



GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation
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It's on!

As per the International Festival of Glass website: *The International Festival of Glass is the UK's only festival celebrating the spectacle and diversity of glassmaking. We are pleased to announce new dates for the next Festival and launch of the British Glass Biennale. These will now take place between 25th and 31st May 2015 (rather than August 2014).*

More at www.ifg.org.uk

Reign of the Tudors



As reported in *GCs46* and *47*, BGF has been pleased to support the *Black Country Echoes* celebrations that have been going on for some while now and which culminate shortly with a series of events around the Black Country.

The purpose is to highlight the vast array of products created in the area over the years and the industries that made them. One obvious industry is, of course, glassmaking and so it comes as no surprise that our very own Glass Quarter will be promoted by Tudor Crystal, down there in sunny Amblecote. Sales Manager Keith Smith has kindly notified us that our glorious industry will be ably

represented in a dedicated part of the factory from 10th September to 3rd October 2014. The exhibition is free, with guided tours of both the manufacturing process and decoration available at certain times to see, as Keith neatly puts it, 'History in the Making'. Nice one.

Details at www.blackcountryechoes.org.uk and www.tudorcrystal.com

Friends and more friends



If you have ever seen that wonderful Kevin Costner tear-jerker *Field of Dreams* then you will be familiar with the expression 'build it and they will come'. If you haven't seen it yet then I won't spoil the ending for you, other than to say that he built it, and they did. (*I was going to watch the DVD tonight and you just spoilt it - Ed*).

Here in the BGF's own Palace of Dreams we don't get quite so mawkishly sentimental, but we do welcome visitors who share our aspirations.

And so it was with very great pleasure that our latest meeting of the BGF Trustees extended an invitation to Barbara Beadman, an occasional but unfailingly welcome attendee who is, *az eny eejut knose*, Chair of *Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum* (FOBH).

Whilst BGF is proud to laud its associations and affiliations with numerous other groups and societies, it sees FOBH as a particularly germane partner in its overall strategy and so we are delighted to remind you good folk, as if you needed a reminder, of the key slot FOBH occupies in our plans to 'build it and they will come'. In our efforts to be entirely transparent and open in our dealings, we also see FOBH as an essential conduit to spread the word, hence our standing invite to Barbara.

FOBH took root in 1993 when a group of glass enthusiasts decided to form an organisation in support of Broadfield House Glass Museum. The Friends support the work of the Museum through a range of activities, perhaps the most significant of which is via The Friends' Purchase Fund. To date this has raised tens of thousands of pounds to help with acquisitions and match-funding for grant applications. Other activities include an annual series of lectures by guest speakers, visits to glass factories and studios, talks on major exhibitions at the Museum, providing refreshment facilities at events, and various social occasions including an annual Christmas party. These events provide opportunities for fund-raising, learning and, of course, enjoyment.

Details of membership, and everything else for that matter, can be found at www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk. Membership for a whole year is going to cost you the equivalent of about three pints of Carling. Membership of Friends will not give you a beer-gut. Call yourself a glass enthusiast? Your choice.

Money matters

Money don't buy everything, it's true / But what it don't buy The BGF can't use / So give me money ... (©Not quite the Beatles). Usual address. Ta.

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.

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/

24th May - 3rd August 2014

A trio of artists

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

Sunday 24th August 2014. 10:00 - 16:30
Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge DY8 4LU
11th Annual Bead Fair (*featured GC49*)
www.stourbridgebeadfair.co.uk

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

10th September - 3rd October 2014
Tudor Crystal, Stewkins DY8 4YN
Black Country Echoes exhibition and demonstrations (*see feature above*)
www.blackcountryechoes.org.uk and www.tudorcrystal.com

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

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

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

25th - 31st May 2015
Various sites but focusing on Ruskin Glass Centre, Amblecote DY8 4HF
International Festival of Glass and British Glass Biennale (*see feature above*)
www.ifg.org.uk

From Friends of BHGM

14th September 2014
Friends AGM, Broadfield House Glass Museum
www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk

Bulletin Board

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

National Glass Centre Press Release 1st July 2014

Just as we hit the button to send out *GC51* we learnt that the National Glass Centre at The University of Sunderland has secured £1,045,891 as part of a joint bid with the Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art. The funding has been awarded as part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio funding stream and will secure the National Glass Centre's future until 2018. Belated congratulations to all concerned. www.nationalglasscentre.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

The world of glass is a serious one, imbued with a rich history that commands respect and bristling with prospects for a future that deserves unfettered support. But it is possible to combine these lofty elements with a certain *joie de vivre*, a reveling in the sheer pleasure of it all for its own sake. Here at *GlassCuts* we bring you all the news that is news whilst avoiding the pretension of ever taking ourselves too seriously, and we are always happy to be able to raise a smile where appropriate. So it with great sadness that we hear that the King of Black Country mirth, 'Sir' Tommy Mundon (he ought to be) has recently died, and we devote this *Disclaimer* to the memory of a legend who was without doubt one of the funniest - and genuinely nicest - men the Black Country ever produced.

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 inform and entertain 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 'stop' to bfg@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why would be appreciated.

That's the serious bit over; now back to Tommy, and final word to his old pal and 'mucka' the legendary *Aynuk*. I happened to bump into his son recently, who told me how he asked his dad what Tommy died of. '*Ah bay sure*' he replied '*but I think he died of a Tuesday*'. There's a fiver in my wallet for anyone who can name me a place anywhere on God's earth where you will find such lovingly respectful irreverence even in the face of adversity and sadness. That's the Black Country for you, and it is henceforth immeasurably the poorer. RIP Tommy; I bet those angels' ribs are aching already.

