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GlassCuts Issue 3

Hallo there, my fellow glass addicts ...

... here's your latest fix. And, as the dark, cold days draw near, the third edition of *GlassCuts* offers yet more cockle-warming news from the wonderful world of Stourbridge Glass ...

IN THIS ISSUE

Chas hits the Broadsheets
GF hits the airwaves
More on a certain vase
Big piece, huge gesture
Yet more money, thank you

Chas hits the Broadsheets

A reported in GlassCuts 2, Charles Hajdamach (<http://hajdamach.com>) is currently paying a visit to Corning Glass Museum in the USA. But though he be far from home, he still manages to attract coverage for his visit via our local newspapers. The man is also now a star of the airwaves following his recent live chat with me on my Breakfast Show on 102.5 The 'Bridge, which, together with a contribution from Ruskin's Kevin Barry and colleagues, attracted a great deal of interest. We'll be giving a full update of Chas' jaunt when he gets over his jet lag. In the meantime, heartiest congratulations for an ambassadorial job well done. And not forgetting Ian Dury of Ruskin (see below), who is also on a mission to Corning soon; more news on that as it happens.

GF hits the airwaves

It's very much a case of the glove being on the other boot this weekend (*what?? - Ed*) as my usual role of radio presenter is reversed and I find myself in the hotseat. Broadcaster Alex Jackson will be waxing lyrical with me in languidly desultory fashion from around 1015am onwards this Saturday 22nd during which time the subject will doubtless swing around to glass. Catch us on 102.5FM or 'listen live' via www.thebridgeradio.net

More on a certain vase

Work on the Portland Vase replica at Ruskin Centre is quietly but steadily going in the right direction. Project Coordinator Ian Dury (<http://www.stourbridgeglassengraversdy8.co.uk>) has shown me the first 'rushes' of a video he is compiling to cover the momentous events going on down there, and mighty fine it's beginning to look. The 2012 Portland Vase project is a huge fillip to the area and is already generating enormous interest. It is therefore vital that the facts surrounding this are accurately recorded for posterity, and so I know ('cos I have asked him) that Ian will welcome us suggesting that all enquiries be directed through him in the first instance. Thanks for that.

Big piece, huge gesture



The story so far ... The Blue Basket, by Jacqueline Cooley, is a large - 48cms across by 7cms tall - fused and slumped woven blue bowl made from sheet glass with ground and polished rim, signed and dated 2004. It featured at the recent Fielding's auction to raise monies for BGF but unfortunately, despite the fact that it is simply gorgeous, failed to sell. Stepping up to the mark to right this wrong is accountancy firm Clement Keys, who very kindly act *pro bono* for BGF and who are about to purchase the plate, with proceeds going to BGF. That is support indeed, and takes the total collected as a result of the auction to a tad under £7,500. And so, to bring you bang up to date, the moment will be recorded by way of a formal presentation and exchange. Arrangements are in hand for this to be held at Broadfield House, 10.00am Monday 7th November. All are invited.

And finally for now

Yet more money, thank you

On Saturday 15th October 2011, at a meeting of the Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum (www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk) held at Broadfield House, a cheque for £1,000 was presented by Plowden & Thompson's Barbara Beadman, who is also Chair of Friends, to Allister Malcolm, a Trustee of the British Glass Foundation. The amount had been agreed by Friends at their recent AGM as a gesture of support for the work of BGF. Wonderful stuff.

And, just as GlassCuts goes to press, the very latest news is that BGF is delighted to have received a cash donation from long-time glass aficionado John Sanders. Unfortunately John isn't enjoying the best of health right now, but this clearly doesn't dim his unbridled enthusiasm for glass. Thanks John, and our best wishes for you getting back to 'firing on all four cylinders' again as soon as possible.

More soon ... in the meantime, Keep it Glass.

Graham Fisher

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