



Battle of Waterloo Goblet
Tudor Crystal

GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation
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IFoG is just around the corner. What? You didn't know? Gimme a break. And not forgetting the National Glass Fair beforehand on 10th May, details in *Dfyd* below.

Plus a special supplement featuring the recent visit to Frauenau. C'mon, we're just spoiling you now ...

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TOP STORY

International Festival of Glass - just in case you didn't know

Thursday 28th - Sunday 31st May 2015.

Ticket booking, programme details and all the information you could possibly need is now at www.ifg.org.uk

'Nuff said.

PRETTY NEAR TOP STORY

Send three and fourpence, we're going to a dance



Those of a certain age will recall with wistful fondness the days before computers and the latest 'Lara Croft Megadeath Roadkill' or whatever the kids do now on the infernal things, when we whiled away our childhood innocence playing games of 'whispers'. Oh how we laughed at 'send reinforcements, we're going to advance' becoming inexorably mangled as it was murmured down the line. Now, if I turn to whispers that have come our way regarding the White House site then you can probably see where I am going with this; the mill of rumours is oft up and running before the factory of facts is even cranked into gear (*I like that one - Ed*) so this may be a timely opportunity to clarify precisely where we are right now.

Bear in mind we are still less than five years down the line from the formation of BGF so what you are about to read is, in terms of sheer timescale alone, quite remarkable *per se*. Here are the facts:

We, and by 'we' I mean the combined efforts of the team that includes BGF, Dudley MBC, Complex Development Projects Ltd together with architects, designers and others, are currently awaiting the outcome of two grant applications. For the rebuild of the shell we are looking to the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF); for the internals we are knocking at the door of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).



The most recent update we have is that the initial HLF application has been deferred pending the submission of further information. The ducks aren't quite in line yet but they are being rammed into place and we are optimistic that our flock is of sufficient pedigree to do the job.

The ERDF bid is still going through the labyrinthine procedures that it must negotiate before it can be 'signed off'. However, if you go down to the woods today you can see that the developer is so confident it *will* be signed off that he has committed considerable resources in preparatory works such that he may hit the ground running when it is. Take a glance at White House next time you are passing and see for yourself; the interpretive board on the outside, replete with details of partners including BGF, is indicative of things to come. So there you have it. And, as always, when we know more, you'll be next.

Cookery tip for the day: if you would like a taste of what is going on straight from the kitchen then contact us at *La Ristorante BGF* and we will happily give you the full *à la carte*. But if you are obtaining your raw ingredients from any other source whatsoever, we first recommend the application of a substantial quantity of sodium chloride before then chucking it all in the bin.

Mind how you go.

THIRD IN LINE BUT STILL A DECENT STORY

Leaner meaner Tudor

I seem to recall some time back I mentioned big changes afoot at Tudor Crystal down there in sunny Amblecote. Well, never one to let the grass grow between his tootsies our pal and Head Honcho Keith Smith, or 'Sales Manager' according to his more official moniker, has kindly sent us details of the latest range. We can't do a sales promo but we can let you into what Keith says to give you an idea of what's happening. And it's *Stourbridge Glass* playmates, so why not?

He tells us: *'Tudor Crystal has introduced a small but significant range of glassware taking it beyond its classic heritage to a new and contemporary design-led set of patterns. Gone are the typical Tudor names for the patterns and gone are classic heavy cut straight-line fan cuts. In their place they have introduced swirling line patterns with minimal cutting allowing more of the clear crystal to be seen. This is a move towards a halfway house between heavy cut crystal and totally plain glass that the public has become used to over the last few years. The cutting also features a mixture of both clear-cut lines and frosted cutting giving a contrast to the pattern effect. In time new areas of this theme will develop making the range more modern whilst still using the traditional full 30% lead crystal.'*

I am personally smitten by Tudor's *Cherished Memory* urns. Look that one up for yourself, but the range will be launched at the trade-only National Funeral Exhibition at Stoneleigh from Friday June 12th to Sunday June 14th and available commercially soon thereafter. All this and more at www.tudorcrystal.com



AN ONGOING STORY

Oodles more doodles

This is coming together in spectacular fashion; here is the latest update from Allister Malcolm ... (Brilliant stuff. I got exhausted just reading through this lot - Ed)



I currently have sorted the following programme of demonstrations and open studios for the Doodles Project - It is turning out to be good series of events. This is thanks to the generosity of the artists listed and all the kind sponsors including Dartington Crystal, Glassworks Services, CTM Potters Supplies, Gold Leaf Supplies, The Friends of Broadfield House, Eternal Tools and The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers.

Monday 25th May (Ladies day at the Museum)

Jo Newman booked in to work in the hot shop with me on picking up some *pâte-de-verre* pieces on to hot glass. Teresa Belmont and Terri Malcolm undertaking collaborative kiln work on the Beverley Knight doodle in studio at Broadfield House. Possibly - Jo Mannoussis (flying in from the USA) - yet to be confirmed.

Monday evening

Darren Weed and I - first attempt at the children's winning doodle piece. (To tie in with the museum open late and the Bruntnell Astley opening in the Kingswinford Methodist Church)

Tuesday 26th May

TBC

Wednesday 27th May

am - Laura Birdsall and I - working on the Robot entry of the doodle competition.
pm - Melissa Nicholls and I working on the final pieces for the competition winner.

Thursday 28th May

Melissa Nicholls and Sir Trevor Brooking Doodle.
Nikki Steel working one of the doodle competition doodles.
Nancy Sutcliffe engraving Raymond Blanc's piece - morning session in cameo room.

Friday 29th May

am - Tim Boswell and Elliot Walker - Maggie Philbin's doodle.
pm - Lynn Baker and the Emma Thompson doodle.
Nancy Sutcliffe engraving Raymond Blanc's piece - morning session in cameo room.

Saturday 30th May

am - Jonathan Harris & Mark Hill's doodle.
pm - Simon Eccles and Andy McConnell's decanter man doodle.
All day - Steve Piper - copper wheel engraving - Robert Plant doodle.

Sunday 31st May

am - Vic Bamforth and Darren Weed - Dave Hill (Slade) doodle.
pm - to be confirmed
Nancy Sutcliffe engraving Raymond Blanc's piece - morning session



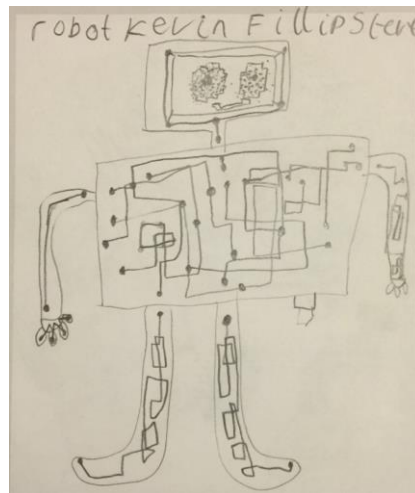
Georgia Redpath is also working in her studio at Ruskin on Steve Bull's doodle.

Vic Bamforth will be working throughout the week in his studio ... all are welcome to pop in to see it progressing.

Terri College will be working throughout the festival on her piece inspired by Tony Hadley.

With regard to the *Kid's Doodles* the competition is now closed and with some help I waded through loads of entries to select the winners. The Master of the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers will be presenting the awards to the pupils on Wednesday 27th May at 3.30pm and we will announce the overall winner on the day. However we decided that the finalists were all so good that we would produce a piece inspired by each of the winners. The judges will be at Broadfield House on that afternoon at which time I hope to be producing one of the winner's pieces on the afternoon in the studio. Those winners are:

Joseph Butler
George Turner
Maisie Bowerman



GIVE US YOUR CASH AND STOP MAKING UP STORIES

Money matters

If you're given a choice between money and sex appeal, take the money. As you get older, the money will become your sex appeal. Katherine Hepburn

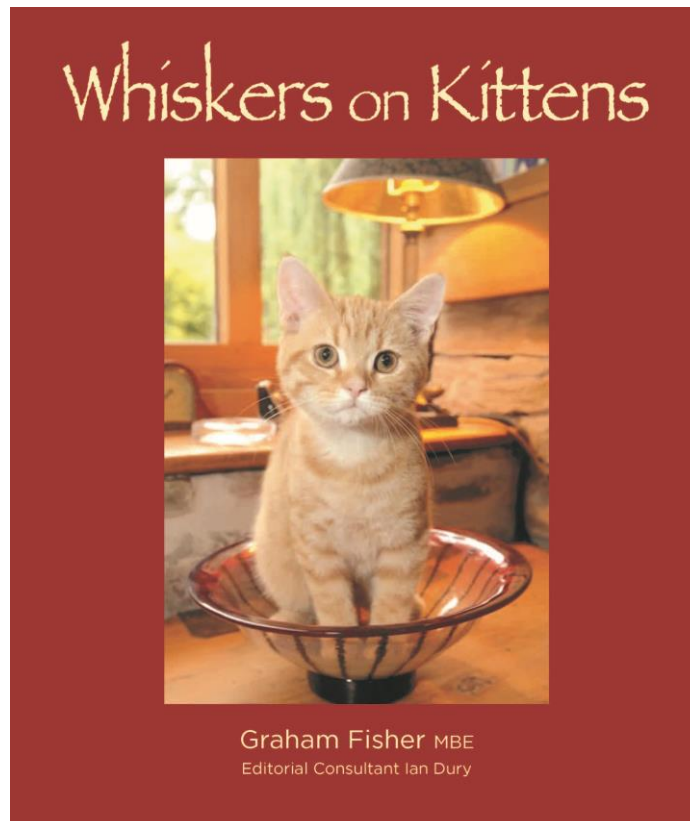
Help make us more attractive, friends.

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And finally
A story

My latest book *Whiskers on Kittens* is being officially launched at IFoG, 10:00am Sunday 31st May. It's about Stourbridge Glass from the perspective of a few of my favourite things - hence the title, if you can work that one out - and, as you might gather from the cover picture of a gormless-looking marmalade cat sitting in an Allister Malcolm bowl, this one is a bit off the wall.

The reason for this shameless plug? Part-profits will be heading straight to the coffers over there at BGF bunker HQ. Ta ever so.



Dates for your diary

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/

18th May - 26th June 2015

Guild of Glass Engravers *Exhibition of Contemporary Engraved Glass* including demonstrations and 'have a go' sessions (*featured GC62*)

www.snaddon.com/glass

30th May 2015, 2:30pm

A Future for Glass Engraving

A presentation by Katharine Coleman MBE (*featured GC66*)

Info and tickets www.gge.org.uk, enquiries@gge.org.uk

Elsewhere around the highways and byways of Glassville^{®GF}

10th May 2015

National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Solihull B92 0EJ

National Glass Fair (*featured GC66*)

OxbridgeFairs@aol.com

27th - 31st May 2015

Various sites but focusing on Ruskin Glass Centre, Amblecote DY8 4HF

International Festival of Glass and British Glass Biennale (*featured GC54 et sub*)

www.ifg.org.uk

25th - 31st May 2015

Wordsley Methodist Church, Stream Road, Kingswinford DY6 9NP

Bruntnell Astley exhibition of contemporary glass.

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B7TeOZSCgiNoRElJcHNCYm81bDZDUTZsbTBXUEp2OW84bzU0/edit?usp=drive_web

24th - 27th June and 1st - 4th July 2015

Business Design Centre, Islington

New Designers, organized by The Contemporary Glass Society (*featured GC66*)

Details www.newdesigners.com/visiting

22nd November 2015

National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Solihull B92 0EJ

National Glass Fair (*featured GC66*)

OxbridgeFairs@aol.com

From Friends of BHGM

Events are usually held at Broadfield House Glass Museum unless otherwise stated. Costs vary. www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk or brbeadman@yahoo.co.uk 07702 565265.

Bulletin Board

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

Station Glass Spring Newsletter

All the latest from Shenton plus an invite to their Open Day 16th May 2015. (RSVP by 9th)

richardgolding@stationglass.com

Alan J. Poole's Glass Newsletter, May edn.

Nodding heavily in the direction of IFoG but lots more besides. alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

Graham Fisher

Press & Publicity,

pp British Glass Foundation

www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

The White House survey (featured GC58)

Please now spare few moments to click on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/96BDTV7> and complete the survey form. Thanks.



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 unadulterated excitement of the 2015 election campaign strives toward its heady conclusion and we all look forward to relaxing after a fever pitch that has kept us on the edge of our seats for months (*now that's what I call satire - Ed*) we thought we would break our own political *purdah* to pay respects to our hardworking political masters by way of a *Disclaimer*. Oh, if only their own politics came with one, but there you go.

GlassCuts is the result of the labour of the British Glass Foundation. It is compiled by a team of monster raving loonies working in a conserva-tory (*clever - Ed*) and although you may think us green in resorting to toilet humour it is not all S 'n P (work that out for yourself) and it has no other function than to increase your majorities, alternate your marginal and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure things get first past the post no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual caveats apply*).

This email is sent to you via the fairness of proportional representation on the basis that you appear on our register of floating voters.

If you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then use your postal vote to secretly indicate your preference or send an email marked: '*Ballot paper spoiled*' to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why we are no longer welcome at the hustings without being pelted with rotten eggs would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward connections via our John Snow Swingometer to anyone whom you feel may be vaguely interested in our mission to make the world a better place, all paid for by someone else's taxes. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our fellow sophologists then send it to BGF at the usual address.

Final thought goes to my dear ol' dad who, not a lot of people know, actually once came tantalizingly close to becoming President of the United States of America. He was in the Army, y'see, and had a job as the camp undertaker. Yes indeed, he really was the Barrack Embalmer. *Boom boom!* (© Lord Jones of Milton). Drive home safely, now.

