

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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News from the north-east

Our postbag reflects the sadness out there in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{®GF} about the situation facing our friends in Sunderland, where the National Glass Centre seems to have woe upon yet more woe being poured upon it in a depressing stream of bad news. Sometimes it seems that not only is your glass half empty, it contains something unpalatable you don't want to drink, but you can't drink it anyway 'cos and there's a big crack around the top; it just seems that things can't get much worse.

But cometh the hour, cometh the man. Or indeed the woman. So hats off to one intrepid lady for whom the word defeat doesn't seem to figure too prominently in her vocabulary. Jo Howell is campaign leader for the *Save The National Glass Centre* campaign and it so happens she featured [here](#) in a recent BBC article. There is also a petition [here](#) which, when we last checked, stood around the 35,000 signatures mark.



You're kidding, is it really that many?

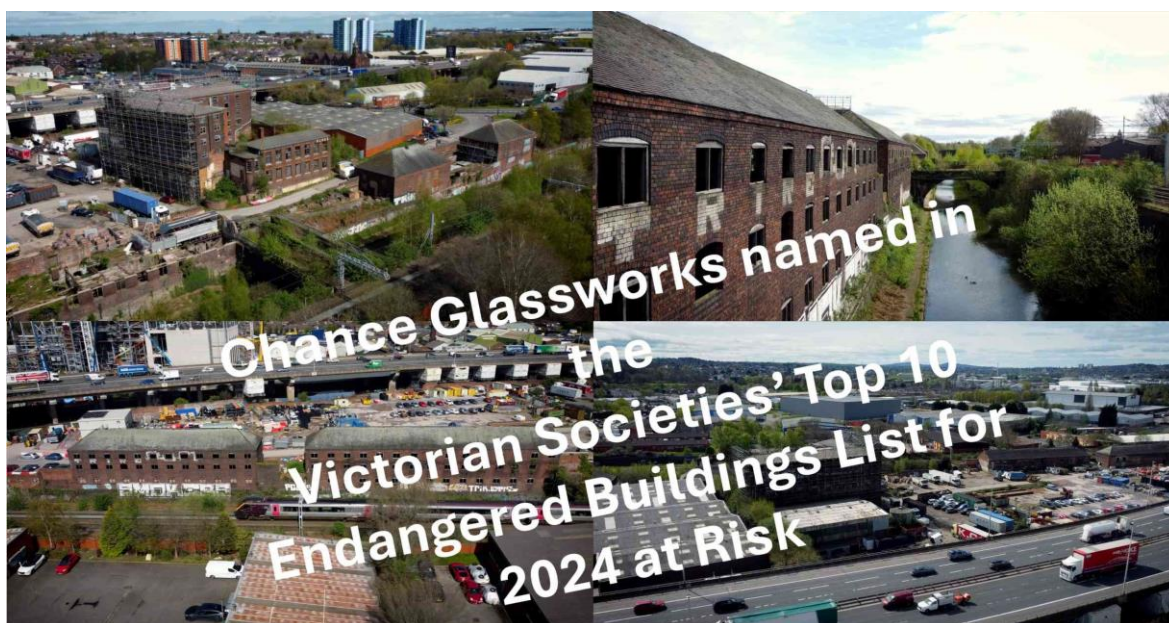
Nope, we're not kidding. Difficult as it may be to sink in, your favourite little fanzine is about to celebrate its 250th anniversary. Yes, 250! Lynn and I are proud to say that we have compiled and edited every single edition from Day 1, so now it's your turn. We are planning a special anniversary edition for the Big Day and cordially invite you to give us your observations, comments, praise, criticism or whatever on any aspect of *GlassCuts* that has tickled your fancy but especially pertaining to glass in general and Stourbridge Glass – and our new museum - in particular. Get your comments in via the usual address before 10th July and we'll see about publishing the pick of the bunch.

GlassCuts 250 will be coming to an inbox near you real soon so get your thinking caps on. And always remember, we do what we do because of you; without you we just wouldn't want to do it.

Nearer to home

More alarm bells are sounding in our neck of the woods as the latest *Top 10 'at risk' sites* compiled by the Victorian Society lists Chance Glassworks on the Smethwick-Oldbury border up there with the other nine in a saddening collation of fine structures similarly in need of lots of TLC. View the full list in a BBC item [here](#)

Fortunately, Chance Heritage Trust <https://chanceht.org> are, as we speak, working tirelessly to restore this quite amazing site of buildings, tunnels and artefacts as part of an extensive long-term community-focussed project. We continue to extend our best wishes to all at CHT in their efforts. Even better, they would appreciate a hand; if you only have a few hours to spare it all helps.



Swings and roundabouts

We have left the above item 'as is' when we stitched it into the draft of this edition in order to show how quickly things can change, and not always for the worse. Just a few days after collating the depressing news outlined above we received this from Giles Chance (*abridged – Ed*):

'The Chance Heritage Trust, founded in 2015 in Smethwick, has formed a joint venture with the local council to restore and renovate the Grade II listed Chance Glass buildings which have been unused since 1982. The plan is to create a 'Chance Village' on 20,000 sq.m of old factory space, near the M5, which contains the buildings which were built 1822-24. Chance Village will contain business and residential space, a glass museum and other leisure and art facilities which will be an important part of the area's regeneration. It will include details of the Chance family business, which was an important part of Smethwick and Birmingham society for over 150 years between 1830-1980, employing over 3,000 people. It will also include an operating lighthouse, 30 metres tall, which will use an original Chance revolving lighthouse optic. That will be visible from the M5 motorway flyover located a few hundred yards way. A video explaining the project is [here](#).

Another Century

A bit late notice due to the vagaries of GC publication dates but there's still time: Fieldings Auctioneers (Stourbridge) <https://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk> are holding another of their *Centuries of Glass* auction on Thursday 13th June commencing 0930, with viewings from 0830. There you go.

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
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To donate via *JustGiving* visit:

<https://donate.justgiving.com/donation-amount?uri=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmduY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjIxMTNDIhNDUxMik1NzdlODgzOTRIzjhkMDQ=>

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.

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.

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

* *Contemporary Glass Society* latest news. www.cgs.org.uk

Monthly *Glass Network Digital* also available.

* *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Updates: 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

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

Keep up with the latest via Al's media feeds.

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* or *OffCuts*. Usual address. There's no fee, but if you've got a few bob lying around in a spare pocket we can always find a good use for it.

And finally ...

Living in Stickville (to find my place set your sat nav to 'end of the world' and we're last on the left before you fall off) you get to hear some interesting conversations. A while back I heard a farmer chatting to his apprentice by the field opposite us:

'Did you count them there sheep like I told you?'

'Yep, sure did Boss. There's 40 of 'em'

'But there's only supposed to be 39'

'I know, but I rounded 'em up'.

The apprentice has since re-trained and is now a High Court Judge. Life's like that in these parts.

Graham Fisher MBE FRGS
Trustee, PR & Comms
pp British Glass Foundation
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 Stourbridge 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

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

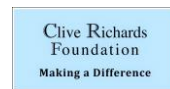


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BGF would also like to acknowledge the following, *inter alia*, for their support and generosity ...

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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