



GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass

Foundation Issue No: 54

Dated: 9.9.14

For updates also visit our blog at www.britishglassfoundation.tumblr.com

Archives of *GlassCuts* and the BGF *Newsletter* are held at 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>

Hallo once more, glass-fans. Refreshed after the summer recess, yet our little fingers have not been idle and we are back in the fray big-time starting with a big-bang of an announcement, a report on a big day out, news of a big fat cheque and much more of the big stuff besides. Well, this is *GlassCuts*, so what else would you expect? It's BIG!

IN THIS ISSUE

For the record

He lives!

The train now standing ...

Get the idea

Early warning service

Money matters

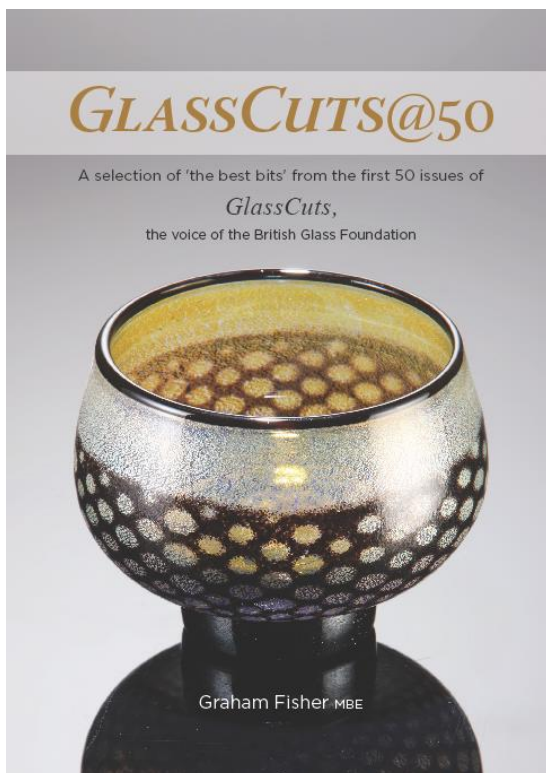
And finally

Sad news

Dates for your diary

For the record

The press release that will be winging its way to our chums in the media says it all. But you can read it here first. Thanks to all who have supported, contributed or in any other way helped make this possible ...



NEWS ITEM

New book from the British Glass Foundation
GlassCuts@50

This latest offering from the PR wing of the British Glass Foundation is a sumptuous celebration of all the best bits from the first 50 editions of *GlassCuts*, the *ad hoc* informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation. In collaboration with Sparrow Publishing, *GlassCuts* editor and BGF Trustee Graham Fisher MBE brings the plot together in a full-colour hard-bound 240-page compendium of what has, in its short life, already become something of a cult in the world of glass.

Production will be limited worldwide to a symbolic 50 individually authenticated and signed copies that are destined to become both a valued collector's item and a comprehensive reference resource for future generations.

Primarily intended as a promotional vehicle for BGF in its efforts to secure a world-class glass museum for Stourbridge, *GlassCuts@50* will not be on general sale but will instead find its way to a few very select outlets. However, should anyone wish to charitably suggest some way to enrich BGF's coffers, preferably by a piece of paper containing a figure with several noughts appended, then their name may go into the hat. And as a further tempter there also may be other ways to secure a copy of this unique record. For details follow the usual press and media outlets or contact BGF direct at bgf@britishglassfoundation.net

'This limited edition compilation ... will offer future generations a glimpse of what was going on in the world of glass in the early part of the 21st Century and thus ultimately become an important archival document' Graham Knowles, Chairman

'But more, much more than this' © F Sinatra ... *we just hope you find it a ripping good read'*
Graham Fisher, Author

He lives!



For anyone thinking that Igor the Axeman, the BGF h-enforcer with the h-unspecified speech h-impediment (*GCs passim*) was just a figment of our fertile if not slightly lunatic Editorial imaginings in our efforts to relieve you of cash, think again. For lo, here he be.

More regularly known amongst his friends as Andy Dimmock, he was just one of the eclectic treats on offer at the rather splendid annual Open Day held in the grounds of Broadfield House on Saturday 2nd August. After a disappointingly damp start the morning brightened, bringing a steady stream of visitors who increased in numbers for the free-to-get-in event commensurate with the rise in temperature.

Andy and his chums from the *Svartland Vikings Age Living History* group <http://svartland.webs.com> were part of a delightful little bash that included a falconry display, hog roast (bliss!),

musicians, donkey rides, an RNLI display, the obligatory ice cream and cake stands, Juniors at Museums (JAM) entertainments and the lugubriously deadpan Professor Popple, one of the funniest Punch & Judy exponents on the planet. Honestly, this guy should come with a health warning to wear waterproof underwear.

Through eyes blurred and strained by tears of laughter, I noticed that Broadfield House, and by implication the elements of the world-famous glass collection on display there, was also getting its fair share of footfall. Which was the whole point of the day, I suspect. My own attendance was actually as part of the Canal & River Trust 'Friends' recruitment and general awareness campaign www.canalrivertrust.org.uk but doubtless my taskmasters felt that a glassy connection was a useful tick on the old cv; my thanks for the invitation to attend.

Kari Moodie's appointment as Keeper of Glass & Fine Arts left behind a pair of Glass Interpretation Officer's boots that have since been filled by Alex Woodward, the new GIO. As the man largely responsible for pulling all this together I reckon he has amply demonstrated that the boots are breaking in quite nicely, thank you. Bravo, that man and his team. Full details of everything going on at Broadfield House Glass Museum - and other Dudley MBC facilities for that matter - can be found, as always, at <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum>

STOP PRESS +++ STOP PRESS +++ STOP PRESS

Further to this, we have just learnt that Igor, sorry, Andy, and his Viking chums from Svartland (it means 'Black Country' in Viking-speak) will be back at Broadfield House, 12:00 - 4:00pm **Saturday 13th September 2014**. *Vaenn Vikings: Crafts and Creativity of the Vikings* will feature living history based around a Viking camp, crafts, armouries, traditional games, entertainment for the kiddies, and - natch - glass bead-making demonstrations by Tillerman Beads. Admission is free. This all sounds very alternative and we love it. Go on, fill yer Viking boots.

The train now standing ...



If you've never been there, it's a bit of a surreal moment watching a master glassmaker in full flow just as a steam train pulls up directly outside the window. But Richard Golding takes it in his stride as if it's just something that happens every day - which, for him, it is. In company with his good lady Sandra, Richard is of course the Main Man at the delightful Station Glass and in company with my own good lady I was delighted to visit his emporium on Sunday 31st August 2014.

In addition to watching him effortlessly tease an amorphous blob of molten silica into wondrous shapes - just how does he do that? - we were, over a fine repast courtesy of Sandra, delighted to discuss details of a possible joint project in which Richard is willing to devote his skills to help BGF.

Ah, now that's got the little grey cells all a'jumping, has it not? Well, you're getting nothing more out of us just yet. But if you wish to put the thumbscrews on Richard to see if he'll crack first, pay him a visit at Station Glass, Shenton Station, Dadlington Lane, Shenton CV13 6DJ. I guarantee you will not be disappointed; it's absolutely magical. www.stationglass.com

Get the idea

The Village, an exciting new development of FarGo, Far Gosford Street in Coventry, is hosting an opening weekend over of 27th - 28th September 2014. The concept is a Camden Lock-type creative village (if you've never heard of it just Google for more) designed to bring the city to life as an imaginative place utilizing urban vibe, street art and so forth. BGF has been privy to the pre-event information and it all looks very impressive indeed. There's a tour at 4:00pm and what is described as a 'family-orientated action-packed programme of events' to enjoy. Sounds great fun. But what has this to do with glass? I hear you ask.



Well, a great deal, as it happens. The developer, y'see, is none other than Complex Development Projects (CDP) who are also owners of the White House site and with whom we have been working closely these past many months in plans for the new museum. Fear not, this is all in a completely different context and we're are most certainly not proposing to adorn the former Stuart site with 'urban vibe' or such stuff, but we do believe that a glance at the innovation, vision and sheer vibrancy of the Coventry project, and indeed others from the CDP stable, is a pointer to what can - and will - be achieved closer to home for us here in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{©GF}

It goes without saying, though I'll say it anyway, that we at the BGF have the utmost confidence in CDP's abilities to do us a fine job. But don't just take our word for it, click here and judge for yourself: www.complexdevelopmentprojects.co.uk

Early warning service

Here's an early 'heads up' for you to drop a note in your diary to keep 11th - 12th October free for a Grand Bash at the Ruskin Centre, Amblecote. Heritage Officer at the Webb Corbett Visitor Centre, Ian Dury, is compiling a heritage weekend, with all that entails and including a good gander at the archaeological dig that is still going on there. Fascinating stuff.



He has also invited a gaggle of specialists to offer presentations of varying hues; taking to the *oche* for starters will be Dr Paul Collins and the Kinver Light Railway (I first met Paul at one of these talks over a quarter of a century ago - he knows his stuff), Amblecote History Society's own Nick Baker on glassmakers' burial sites (he also knows his onions, does our Nick) and, bringing up the rear, Yours Truly on local waterways. Honest, guv, it's all I know.

More details in due course but this promises to be a super weekend so do please look to get the weekend shopping done in good time, shove everything else to one side and just turn up. More details from organizer Ian at ian.dury@ghc.rmt.org

Money matters

As my grannie used to say: '*He's bin an' gone an' dun it agin*'. A little while back we reported how one of BGF Trustee Allister Malcolm's clients sent him a big fat cheque for lodging in BGF funds for a rainy day. Blow me down if they haven't just sent another to him for the same amount. Brilliant. We are also indebted to Allister for the substantial addition to our coffers via his recent 'Have a Blow' event and for his monitoring of collection jars.

Thanks also to Mr C of Coventry for his kind donation, gratefully received.

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

Sad news

We started this edition of *GlassCuts* on a rolling high and we are so sorry to have to end on a jarring low. Just as we were going to press we heard from Ian Dury of Webb Corbett Visitor Centre that glass engraver Kevin Andrews, who was an apprentice at Webb Corbett, has died. Kevin became renowned for his copper wheel engraving skills and was an enthusiastic member of the Guild of Glass Engravers. A more fulsome tribute will appear in a future *GlassCuts*; in the meantime our sincere condolences go to Kevin's family and colleagues.

Dates for your diary

The bustling summer season is beginning to crank down now but there are always things coming up in glassville. If you would like us to help tell the world about yours, then details for publication can be sent to the *GlassCuts* team, preferably with at least four weeks notice and we will do our best to include a diary mention. Please note that we are happy to consider all submissions but generally do not actively solicit or research information; we prefer to leave that bit to you. Attention is also drawn to websites where details can be sourced direct.

Events & Exhibitions at Broadfield House Glass Museum

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

See *Friends*, below

Events and Exhibitions at Red House Glass Cone

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

9th August - 13th September 2014

Nature exhibition

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

10th September - 3rd October 2014

Tudor Crystal, Stewkins DY8 4YN

Black Country Echoes exhibition and demonstrations (*featured GC53*)

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

11th -12th October 2014
Webb Corbett Visitor Centre (Ruskin), Amblecote DY8 4HF
Heritage weekend including presentations (*featured above*)
Details from Ian Dury: ian.dury@ghc.rmt.org

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

We have received details of the 'Facets' programme for 2014-15, for which many thanks. All events are usually held at Broadfield House Glass Museum unless otherwise stated. Costs vary as indicated. Further details from *Friends* direct. www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk

14th September 2014, 10:30 for 11:00am
AGM followed by various presentations on exhibitions, curating and other topics including contributions by Elliot Walker, Tim Boswell and Carol Griffin. Donations from £6.50

2nd October 2014, 10:00am
The Hollies, 53 Audnam, Stourbridge DY8 4AE
Visit to The Lace Guild: talk by expert Mary Coleman. Numbers limited to 12. Cost £5.00

2rd October 2014, 7:30pm
History of Hungarian Glass. A talk by Attila Sik. Cost £5.00

13th November 2014, 7:30pm
Glass, Art and Mystery. An evening with Jonathan Harris exploring his inspiration, new creation, methods and 'madness'. Cost £5.00

5th December 2014, 7:00 for 7:30pm
Christmas event with mulled wine and supper, with a talk by Graham Fisher MBE:
Ten of the Best – 'a romp through my personal favourite pieces of Stourbridge glass from past and present.' Cost £6.50

24th January 2015, 1.:30pm
An afternoon at the 'flicks'. A selection of movies, with ice cream interval, tea and biscuits. Cost £5.00

26th February 2015, 7:30pm
Vintage Fountain Pens and Writing Equipment with Mark Hill. Bring a suitable item for free valuation. Cost £10.00

26th March 2015
To be announced.

Bulletin Board

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

Alan J. Poole's Glass Newsletters, August and September edns. alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk

Also via AJP:

Contemporary Art Exhibition: charity auction of mixed media including glass, in aid of Shooting Star CHASE charity which runs two children's hospices in Guildford and Hampton. Features work by leading artists, several of whom are based in and around Stourbridge. 7:00pm 8th October 2014. Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU. Tickets £75 to include champagne and canapés: contact@ssc-art.com www.ssc-art.com

Gillies Jones Glass Newsletter

Latest hot news from the talented Daleside Duo including a teaser about some forthcoming television coverage and the inclusion of their work in a gallery down at St Ives. Lovely stuff. studio@gilliesjonesglass.co.uk

Neon Workshops Newsletter received August 2014

All the news that is news from the world of neon including a welcome to latest workshop team members Victoria and Nick. Subscribe via: info@neonworkshops.com

Station Glass email notification

Autumn Open Day for Friends of Station Glass, 11:00am-4:00pm Saturday 18th October 2014. Shenton Station CV13 6DJ. RSVP by 10th please. www.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

To The Manor Born was a quintessentially English 70s sit-com that featured a snooty Audrey fforges-Hamilton who excelled in reminding people of their, usually lower, status in life. Here at your fave-rave glass fanzine we recognize our modest station and so are ever-so-'umble in bringing you, M'Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, a *Disclaimer* that reflects our gloriously arcane and equally archaic class structure of intrinsic snobbishness that recognizes no-one other than Britain shall forever rule the waves.

GlassCuts is the upper-crust information-conduit of the ever-so-slightly-better than everybody else British Glass Foundation. Unfortunately for its image it is collated on a give-us-a-puff-on-your-Woodbine basis in the back of a garage in a sink estate somewhere near you, but out of your view, and has no other function than to teach the three Rs and entertain those who nick it off the bookshelves in the corner shop to try and learn a bit about that clear container that granny keeps her teeth in. Glass, innit? Whilst every effort is made ... we don't even understand what a *caveat* is but we try our simple best to be straight up and 'onest.

This email is sent to you via the Tradesman's entrance on the basis that you appear on our list of those to whom we must touch our forelocks. However, if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* emails then just ask the Butler to shoo us off with a broomstick marked bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why we are not worthy and are nothing more than the sons and daughters of your dogs would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission of its modest little missive to all levels of Society, including those ruffians and footpads of the highway that plague the badlands beyond Tipton. If you know someone who you think may also wish to receive *GlassCuts*, then feel free to have your serving wench convey it barefoot with due haste. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our noble readership, send it to BGF at the usual address via Mr D'Arcy when he's next passing this way to seduce our women-folk. In conclusion, and before we are dispensed with, are we not reminded of the noble wit and wisdom of the Rt Hon Sir Harold Enfield Esquire, humorous television personage and ambassador of comedic good taste, when he reminds us that '*Oi am con-siderable richer than yo*'. Hurrah that Gentleman!

