



## *GlassCuts*

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation

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# *GlassCuts* at the 50 milestone A 'Special Edition' edition

Happy Birthday to us, (y'all join in, now), Happy Birthday dear *GlassCuts* ...

And who would have thought it, eh? Just two and a half years from the now highly-collectable Issue 1, and originally intended as merely a brief update every few months, your very own fave-rave glass fanzine has reached its half-ton in grand style and is now read by millions of enthusiasts across every continent on the globe (officially audited figures, would we lie to you?) including places as remote as Tipton, Netherton and Gornal (Lower).

Here in the shimmering opulence that is the Editorial suite at *GlassCuts Towers* we work tirelessly at least one day a month from 11:45am to 1:00pm, stopping for little more than an hour's lunch, to bring you all the news that is news from the *Wonderful World of Glass*<sup>©GF</sup>

But it is you, our loyal readers and contributors, who have made *GlassCuts* what it is. Erm, whatever that is. So, from the Editorial Team, and on behalf of all at the British Glass Foundation, we thank you for your continuing support. And we mean that most sincerely, friends, we really do. <sup>©Hughie Green</sup>

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### **Centenary commemorations**

A few months back we mentioned the changes at Tudor Crystal down in sunny Amblecote and introduced *GlassCuts* readers to the new Sales Manager, Keith Smith. 'Let us know when your feet are under the table and we can be of service in telling the world a bit about you, Keith' said we. And he has come up trumps, with a stunning and tasteful collection of commemorative pieces. Keith takes up the story ...

*'To mark the centenary of the start of World War 1 Tudor Crystal has produced a small collection of 30% lead crystal commemorative pieces. There is a 16cm flared bowl, a 20cm waisted vase and three sizes of rose bowl. All the pieces are engraved with the image of "The Fallen Soldier". This will be a limited edition and each piece will come with its own certificate of authenticity. All pieces will have a classic fan cutting on them and will, of course, be made in the Tudor Crystal factory in Stourbridge, the home of English glassmaking. For further details and prices contact Tudor Crystal on 01384 392525'.*



### **Launch of new Tudor Crystal website**

By this time, Keith is clearly now on a bit of a roll, so goes on to tell us ...



*'After many months of work Tudor Crystal has now launched [www.tudorcrystal.com](http://www.tudorcrystal.com)*

*It is an interactive site and shows most of the current range of products including some new and exciting pieces of lead crystal showing the move forward within the company towards a more design-led younger range of lead crystal items. More new and innovative pieces will be launched as the year progresses and this, combined with a new 'Dial Art Glass' range and limited editions, will help to show that Tudor Crystal is making its mark again on the English crystal marketplace.*

*Tudor Crystal - England's best kept secret, for now!*

Ok, so it's an unashamed plug, but what the heck. Tudor is proud to be local and this is our special 50<sup>th</sup> edition, so why not blow their trumpet? Y'know, in this line of work we are constantly looking to find catchy phrases and snappy titles. *Tudor Crystal - England's best kept secret, for now!* Gosh, I wish I'd thought of that.

## Red by night



It's going back some while now, but in a GC of yesteryear we mentioned the Black Country Living Museum's *Red by Night* event (if you don't know the significance of that one either give me a bell or find a copy of *Walks in the Black Country* by Elihu Burritt - Ed) at which fellow BGF Trustee and *glassmeister* Allister Malcolm said he would be willing to fly the flag. Well, fly it he did. And big-time, it would appear. Here is an extract of his report back to us:

*Wow, what a day - brilliant weather and hundreds of folk! I think we made some new friends. Inside my gazebo we had a display of glass from the assistants and myself which was all for sale. We handed out many BGF leaflets promoting the cause. So far all the feedback has been positive.*

Al goes on to describe how someone asked if they could scan a certain part of his anatomy - it was only later that he realized he had the BGF QR code printed there. But I think we'll let Allister tell you all about that himself when next you go and see him. He is, *az eny eejut knose*, resident at Broadfield House Glass Museum. So go and see him, eh?



## Weight for it



From the keyboard of the aforementioned Allister Malcolm comes confirmation that Richard Golding, of Station Glass and *2012 Portland Vase* fame, will be demonstrating at the forthcoming paperweight collector's day at Broadfield House Glass Museum on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The event runs from 10:00am to 4:00pm and admission is free. More at [www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/whats-on/paperweight-day](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/whats-on/paperweight-day)

## On the move

Ace lens-man Simon Bruntnell has advised us that he will be moving from Ruskin Glass Centre at the end of July but will be contactable via [www.northlightphotography.co.uk](http://www.northlightphotography.co.uk) or 07850 395193.

## Hanging around



As part of a major refurbishment at Stourbridge Library, celebrated (and, it must be said, extremely talented) local artist Luke Perry [www.industrialheritagestronghold.com](http://www.industrialheritagestronghold.com) was commissioned to create *Living Literature*, a spectacular ceiling installation in which Luke has fashioned images and representations of the good and the great of Stourbridge. Luminaries include the likes of rock band Diamond Head, The Foleys, Robert Plant, Ernest Stevens and many more, all with a local connection. On a trip down there recently our BGF spy also happened to notice a very definite 'glassy' connection with reference to one *John Northwood 1836-1902. Decorator of the Portland Vase 1874*. And, modesty forbend, is that not a certain BGF Trustee I see hanging by his flowing locks - probably put there to scare the kids away from messing with the fire hose? Take a peek in the foyer and see whom you can spot. Or go the lazy way via: [www.industrialheritagestronghold.com/?page\\_id=790](http://www.industrialheritagestronghold.com/?page_id=790) ... either road up, it makes you proud.



## Money matters

The Trustees of BGF are delighted to announce the successful securing of grant funding of £10,000 towards the legal, accountancy and consultancy fees that will enable BGF to become a Museum Trust. Whilst this is great news in itself, the corollary is that BGF is able to reaffirm its pledge that all donated monies, unless expressly stipulated otherwise by the donor, are held for the creation of the new museum and will not be absorbed by BGF's own running costs. With much thanks and appreciation to the Community Assets and Services Grants Programme [www.sibgroup.org.uk/communityrights](http://www.sibgroup.org.uk/communityrights) and with even bigger thanks to our mate Andy Duncan of AJD Regeneration [www.ajdregeneration.co.uk](http://www.ajdregeneration.co.uk) who did all the logistics biz. Yowzah, Andy; top dude.

*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.

## Personally speaking

My appreciation to BGF Chairman Graham Knowles for inviting me to address his guests recently at Pedmore Sporting Club (PSC) [www.pedmoresportingclub.co.uk](http://www.pedmoresportingclub.co.uk) on the subject of Stourbridge Glass. Oh, joy was it to be there on that balmy summer's eve as I was graciously afforded a *dais* from which to wax lyrical in truly unfettered fashion on a subject dear to all our hearts. Plus there was a sizeable wedge raised for local charities, which just happens to be the *raison d'être* of PSC. A superb evening, for which many thanks.

## *And finally ...*

*GlassCuts at 50*, a celebratory compendium of all the best bits? Hmmm ... just remember where you read it first, and watch this space.

## 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/)

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***

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/)

25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> June & 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> July 2014  
Business Design Centre, London N1 0QH  
New Designers (*featured GC48*)  
[www.newdesigners.com/glassnews](http://www.newdesigners.com/glassnews)

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2014. 10:00 - 16:30  
Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge DY8 4LU  
11<sup>th</sup> Annual Bead Fair; admission free. (*featured GC49*)  
[www.stourbridgebeadfair.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgebeadfair.co.uk)

27<sup>th</sup> June - 9<sup>th</sup> August 2014  
National Glass Centre, Sunderland SR6 0GL  
International Print Biennale and 2014 Print Awards (*featured GC49*)  
[www.internationalprintbiennale.co.uk](http://www.internationalprintbiennale.co.uk) or Twitter: #IPB14.  
[www.nationalglasscentre.com](http://www.nationalglasscentre.com)

19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014  
Three Swans Hotel, High Street, Market Harborough LE16 9NJ  
CGS AGM, market and social weekend (*featured GC49*)  
Fees apply to non-CGS members. Special day rates available.  
[pmphyllis@aol.com](mailto:pmphyllis@aol.com) 07754 966336 / 07595 261735 [www.thecgs.co.uk](http://www.thecgs.co.uk)

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)

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

### ***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)

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 ...

#### *Gillies Jones Newsletter*

New limited edition cuckoo flower bowl, made to order.  
01751 417550 or [studio@gilliesjonesglass.co.uk](mailto:studio@gilliesjonesglass.co.uk)

#### *National Glass Centre, Tim Shaw Masterclass*

4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2014. £135.00, booking essential. 0191 515 5555 (option 9)  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/282200551940636/?source=1>

Same venue: *3 Solo Shows Revised* featuring The De La Torre Brothers, Richard Meitner and Petr Stanicky 17<sup>th</sup> May - 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014.  
<http://www.nationalglasscentre.com/visit/onyourvisit/viewourexhibitions/exhibitions/details/?id=290>

#### *Alan J. Poole Monthly Newsletter, June edn*

Focusing on shows, workshops and auctions, plus more. [alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk](mailto:alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk) From the same stable, news that discounted tickets available for New Designers 2014. (*featured GCs passim*) Book at [www.newdesigners.com/glassnews](http://www.newdesigners.com/glassnews) discount code NDGLASSNEWS

**And a Special 50<sup>th</sup> Issue message from Igor** (*he's tough but he ain't too bright*)

H-on behalf of the BGh-Eff, I would like to fank all our readers and contt... kontribbu ... oh, blow it, h-everyone who sends stuff in, so makes my job h-eazier. Just make shoor you keep doing h-it, or I gotta come round.

*Signed:* Igor the BGF h-enforcer ... 'ere be my mark: XX (*A clarification; the first X is Igor's name, the second is his PhD - Ed*)



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**

It is said that the mark of the true intellectual is one who can listen to *The William Tell Overture* without thinking of a penniless Tonto going to a bank to buy a new horse and asking to speak to the Loan Arranger. (*It all goes downhill from here - Ed*) And so, in acknowledging the FACE of Every Good Boy Deserving Favour (*and you have to be a true muso to appreciate that one*) we dedicate this *GlassCuts* 50<sup>th</sup> edition *Disclaimer* to those with a more classically orientated musical bent.

In an age when life can be very Strauss-ful (geddit?) *GlassCuts* is the *forte* of the British Glass Foundation and is available worldwide through all FM, long-wave and DAB outlets. Its content is Handelled (*whoah, nice one!*) by a team including mezzo-soprano graphic illustrations by our office girl Maureen; do let us know if you appreciate Mo's art. (*Mozart - oh, come on; that one is brilliant*). Before being distributed symphonically via a complex system of mathematical computer Elgarithms (*groan*) it is checked to be of the highest timbre and resonance to ensure we are operating at optimum frequency of 443 Hz for A above middle-C. Or something like that. It has no other function than to fill auditoria, rouse the passions and maybe even to tell you a bit about glass. Whilst the Editorial team conducts itself with the baton of accuracy...blah...no responsibility...etc. (*usual caveats apply*)

This high-fidelity email is sent to you in in good faith on the basis that you appear on our extensive Liszt (*titter*) of glassy concert-goers who have expressed an interest in such musical giants as Stravinsky, Ravioli, Spaghetti and Roberto Planti *a lâ* Leddi Zeppli. How do we know? A little Verdi told us. Please feel free to forward it to like-minded culture-lovers to compare notes (*Stop it - Ed*) However, if you feel you do not wish to receive our next nail-biting clef-hanger (*You're fired - Ed*) send 'unsubscribe' via our usual help-line for the terminally tone-deaf to [bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk) Before being struck off the Equity list a brief indication as to why we have Simon Rattled you would be appreciated. We love it; in fact we positively Ravel in it. With harmonic felicitations until we meet again, friends. Bach soon; Offenbach sooner.

By the way, the *405-line* monochrome analogue television broadcasting system was the first fully electronic television system to be used in regular broadcasting. Not 425, as typo'd in the *GC49 Disclaimer*. Thanks to the zero number who pointed that one out. Who reads this guff? *Res ipsa loquitor*. Must go now, I think the cat is meowing; I'm sure I can hear Depussy. (*Oh yes! what a purr-fect ending - Ed*)

