



GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation
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After the party was over ...

Well that's the International Festival of Glass 2015 done and dusted so there's a fair number of tired souls who can now catch up on their sleep and perhaps re-splice their frayed nerve endings. You only have to be on the periphery, let alone heavily involved, to get a sense of the incredible amount of work and dedication by so many people to get something like this up and running. Congratulations all round to everyone who played their part.



The final reports, facts and stats will doubtless surface in their own time via IFoG channels and so we won't pre-empt anything other than to say that BGF was proud to be an integral part of what we felt was, in yooof-speak, a real cool event. Although 'cool' is perhaps not the right word to describe Allister Malcolm's contribution by way of his *Doodles* project.

As is now his regular practice, and with the latent Directorial talents of wife Terri behind the lens, he has shoved an absolute blinder of a video up on *YouTube*. Just take six minutes out of your day to click a mouse on <http://youtu.be/cwoIb9SZHDk> and prepare to be amazed. Here in the shimmering opulence that is the Editorial Suite at *GlassCuts Towers* we try to maintain impartiality and a sense of balance. But forgive us just once for throwing objectivity aside; this is a simply sensational display of sheer talent from a whole host of glassmakers of the highest calibre.

Allister himself tells us: *'My favourite part was watching Elvis suspended in molten glass in slow motion. It doesn't seem as stressful in the video as it was making it! (You'll just have to watch the clip to get a handle on that one - Ed). It was my most memorable and exhilarating festival of glass so far and I have only now just about recovered'*.





The doodles and completed artworks will be on display at Broadfield House Glass Museum from 20th June onwards. And, for the record, the list of artists who helped Allister along the way goes like this: Steve Piper, Laura Birdsall, Niki Steel, Melissa Nicholls, Jonathan Harris, Dan Ridgway, Jenny Pickford, Lynn Baker, Elliot Walker, Teresa Belmont, Jo Newman, Nadia Lammass, Simon Bruntnell, Simon Eccles, Terri Colledge, Georgia Redpath, Nancy Sutcliffe, Darren Weed, Vic Bamforth.



The thirty or so pieces arising from this spectacular effort are destined for auction by our chums at Fieldings Auctioneers of Stourbridge at their *Decades of Design* on a date not unadjacent to 24th October 2015.



No man's land

Dudley Museum Services have put together a programme of events to celebrate the role of women in the glass industry. If you have a connection then Project Officer Sophie Colley would love to hear from you via slcolley@live.co.uk, 01384 812745 or 01384 815571

Money matters

Our thanks to Mr R.L, who has again renewed his annual donation to BGF coffers. Much obliged, Sir.

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.

A reminder

Tickets for the presentation by Toby Chance MP on Monday 13th July 2015 are selling like hot cakes, so book while you still can. We featured this in *GC70* but in view its provenance we are happy to plug it again. Bookings for this unique showcase can be made via www.historywm.com/lighting-the-way/ by phone on 0800121 4288 or by snail-mail to PO Box 16949, Bromsgrove B60 9JP with a cheque made payable to West Midlands History Ltd. As an extra incentive, the book we mentioned *Lighthouses: The Race To Illuminate the World* will be offered at a mere £10.00 replete with signature by the man himself. Very latest updates for the event are at <http://historywm.com/newsletters/101/index.htm>

And finally ...

Shades of Elihu

If you weren't able to make Allister Malcolm's *Red By Night* glass demonstration at the Black Country Living Museum recently in the run-up to IFoG then catch the spirit of the entire event in armchair comfort, from set-up and start to breakdown and finish, by way of a simply entrancing time lapse video of just over 5 minutes at <https://youtu.be/frqpX3M-nKE>

The term *Red By Night*, incidentally, comes from the very first line of Chapter 1 in *Walks In the Black Country* by Elihu Burritt, an American consul posted to what we now know as the West Midlands. First published in 1868 the book states: *'The Black Country, black by day and red by night, cannot be matched, for vast and varied production, by any other space of equal radius on the surface of the globe'*. This is one of the earliest, but not the first, use of the term 'Black Country' to describe the region.

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

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

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

Business Design Centre, Islington

New Designers

Details www.newdesigners.com/visiting

13th July 2015

Austin Court, 80 Cambridge Street Birmingham B1 2NP. 18:30 onwards

Lighting The Way - a presentation by Toby Chance (*featured GC70*)

Tickets £24.00. Bookings via www.historywm.com/lighting-the-way/ 0800 121 4288 or PO Box 16949, Bromsgrove B60 9JP with cheque made payable to West Midlands History Ltd.

25th July - 5th August 2015

The Malthouse Gallery, Mill Lane, Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3PU

Just Glass: from Kiln to Coast (*featured GC70*)

07939 554332, 0208 892 8657 or celiagoodman1@gmail.com

11th October 2015

Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2AX

National Glass Fair (*featured GC70*)

www.cambridgeglassfair.com, info@specialistglassfairs.com 07887 762872.

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 ...

Neon Workshops Newsletter Spring/Summer 2015 edn.

All the latest from the world of neon including a chance to win tickets to a Berlin neon workshop. info@neonworkshops.com

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

Immediately post-IFoG edition with all the latest. 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

Walking down the High Street only recently did I realise that Boots don't sell boots, Radio Rentals don't sell radios, Oddbins don't sell bins, Curry's just plain refused to serve me a half-decent vindaloo and River Island isn't even an estate agents. You can therefore imagine my disappointment with the Virgin Megastore and I am surely not the only one who is a mite curious why my local burger drive-through has got braille on the keyboard, so I thought it high time we devoted a *Disclaimer* to some of the more mystifying aspects of life.

For example, we all know that toasted bread always drops butter-side down, and cats always fall on their feet. But has anyone ever experimented with sellotaping the toast on the back of a cat before lobbing both off a roof? Thought not. Don't try that at home, kids. And why aren't hemorrhoids called asteroids? I lie in bed awake scratching and pondering that one.

Anyway, *GlassCuts* is the unexplained ring around the bathtub of the British Glass Foundation. It is compiled in a way none of us can actually explain by a team we aren't actually able to describe, but they're there somewhere. It has no other function than to clarify what was the best thing before sliced bread, identify how you may set your laser printer on stun and even perhaps say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure that if all the world really is a stage you can still find somewhere to sit, no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual caveats apply*).

This email is sent to you via the wonders of infants enjoying infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery on the basis that you appear on our inscrutable book of enigmatic subscribers.

If you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then please write to us and explain how you know when you have run out of invisible ink or send an email marked: *'I have tried to fail but have succeeded, so have I won or lost?'* to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why we are no longer welcome at your therapy sessions would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone whom you feel may be vaguely interested in our esoteric musings. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our fellow sufferers then send it to BGF at the usual address.

And that's about it, all sorted in our usual helpful way. But before I go is there anyone out there who could please explain to me why every time I put *'Locate my missing medieval servant boy'* into Google it always comes back *'Page not found?'* Drive carefull y, now.

