliff Rainey, Tobias Mohl and just recently Clare Belfradge or Trine Drivsholm plus many others. On top of that we provide glass blowing experiences to our guests and also half of our production capacities are devoted to retail items and glasses for our restaurants, villas, boutique stores etc.'

And now for the punchline: 'Therefore, I would like to ask if could share our job advertisement and help us to fill this exciting position - Soneva is a really unique place to work and live. Here is the link and application form: <https://soneva.com/job/senior-gaffer-glass-blower/>

A glassmaking residency in the Maldives? It's not 1st April and this is not a wind-up. Apply now.

Invitation From The Carnival Glass Society

Friday 29 September, 18.15 to 21.00

Join Us for a reception and tour of the Carnival Glass Society Exhibition at Stourbridge Glass Museum.

- See over 300 items of spectacular carnival glass on display, including rarities never exhibited before.
- Enjoy a complimentary first glass of wine, beer or soft drink as you listen to the fascinating story of carnival glass which spans more than 150 years from its early inspirations through to the current day.
- Browse Stourbridge Glass Museum's other amazing exhibits.



Saturday 30 September, 09.30 to 16.30

Join us at historic Himley Hall for Carnival Glass Sales and 'Carnival Glass Titans – Thomas Dugan and Harry Northwood' Talk



- A wealth of exceptional carnival glass for sale to suit all pockets.
- Outstanding afternoon filmed presentation by renowned author and historian James Measell on the Stourbridge glassmaking pioneers, Thomas Dugan and Harry Northwood.
- Special raffle for rare Swedish carnival glass vase, fun carnival glass straw draw and more.

We welcome you to join us for either or both of these events which are free for Carnival Glass Society members, with new members welcome (electronic membership only £14, up to two names per membership, special offer includes eight 40 page newsletters packed with articles, photos and news - printed newsletter membership options available).

Go to www.thecgs.co.uk/cgs-annual-weekend-events for more details and to www.thecgs.co.uk/contact-us or call Trudy on 0759 5261735 for information about the programme and how you can register for these events.

Across the waves



Earlier this year we carried the tale of Marc McCarty, currently the only glassblower on Jersey yet who undertook his training a bit nearer to our patch at Wolverhampton. Here he gained a BA (Hons) before honing his skills at Seattle's Pilchurh Glass School and then settling in the Channel Isles. Always keen to follow the exploits of our ex-pats, we have received a delightful piece courtesy of *Genuine Articles*. These are drawn from *Genuine Jersey*, an outfit dedicated to promoting local producers who create products on the islands. More on the likes of Marc and his ilk can be found at www.genuinejersey.com – it's fascinating stuff.

'Ah but', I hear you ask 'how did you come by this article from a distant land so far away?' Well, here's an example of that magical connection twixt waterways and glass that makes it all so compelling for Yours Truly. Marc was introduced to me by proxy in that same *GlassCuts* by way of a man whom I have not had sight nor sound of for the thick end of six decades when we shared a memorable (for all the wrong reasons!) schoolboy trip to Leicester on narrowboat *Bumblebee* in 1967. That's a tale in itself which I have dined out on many time since. But it is a source of endless wonderment to me how after all those intervening years, two youngsters who barely knew each other on a canal almost a lifetime ago come to exchanging notes about glass in 2013. Even more remarkable, Nick happens to have a piece of glass he is seeking information about. Where else but *GlassCuts*? See *Notes and queries* below: I'm sure Nick would be greatly impressed f we could help him. (Some days I just love this job – Ed)

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=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmduY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjIxNDIhNDUxMjk1NzdlODgzOIRiZjhhMDQ=>

To donate *PayPal* visit: <https://www.paypal.com/uk/for-you/transfer-money/send-money> and donate to bfg@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**.

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 (and waterways) enthusiast Nick, as mentioned above, poses this teaser: 'When clearing out recently we discovered at the back of a cupboard a box containing a cake stand. We have never used it, we cannot remember buying it, yet it mysteriously has some slight damage to the pedestal. It was made by Waltherglas, whom I assume are German. I am intrigued as to how it is made.'



The upper surface is plain glass. Underneath, the surface is frosted, maybe by sandblasting, and the leaf motifs stand out when viewed from above because the glass within them is clear. At first sight I thought that the leaves were ground and polished from underneath through the frosting and into clear glass behind. However, closer examination shows that the leaf motifs actually stand clear of the surrounding glass on the underside suggesting that the piece is moulded, but how do they then do the frosting? Surely they cannot successfully 'mask-off', protecting the outstanding leaves, and blasting the remainder. I tried researching on the net, but all of the sites seem to be concerned with the sale value of the pieces, which incidentally is not much. Any advice would be welcome'.

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
- * *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>
- * *Glasscapes: Land & Seascape in Glass Art*. Seminar, London on 28.10.23. Details [here](#).
- * *Charleroi Glass Museum 3rd Glass Biennial*. May/June 2024. www.charleroi-museum.be/
- * *Making Waves; 2nd time lucky*. Peter Layton Exhibition to 3rd Sept. [More](#)

From the Hot Studio:

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

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

My uncle often recalls the tale of his dad when he lost his rifle in the army and got charged £200 for a new one. He claim he always understood after that why a Captain goes down with his ship.

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. 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 Lynn Boleyn MBE
01384 900447 : bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk : 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 : 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/

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Our full Privacy Statement is at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk or can be supplied by us on request. Subscribers can withdraw at any time simply 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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