



GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation
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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 18th May 2014. More details via 01384 812750 or 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 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 31st 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

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. 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*^{®GF} 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/

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

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

Until 18th May 2014

Great Expectations (*featured GC46*)

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

12th - 13th April 2014

Guild of St Edmund at Easter

23rd April 2014

Made at the Cone - Have-a-Go Day

4th - 5th May 2014

Medieval themed re-enactment

17th - 18th May 2014

Spring Craft Fayre

24th May - 3rd August 2014

A trio of artists

12th - 13th July 2014

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

www.kmsevents.co.uk

26th - 27th July 2014

1940s event

9th - 10th August 2014

History through the ages

9th August - 13th September 2014

Nature exhibition

6th September 2014

Stourbridge Folk Festival

20th September - 2nd November 2014

Looking Through - Wolverhampton Embroidery Guild

25th - 26th October 2014
No Tricks just Treats. Halloween themed event

29th - 30th November 2014
Craft Fayre

8th November 2014 - New Year 2015
Made@the Cone exhibition

13th & 14th and 20th - 23rd December 2014
Santa at the Cone

Elsewhere around the highways and byways of glassville

11th May and 23rd November 2014
National Motorcycle Museum
The National Glass Fair (*featured GC42*)
info@specialistglassfairs.com

7th 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

17th 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

20th - 22nd June 2014
Black Country Living Museum
Association of Independent Museums National Conference (*featured GC44*)
www.aim-museums.co.uk/content/booking_conference/

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

10th 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 2nd May 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

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

10th May 2014, 10:00am - 4:00pm
Annual beads day

1st - 7th June 2014
Trip to Germany. Itinerary and costs available from Friends

14th July 2014, 10:00am - 3:30pm
Fieldings valuation day

14th 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, 11th April 2014
Limited availability, book via gen@wickedgencrafts.co.uk

Alan J. Poole's Monthly Glass Newsletter

It just got bigger. alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk

twenty twenty gallery contemporary art & craft (sic), Much Wenlock

British Glassmakers and Printmakers, 5th April - 24th May 2014

Featuring local talent including Elliot Walker and Tim Boswell

info@twenty-twenty.co.uk

Station Glass

Spring Open Day and Treasure Hunt, 10th May 2014

RSVP requested; see *Dates for your diary* above

richardgolding@stationglass.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 (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. 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.