



Photography by Simon Bruntnell
www.northlightphotography.co.uk

GlassCuts

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<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1005650>

Hallo there once more! This is getting to be a real regular thing, is it not? Ah, statistics - do you know that, statistically, five out of six people enjoy Russian Roulette? You just can't argue with facts like that. So, when we say that *GlassCuts* just rolls on and on as officially the most popular fave-rave glass-fanzine across more than 26 countries, including Outer Gornal, well, would I lie to you? Enjoy, friends, enjoy ...

IN THIS ISSUE

Tales from Up t'North

Glass Cabinets

It had to happen

New kid on the block

Deadlines, deadlines

Worth a mention

An email from the man who does the piccies

And finally ...

Dates for your diary

Tales from Up t'North

North Lands Creative Glass may seem a distant place to folk in the Black Country, but Grace Macbeath has kindly sent us news of a few things going on up there that may prove tempting for some down here. For starters, there's a *Kiln Forming and Kiln Casting Residency* up for grabs for four lucky candidates who 'have an interest in exploring new forms of making, or ways of working, through collaboration'. The selection panel will make the awards in December 2013 and the eight-week residency will commence on 2nd April next year.

Then there are a couple of courses on offer:

Shifting Perspectives 4th - 13th March 2014

Cost: £850, includes course fees, materials and evening meals

Carrie Iverson and Jeremy Scidmore will use the techniques of printing and kiln formed glass to investigate how shifting perspectives creating images that do not describe a single viewpoint but are multi-layered descriptions of an object or idea. This class is appropriate for all levels.

Kiln Formed Glass Vessels 28th - 30th March 2014

Cost: £300, includes course fees, materials and light lunch

Amanda Simmons will lead a three-day introduction to kiln formed glass vessels using the variables that affect slumping with gravity to create 'drop-out' vessel forms. Some previous kiln formed glass experience is required.

For details contact Grace on 01593 721229 or grace.macbeath@northlandsglass.com



Glass Cabinets

Councillor Tracy Wood is Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture at Dudley MBC. She also has an interest in glass. So, have you clocked the reason for the snappy title yet? Glass ... Cabinets ... yeah, right, we don't just throw this together. Any road up, when I say 'has an interest in glass', I mean that we - the BGF - met her recently, whereupon she extended us the singular courtesy of being genuinely attentive to what we down here in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{®GF} are trying to achieve. Which is nice. As part of her work Tracy sends out a regular bulletin and she kindly sends us a copy. Contained in her latest missive is this ... (*reproduced verbatim with due acknowledgement*)

The Amalric Walter collection has been bequeathed to Broadfield House Glass Museum. The collection consists of 166 pâte de verre sculptures and vessels by Amalric Walter, a glass artist working in France in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The collection has been on loan to the Museum from a private collector since 2003. In 2006 the Museum ran an exhibition and published a catalogue about the artist - it was the first monograph to ever be published on this artist.



*Photography by Simon Bruntnell
www.northlightphotography.co.uk*

Sadly the owner died in 2008 and since then the future of the collection was uncertain, but the Museum is delighted that, after some negotiation, the Trustees have agreed to bequeath the collection and an endowment for its care.

So, like the trooly perfreshnul writer wot I is, I gave Kari Moodie a bell at Broadfield House to see if she wished to add anything further. Kari told me: *'Hallo Graham, and everyone at my favourite email glass fanzine'* (alright, so I put that bit in myself – Ed). *'Would you please add my comment that part of the collection will be going on permanent display at BHGM in the new year, and we are also currently in discussions with another museum who may wish to borrow some of the works for a temporary exhibition - more info to follow when things get firmed up!'*

No sooner the word than the deed, Kari. Give us the info, and we'll do the rest. And congratulations on yet another a fine acquisition.

It had to happen

Talking of Kari Moodie, her recent elevation to Keeper of Glass & Fine Art has left a bit of a hole where she came from, in the form of a vacancy for a Glass Interpretation Officer. So, no surprise to hear her old role is up for grabs. If you think you're up to it then click on <http://www.wmjobs.co.uk/careers/details.aspx?nPostingID=4564&nPostingTargetID=8580&option=52&sort=DESC&respnr=1&ID=QO0FK026203F3VBQB796GF60U&LOV45=15758&LOV10=8942&Resultsperpage=10&lg=UK&mask=wmj> for details of an initial two-year secondment. Don't hang about, because the closing date is midnight on 28th October 2013. Good luck.

New kid on the block

Well, not quite, because our correspondent Keith Smith has actually been in the glass game for donkey's years, but following the retirement of Barbara and Richard Beadman (hope you're enjoying a well-earned break, folks) he is now Head Honcho, or, more accurately, Sales Manager, at Tudor Crystal.

From where, indeed, having taken time to get his feet squarely under the desk, he has contacted us: *'Hallo Graham, and everyone at my favourite email glass fanzine'* (OK, hands up, that bit's down to me again - Ed). *'It was good to talk to you today and I would welcome you at any time to drop in for a coffee and see the factory in action. I am grateful also for your comments on supporting and advancing the prominence of the UK glass making industry'*. No problem; thanks.

In the meantime, Keith has sent us a bit of information to start the ball rolling on what is going down at Tudor. Here's an extract:

'Tudor Crystal, established in 1922, has had a varied history over the years and since joining Plowden & Thompson in 2000 has been making lead crystal in a traditional multi-furnace glassmaking cone dating back to 1788. It is the oldest fully working glassmaking cone in the UK. The company is renowned for producing only the finest 30% lead crystal and is aiming to reignite interest in UK lead crystal glassware.'

Keith continues: *'Some companies bring in finished products from abroad while others bring in blanks to be cut and decorated in the UK. Tudor Crystal is proud to be one of the last companies to still produce a product that is fully made in the UK. 'Still made in Stourbridge' is our new catch phrase and one that we will promote wherever possible. A new brand image is being planned for the Spring Fair 2014.*



Tudor Crystal welcomes enquiries about its products and visitors to the factory to see the glass making cone in action. 01384 392525 www.tudorcrystal.com

Deadlines, deadlines

Phew, this one came in just as I was about to press the button to crank the steam presses up. It originates from Clare Weston, Curator of Domestic & Cultural Life over at the Black Country Living Museum, via our colleague Dr Malcolm Dick at Birmingham University. As long as it gets to us at *GlassCuts* somewhere along the line, that's fine. Just take a look at the links; the title of each one *per se* gives it all away before you choose to click.

<http://www.bclm.co.uk/whatson/heritage-skills-courses--talks-programme/7.htm>

<http://www.bclm.co.uk/events/canal-art-for-beginners-roses--castles/892.htm#.UmUJZ9ZwYdU>

<http://www.bclm.co.uk/events/glass-fusion--day-course/889.htm#.UmUJjdZwYdU>

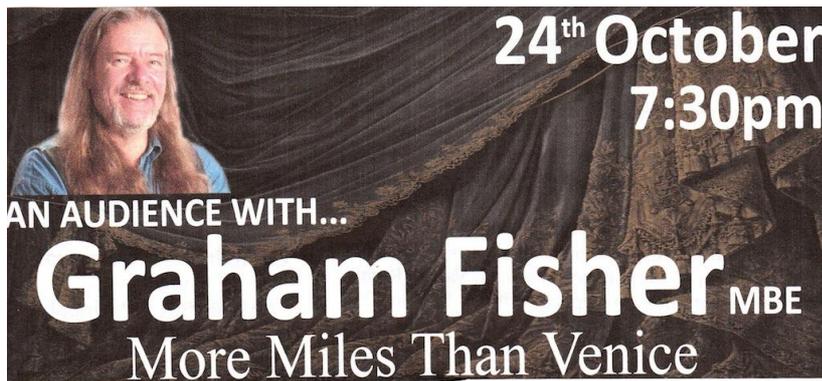
<http://www.bclm.co.uk/events/enamelling-christmas-decorations-day-course/893.htm#.UmUJJoNZwYdU>

'Thanks' says Clare. 'Not a problem' says I. Further info from the lady herself at clare.weston@bclm.com 0121 521 3512

Worth a mention

Yep, I know it's a bit 'in the sticks' where I live now, but don't let that put you off. Even our local Tour Guide starts with '*On your left, a Catholic witch being burnt alive at the stake; on your right, the market and Tourist Information Centre. Welcome !*' OK, perhaps it's not quite that quaint, but it does get a bit quiet in the winter months. So, the local Inn over the road is putting on a series of talks for the dark months to entertain and inform the locals.

Guess who is first up? Yep, Thursday 24th October will see me delivering my presentation on the Black Country waterways, with an emphasis on glassmaking and a certain blue-ish cameo vase. It may be a long way away from you, but if you want to set your satnav to HR3 6EU then I'll happily extend you a welcome. It all cracks off around 7pm.



24th October
7:30pm
AN AUDIENCE WITH...
Graham Fisher MBE
More Miles Than Venice

More Miles Than Venice; an appreciation of the inland waterways of Birmingham & The Black Country.

Graham will offer an overview into the history and development of inland waterways, their renaissance as part of the leisure boom, contemporary developments and their continuing role into the 21st Century in aspects that the original builders could never have imagined. He will also explain the links with the renowned Stourbridge Glass industry to Black Country waterways which led to the recreation of world famous Portland Vase, a Roman cameo glass urn that was replicated in the 19th and 21st Centuries alongside the Stourbridge Canal.



Tickets - £8.50
Booking advisable
01497 831262

Complimentary Glass of
wine
Cold Buffet with local
cheeses

An email from the man who does the piccies

Dear Glass Cuts; I am looking for copper wheel engraving machines and bits & pieces to place at the Red House Cone. Could you mention this in your newsletter? Yep, we can.
simon.bruntnell@googlemail.com

And finally ...

Much appreciation to the guys and gals of the Glass Association for the invitation to their rather splendid bash at Ruskin Glass Centre on Saturday 19th October. The business of the AGM being quickly dealt with, the morning was then given over to presentations by Will Farmer of Fielding's Auctioneers (Stourbridge) and Charles Hajdamach who waxed lyrical about some of the geniuses of the glass industry, past and present.

After a fulsome lunchtime repast, the afternoon kicked off with Victoria Scholes and a review of some of the impressively talented names associated with the Contemporary Glass Society, of which she is Chair.



*Photograph by Graham Dale Photography
Tel: 01384 444886*

I was delighted to take to the floor to bring the delegates up to speed with developments on the British Glass Foundation front, and then equally delighted to welcome Ian Dury and Terri-Louise College up to the podium for them to enthral us with the tale of a certain vase they knocked up last year. Over a year down the line and the capacity for the 2012 Portland Vase Project artifacts to dazzle and enthrall all that see them continues unabated.

We each have our own reasons for attending these events; for me, not only was it a real privilege to address such an esteemed audience, it also gave me chance to put names to faces. Here, from the shimmering opulence that is the Editorial Suite at *GlassCuts Towers* there are many people we regularly deal with whom, without events such as this, would just remain tags on the ends of emails. So, great to meet you all in the flesh. And thank you for your hospitality; it really was a brilliant day.

Dates for your diary

Events & Exhibitions at Broadfield House Glass Museum

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

30th November - 1st December 2013

Christmas Festival

May - August 2014

10th Anniversary Bead Fair (featured GC35)

Broadfield House Glass Museum

pauline@jazzylily.com

Until 10th August 2014

The Roger Pilkington Glass Collection (featured GC36)

Events and Exhibitions at Red House Glass Cone (featured GC26 & 28)
www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/

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*



Elsewhere around the highways and byways of glassville

9th November 2013
Ruskin Glass Centre, Amblecote DY8 4HF
Valuation Day (featured GC36)
<http://ruskinglasscentre.co.uk>

10th November 2013
National Glass Fair
National Motorcycle Museum B92 0EJ (featured GC31)
www.glassfairs.co.uk

16th November 2013
Black Country Living Museum
Glass Fusion Day (featured GC38)
clare.weston@bclm.com

From Friends of BHGM (as listed GC37, and other than shown above)

23rd October 2013
Visit by coach to Beatson Clark in Rotherham for a guided tour of the plant; lunch in Sheffield; visit to The Turner Collection in Sheffield University.

21st November 2013
Rebel in Glass-The Art of Louis Comfort Tiffany. Charles Hajdamach will be unveiling some new information on the fascinating and colourful production of Tiffany Glass.

5th December 2013
Xmas get together; Pressed Glass, speaker Peter Beebee.

25th January 2014
An Afternoon at the Flicks with ice-cream!

First week in June 2014
Trip to Germany. Itinerary, costs etc will be sent out in January.

Details, and booking forms where appropriate: www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk

Bulletin Board

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

Glass Works, an exhibition by Leo Amery

12th - 23rd November 2013, daily except Sunday

The Menier Gallery, 51 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RU

www.meniergallery.co.uk www.leo-amery-vitrail.com

From the news release: *'Leo Amery returns with a scintillating and surprising exhibition of new glass works. Coming from a craft-based background in stained glass, his work makes spectacular strides in new directions. House of Details is a glass structure that explores the nature of perception in autism, drawing directly on his experience of raising a child on the autistic spectrum. 30% of proceeds will go to a support group for children on the autistic spectrum in France.'*

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 (left) and Virgin Money Giving (right).

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

As Bonfire Night approaches, I am minded of the wit who said that Guy Fawkes was the last person to enter Parliament with an honest intention. A trifle cynical perhaps, but in celebration of his memory, and the fact that he was subsequently hung, drawn and quartered for his efforts, we will dedicate this month's *Disclaimer* to him.

GlassCuts is the *ad hoc* email newsletter of the British Glass Foundation ...*ooh, that rope's a bit tight round my neck.* It is collated on a philanthropic basis by the former Chief Hangman Albert Pierrepont, assisted by the BGF, and has no other function than to entertain and inform its traitorous subscribers ... *mind that knife, you'll have somebody's eye out.* Whilst every effort is made...*blah...no responsibility...etc. (usual caveats apply ... blimey, that stings a bit.)*

This email is sent to you in good faith on the basis that you appear on our list of interested anti-establishment parties. However, if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* emails then send 'unsubscribe' to bfg@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why would be appreciated, *whereupon we will hunt you down mercilessly like the treacherous dogs that you are.*

BGF welcomes onward transmission of *GlassCuts* to interested Fifth Columnists; if you know other subversives who you think may also wish to receive *GlassCuts*, then feel free to forward it, together with a secret map of how to escape England in a hot-air banana. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our readership, submit it to BGF at the usual address. *Gosh, is that my own head in that basket?*

