



## *GlassCuts*

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation  
Issue No: 47                      Dated: 8.4.14

For updates also visit our blog at [www.britishglassfoundation.tumblr.com](http://www.britishglassfoundation.tumblr.com)  
Archives of *GlassCuts* and the BGF *Newsletter* are held at [www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk)  
Donate via individual contributions direct to BGF, by standing order, by using the QR code at footer or clicking <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1005650>

### IN THIS ISSUE

Oodles more doodles  
Great expectations at Red House Glass Cone  
More rumbustious Red House  
Black Country Echoes update  
Money matters  
*And finally*  
    Hidden Gems  
Dates for your diary

### Oodles more doodles

They just keep coming in; no wonder Allister Malcolm is getting all lathered and excited about his *Celebrity Doodles* project, as reported in *GC46*. Latest to arrive is from none other than Emma Thompson (*The famous actress and author, as any eejut knose - Ed*).

Top-notch glass-lady Lynn Baker, who worked alongside Allister on his *World's Longest Glassblowing Challenge* (*Two of her rather excellent pieces from that gig now sit on my mantlepiece following the subsequent Fieldings auction - Ed*) has already started work in developing a concept to create something very special for this one. Brilliant stuff. Watch this space; more news that is news as it happens.



## Great expectations at Red House Glass Cone



An exhibition by three glass artists that looks at the leap of faith needed to be an artist and to create art itself has opened at the Red House Glass Cone in Wordsley.

*Great Expectations* is a sculptural exhibition of work by three international practitioners; Charlotte Hughes-Martin from England, Sharon McJannet from the USA (originally from Scotland), and Michelle Lewin from Canada. All three met at the Ohio State University whilst getting their Masters in Fine Art (Glass).

The premise of the exhibition is that every artist accepts the leap of faith it takes both to commit to a life as an artist, and also the passion it takes to start a new piece.

It runs until 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014. More details via 01384 812750 or [www.redhousecone.co.uk](http://www.redhousecone.co.uk)

## More rumbustious Red House

Now I've never had kids - well, at least none that the CSA know about - and I reckon I can be at least partially forgiven for losing my rag with blartin' babbies screaming: '*Ahm bored, I aye got nuthin ter doo*'.

So, smashing to see there's something dropped on my desk to smack the little darlings over the head with (*Marketing, check we can get this past social services - Ed*) in the form of the latest events brochure from Red House Glass Cone.

With stuff for both the young-in-years and the young-at-heart there is something here for just about everyone, from exhibitions and displays to themed fayres and have-a-go sessions. What's more, admission to most of them is absolutely free. Brief details are, natch, now in our *Dates for your Diary* but for the fully Monty visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do) or use your digital hand-held transportable telephonic communications module to dial 01384 812750. Even better, just walk in through the front door. They're a lovely bunch, honest. Take the kids. Please.

## Black Country Echoes update

As reported in *GC46*, on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March I strutted my stuff at the *Black Country Echoes* event and flew the banner for our wonderful glass industry. Both barrels. If they didn't know about Stourbridge Glass before then believe me, they do now. My thanks to the organizers for their kind invitation to be part of what turned out to be a rather splendid day. [www.blackcountryechoes.org.uk](http://www.blackcountryechoes.org.uk)

## Money matters

C'mon ....

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.

*And finally*  
**Hidden Gems**



One of the unalloyed joys of doing this job is that we never know what treasure is about to turn up on our doorstep. But, even making due allowance for the unexpected, this one really caught us on the back foot and fair took our breath away. David Whyman is the man responsible, and we are delighted to let him tell you in his own words:

*'Dear Sir, I would like to introduce myself and my engraving to you. I have been a professional engraver since 1981 and used to engrave for Royal Brierley Crystal on a freelance basis for many years until sadly they closed - a very sad day indeed. I am mainly a wildlife artist but also engrave any subject including portraits. Thanks to the Williams-Thomas family at Royal Brierley Crystal (David Williams-Thomas of that dynasty is, of course, a BGF Trustee - Ed) I demonstrated my engraving all over Japan, USA, and Hong Kong. I have also had exhibitions in Italy, and Germany.*

*I attach some examples of my work and my website is [www.davidwhymancrystal.co.uk](http://www.davidwhymancrystal.co.uk). I hope you find my work of interest.'*

We certainly do find it of interest; this is stunning stuff. Which got us thinking; just how many more unsung artisans are there out in the *Wonderful World of Glass*<sup>®GF</sup> who have either fallen off the radar or of whom we are yet to learn? If you know of any, or if you are one yourself, then drop us a line and please allow us to sing your praises. Because it's people like you that help make Stourbridge great and our home-grown glass amongst the best in the world. Ta.



Editor's note: very final word goes to the aforementioned David Williams-Thomas: *'The bottom photo on David Whyman's website in the 'About me' section, taken in Japan. The very smart back on the right is mine! Grovelling yet again to Ambassadors etc ... except its called selling! Regards ... DWT.'* Happy days, David, happy days.

## Dates for your diary

### ***Events & Exhibitions at Broadfield House Glass Museum***

[www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/)

May - August 2014

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bead Fair (*featured GC35*)

Broadfield House Glass Museum

[pauline@jazzylily.com](mailto:pauline@jazzylily.com)

Until 10<sup>th</sup> August 2014

The Roger Pilkington Glass Collection (*featured GC36*)

### ***Events and Exhibitions at Red House Glass Cone***

[www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/)

Until 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Great Expectations (*featured GC46*)

An exhibition by three glass artists that looks at the leap of faith needed to be an artist.

12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Guild of St Edmund at Easter

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014

Made at the Cone - Have-a-Go Day

4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Medieval themed re-enactment

17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Spring Craft Fayre

24<sup>th</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2014

A trio of artists

12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Events to celebrate Black Country Day (*Yippeeee!!! -Ed*)

[www.kmsevents.co.uk](http://www.kmsevents.co.uk)

26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014

1940s event

9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> August 2014

History through the ages

9<sup>th</sup> August - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Nature exhibition

6<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Stourbridge Folk Festival

20<sup>th</sup> September - 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014

Looking Through - Wolverhampton Embroidery Guild

25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
No Tricks just Treats. Halloween themed event

29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014  
Craft Fayre

8<sup>th</sup> November 2014 - New Year 2015  
Made@the Cone exhibition

13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2014  
Santa at the Cone

***Elsewhere around the highways and byways of glassville***

11<sup>th</sup> May and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2014  
National Motorcycle Museum  
The National Glass Fair (*featured GC42*)  
[info@specialistglassfairs.com](mailto:info@specialistglassfairs.com)

7<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 6:30 for 7:00pm.  
Thinktank Theatre, Millennium Point, Curzon Street, Birmingham B4 7XG.  
Housing the Great Exhibition - The Crystal Palace of 1851. Admission free (*featured GC45*)  
[www.thinktank.ac](http://www.thinktank.ac)

17<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Black Country Living Museum  
Glass Engraving Day Course. £50 per person. Pre-Book only (*featured GC44*)  
<http://www.bclmbookings.co.uk> or 0121 520 8054

20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2014  
Black Country Living Museum  
Association of Independent Museums National Conference (*featured GC44*)  
[www.aim-museums.co.uk/content/booking\\_conference/](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk/content/booking_conference/)

9<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014  
Morley College Gallery, 61 Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1 7HT  
Guild of Glass Engravers International Exhibition (*featured GC45*)  
[www.snaddon.com/glass](http://www.snaddon.com/glass)

10<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 11:00am - 4:00pm  
Station Glass, Dadlington Lane, Shenton, Warks CV13 6DJ  
Spring Open Day and Treasure Hunt (*see also Bulletin Board, this issue*)  
RSVP by 2<sup>nd</sup> May [richardgolding@stationglass.com](mailto:richardgolding@stationglass.com) or 01455 290799

***From Friends of BHGM***

All held at Broadfield House Glass Museum unless otherwise indicated. Costs may apply.  
Details, and booking forms where appropriate: [www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk](http://www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk)

9<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 7:00 for 7:30pm  
*A string of beads*  
A talk by Pauline Holt (aka: Jazzy Lily)

10<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 10:00am - 4:00pm  
*Annual beads day*

1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014  
*Trip to Germany.* Itinerary and costs available from Friends

14<sup>th</sup> July 2014, 10:00am - 3:30pm  
*Fieldings valuation day*

14<sup>th</sup> September 2014  
*Friends AGM*

### **Bulletin Board**

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

*Contemporary Glass Society (CGS)*  
Next Northern Hub meeting is at Rochdale Town Hall, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014  
Limited availability, book via [gen@wickedgencrafts.co.uk](mailto:gen@wickedgencrafts.co.uk)

*Alan J. Poole's Monthly Glass Newsletter*  
It just got bigger. [alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk](mailto:alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk)

*twenty twenty gallery contemporary art & craft (sic), Much Wenlock*  
British Glassmakers and Printmakers, 5<sup>th</sup> April - 24<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
Featuring local talent including Elliot Walker and Tim Boswell  
[info@twenty-twenty.co.uk](mailto:info@twenty-twenty.co.uk)

*Station Glass*  
Spring Open Day and Treasure Hunt, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
RSVP requested; see *Dates for your diary* above  
[richardgolding@stationglass.com](mailto:richardgolding@stationglass.com)

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

**Graham Fisher**  
Press & Publicity,  
pp British Glass Foundation  
[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://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 the thorny issue of MPs expenses and press regulation conspire to raise their ugly heads yet again, we thought we would dedicate this month's *Disclaimer* to the honour of those spotlessly clean ambassadors of probity that comprise our ruling class and the Fourth Estate.

*GlassCuts* is the well-intentioned early-day motion of the British Glass Foundation, distributed by an entirely democratic eyes-to-the-right and nose-to-the-left system that is subject to the highest levels of public scrutiny and which thus deserves our deepest admiration and respect. It is collated just before PM's Question Time by fresh-faced interns agog with dewy-eyed visions of public service punctuated by a devoted lifetime of integrity in the face of overwhelming temptation to take the brown envelope and build that duck-house. It has no other function than to mercilessly expose inanity, to look absolutely delightful when wrapped in the red ribbon of a prosecution barrister's brief at a Commons Committee meeting, and maybe even tell you a bit about glass. Whilst the Editorial team are each issued with a canister of anti-sleaze spray for covering up the unpleasant whiffs in order to ensure accuracy...blah...no responsibility...etc. (*usual caveats apply*)

This policy-lite email is sent in good faith on the basis that you appear on our extensive list of devout believers in the compelling authority of our capitalist system. Plus the odd Marxist and Trot as well. Please feel free to forward it to like-minded Fifth Columnists who may have by now infiltrated our ranks in readiness for the Great Day when the devoted underculture of Screaming Lord Sutch will rise again to reign supreme, even if it is only rock 'n' roll. However, if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then send 'unsubscribe' via our tapped phone line to [bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk). Before being asked to ask which way you swing a brief indication as to why we have become the equivalent of a Chilean dictator would be appreciated.

*'The Great British Ruling Class, ennobled and revered by our entirely impartial and consistently fair free press'* as Hugh Grant famously didn't once say. And that, Ladies and Gentlemen, is what's called satire. Damn, I'm getting good at this.