



GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation
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Hallo, sweltering glass fans. My, it's hot. Today, I even saw a local farmer actually *removing* his donkey jacket and wellies. Unthinkable. But there's nowhere hotter right now than the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{®GF} as we round up what's going on at the height of the season. So, eyes down for *GlassCuts*; no one-lines here, just a full house. Clicketty-click; enjoy.

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A lovely day out



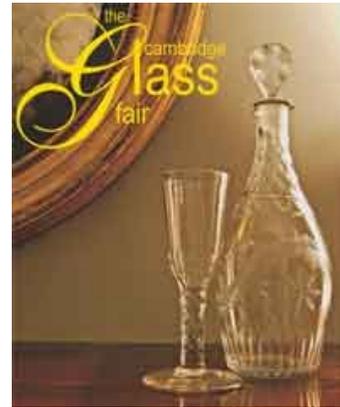
Big thanks to Keith Clenton, organizer of the *Birmingham Lives* exhibition, who invited me along to the show on Sunday 11th June, just off the Five Ways in Brummagem. *Birmingham Lives* takes its title from the archives of Professor Carl Chinn - don't tell me you've never heard of him - where all the memorabilia for his books, articles and broadcasts are kept. I was here ostensibly representing the BGF, but was happy to plug our wonderful glass industry and to chat about all aspects of glass, and its talented exponents, to anyone who came within range of me grabbing them warmly by the throat.

The larger items of glass visible in the photograph are, of course, from the 2012 Portland Vase Project; and were kindly loaned to me for the day by Project Coordinator and artifact owner Ian Dury. Scores of people stopped by to have a closer look, many of them taking some convincing that these beautiful items, which are so perfect they look like they came out of a glass-fibre mould, were actually made of glass, by local craftspeople. It was, as far as promoting Stourbridge Glass goes, well worth the day out. So, once more, I thank Keith for extending me the opportunity to strut my stuff on behalf of all back at Blighty. Cheers, mate.

That's the way to do it

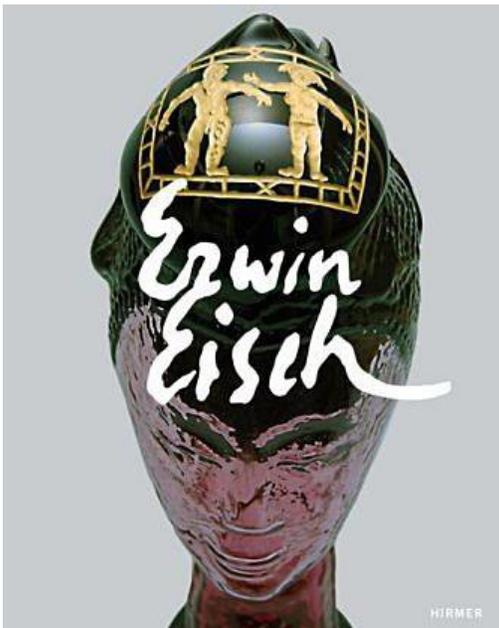
Ok, if you have never organized a big bash, then here's how it's done. First, you spend months getting everything together, then you hold the event. Then, when it's all over, you collapse in a big heap by the fire with a glass of plonk. And then, you wake up the next morning, and start all over again ready for the next one. It's relentless, and, having done one or two myself in my prime, my hat comes off to anyone doing likewise.

Our good chums Paul Bishop and Christina Glover - for indeed it is they - are hard at it again, and are doubtless delighted to be bringing you two more. Sunday 22nd September sees the Cambridge Glass Fair at Linton Village College CB21 4JB, whilst on Sunday 10th November it's back to the National Motorcycle Museum B92 0EJ for the National Glass Fair.



www.cambridgeglassfair.com and www.glassfairs.co.uk will give you all you want to know. Or follow Paul and Christina on Facebook and Twitter. Or just give them a ring on 07887 762872. And don't begrudge either should they have a glass of plonk in one hand. Believe me, they will have earned it.

A grand occasion in the North East



Oh, how tenderly do I remember my days as an undergrad student in Sunderland, way back when I had darker hair and more teeth than now. The docks, the coal mines, and, of course, Jobling Glass. Rooted in my youth we had Roger Daltrey hoping he'd die before he got old, now we have Robbie Williams hoping he's old before he dies. Times do, indeed, change.

So it's really exciting, almost *avant garde*, no less, to hear that the National Glass Centre will re-open its new building with a comprehensive retrospective of the works of Erwin Eisch, a pioneer of the International Studio Glass Movement, whose expressive artistic work was central to establishing glass as an art medium. The exhibition runs from 29th June to 22nd September 2013.

We are also advised of the book on Erwin Eisch and his output, which coincides with 50 years of the Studio Glass Movement. With contributions from international scholars and companions of Eisch, and with quotations from the artist himself, the book provides an in-depth look at the development of his art and life philosophy from the man widely proclaimed to be the cornerstone of studio glass. And the local connection? Not surprisingly, one of the cited authors in *Clouds Have Been My Foothold All Along* is none other than our very own Charles Hajdamach. Nice one, Chas. It's all there, and more, at www.nationalglasscentre.com

More news from (quite a bit further) up t'north



North Lands Creative Glass advise us of spaces available on two of their International Master Classes; Anne-Lise Riond Sibony, *The Gravity of the Objects*, 26th August - 5th September 2013, and Richard Slee with James Maskrey *Unknowns* 10th - 18th September 2013. There is also an Annual International Conference *The Real Thing: Beyond Stereotyping*, featuring talks and discussions from Master Class Leaders

and including demonstrations, a three-course meal and party. Discounts are available for members of CGS & SGS. Contact for all is grace.macbeath@northlandsglass.com +44(0) 1593721229. Application guidelines and further details for classes: www.northlandsglass.com/2013-brochure

And there's more from *North Lands Creative Glass*, who are working in partnership with *Borgie Forest Cabin Project* to offer a two-venue eight-week glass engraving residency, *A Forest of Glass*. This is, we are told, 'an exciting opportunity to take your work beyond the studio and respond directly to the landscape.' Residency dates are 21st October - 13th December 2013. Applications must be received by 26th July and successful candidates will be notified by 1st August. Discounts are available for members of CGS & SGS. Limited funding is available for both classes and conference. Contact details as above.

Bye, bye Beckie; hallo Vickie

Sad to hear that our chum Rebecca Dearden has moved on from the Contemporary Glass Society (CGS) - we wish her well - but delighted to welcome a new member to our happy gang in her place. Step forward Victoria Scholes, who has already got to grips with sending out the news-ey stuff. Her latest sounds a bit of a gem, as she tells us about the CGS launching its October conference at the National Glass Centre. (Yep, same one as above.)

'In contemporary glass, art and technique come together to enchant and challenge us. But is there tension between the two, or are they perfect partners? These challenges and opportunities for glass art are the theme of a national conference organised by the CGS. Glass Skills: Exploring the Fusion of Art and Technique is being held on October 12th and 13th at the National Glass Centre at the University of Sunderland.'

'The debate couldn't be more timely' says Victoria, who also happens to be the Chair of CGS. *'Times may be hard, and there's no doubt that traditional skills-based industries are in decline. But at the same time, creativity is a resource in which we are rich, and creative skills increasingly valued.'*

The CGS conference will bring together leading artists and glass specialists to give their own perspectives to the fusion of art and technique.

Glass Skills: Exploring the Fusion of Art and Technique is part of the CGS Glass Skills 2013 programme; a whole year of exhibitions, events and workshops that highlight the part glassmakers play in keeping ancient skills alive, and in adapting them to create innovative and original art for today. Details at www.cgs.org.uk.

More neon stuff

Hallo once again to Ali, of Neon Workshops in Wakefield (*GCs passim*), who can barely contain her excitement. 'Hi Graham', she says. 'We have just launched a summer competition, that *GlassCuts* readers may find of interest. Neon Workshops have invited over Los Angeles neon artist, Michael Flechtner, to teach a four-day workshop in September entitled 'Moving Neon'... and there's a free place up for grabs!' Pause for breath; and relax.

To enter, click on the news section at: <http://www.neonworkshops.com/news.htm>

Money matters

We are delighted - erm, no, that's not quite right - we are absolutely tickled pink, to be on the receiving end of a four-figure donation towards BGF funds from The Grimmit Trust of Birmingham. This philanthropic group makes grants to charitable causes within the scope of their trust deed to encourage and strengthen local community activities. Regular readers will already know exactly which pot this is going into, but for any newcomers to our ranks please allow us to clarify that not one single Trustee of BGF receives a penny piece in remuneration; it's all going towards this bloomin' museum. Thank you.

Please note: In recognizing donors and acknowledging their support, *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.



New book on stained glass

Our good friend Dr. Malcolm Dick, based in the Centre for West Midlands History at Birmingham University, has asked us to pass on an invitation he has received from The Victorian Society to a book launch at Birmingham Art Gallery, 12:30 on Saturday 13th July.

Glad to oblige, Malcolm. *Stained Glass Window Designers and Makers* by Roy Albutt is the tome in question, which, in view of the amount of stained glass windows we've got round our parts, is eminently *apropos*. We are advised that copies of the book will be available for purchase on the day at a reduced rate.

And finally ...

A Black Country Experience –the event

Take a bunch of stressed-out professional mapmakers in need of an annual jolly to celebrate their Society's 50th anniversary, shove them in a four star hotel to keep 'em sweet, treat them to a two-day extravaganza of canals, real ale, faggots 'n paes and - natch - Stourbridge Glass; then complete the following sentence: 'It's a lousy job, but ...' (answers on a postcard, please). This promises to be a blinder. Expect a blow-by-blow report on *The Black Country Experience* in the next issue of your fave-rave stumper-bumper numero-uno glass-fanzine, the one and only *GlassCuts*. (*Marketing team, do you think we should tone this down a bit? - Ed*)

Dates for your diary

Send details of your spectaculars and festivities via the usual address for inclusion here, possibly a mention in the main body of *GC* as well. As Aleksandr Orlov, the BGF's very own pet meerkat, might say: '*Vot could possibles go wrong?*'



Events & Exhibitions at Broadfield House Glass Museum

www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/

20th July 2013 - *Bonhams Valuation Day*

17th August 2013 - *Family Fun Day*

Events and Exhibitions at Red House Glass Cone (featured *GC26* & *28*)

www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/

1st June - 27th July 2013 - *Contrasts: The Lace Guild*

13th - 14th July 2013 - *1940s weekend*

3rd August - 8th September 2013 - *Schools Out for Summer*

24th - 26th August 2013 - *Knights in Shining Armour*

7th September - 20th October 2013 *OMG - Oh My Glass*

26th October - 1st December 2013 - *Made at the Cone*

30th November - 1st December 2013 - *Christmas Festival & Craft Fayre*

7th December 2013 - 5th January 2014 - *All I Want for Christmas*

In addition, as notified by Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum (featured *GC26*)

(open to all-comers; modest fees may be involved)

www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk

29th June 2013 - 23rd February 2014

Broadfield House Glass Museum

Just Desserts

Changes in fashion in all things sweet, and accompanying glassware

30th November - 1st December 2013

10:00am - 4:00pm, Broadfield House Glass Museum

Christmas Festival

Elsewhere around the highways and byways of glassville

29th May - 13th July 2013

Neon Nudes (featured *GC29*)

www.neonworkshops.com 70b, George Street, Wakefield WF1 1DL: 01924 200069

29th June - 22nd September 2013

National Glass Centre, Sunderland SR6 0GL

Reopening of the Centre with a retrospective of the works of Erwin Eisch (see feature above)

www.nationalglasscentre.com

25th - 28th July 2013

Keep Neon and Carry On (featured *GC29*)

www.neonworkshops.com 70b, George Street, Wakefield WF1 1DL: 01924 200069

25th August 2013
10th Anniversary Bead Fair (featured GC25)
Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge DY8 4LU
www.stourbridgebeadfair.co.uk

12th - 15th September 2013
Moving Neon (featured GC29)
www.neonworkshops.com 70b, George Street, Wakefield WF1 1DL: 01924 200069

Sunday 22nd September 2013
Cambridge Glass Fair
Linton Village College CB21 4JB (see feature above)
www.cambridgeglassfair.com

Various dates throughout September 2013 - October 2013
North Lands International Master Classes & Conference; and exhibition of new works from the North Lands Creation Glass Collection of Contemporary Glass (featured GC24)
info@northlandsglass.com or Lorna MacMillan on 01593 721229

Sunday 10th November 2013
National Glass Fair
National Motorcycle Museum B92 0EJ (see feature above)
www.glassfairs.co.uk

Bulletin Board

Since *Glasscuts* was last on air, we have also been notified of ...

AJ Poole's newsletter. Glass Books & Exhibition Catalogues For Sale.

Books, books and more books. Spangley new books, rare old books, foreign books. Never have I seen so many books on glass for sale in the one spot; I just can't begin to imagine the size of this guy's loft. Awesome. alanjpoole@aol.com

From the same stable: *Dan Klein & Alan J. Poole - Highlights From The Private Glass Collection. National Glass Centre, Sunderland.* Features lots of big names, including several based in our Parish. sarah.rothwell@nationalglasscentre.com www.nationalglasscentre.com

As Jimmy Cricket (I'm showing my age, here) used to say: 'And there's more' ...

Alan J. Poole's Contemporary Glass News Letter (July edition). Information relating to British & Irish contemporary glass artists' events and activities. Featuring artists based at home or abroad and also foreign nationals who have ever resided or studied for any period of time in the UK or Ireland. alanjpoole@aol.com

Balman Gallery Newsletter. Gollon Returns to Northumbria

Update from a gallery that celebrates all forms of art, including glass. Although Gollon doesn't have much to do with glass. Don't let that small detail put you off. Inspiring stuff. We have since also received notice of their *Gavin Penn and Rare Originals for Summer.* More at www.balmangallery.com

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

Graham Fisher
Press & Publicity,
pp British Glass Foundation
www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk



These are the QR codes for the British Glass Foundation and Virgin Money Giving.

Scanning with a suitably enabled mobile or hand held device will escort you directly to the websites, where you can either browse the work of the BGF or make a donation.

Devices of recent manufacture will most likely already have the necessary software built in. Older devices may require a download, usually free. If difficulties are encountered, contact your provider and not, please, BGF.



Disclaimers 'n stuff

Tutti frutti, oh Rudy. Tutti frutti, oh Rudy. Ah, they just don't write lyrics like that any more. But they still have to write disclaimers, and here's ours. *GlassCuts* is the *ad hoc* email newsletter of the British Glass Foundation. It is collated on a philanthropic basis and has no other function than to entertain and inform its subscribers. Whilst every effort is made...blah...no responsibility...etc. (*usual caveats apply*)

This email is sent to you in good faith on the basis that you appear on our list of interested parties. However, if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* emails then send 'unsubscribe' to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission of *GlassCuts* to interested parties; if you know someone who you think may also wish to receive *GlassCuts*, then feel free to forward it. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our readership, submit it to BGF at the usual address. *A whop bop-a-lu a whop bam boo.* Classic.