



## *GlassCuts*

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation  
Issue No: 74                      Dated: 15.7.15

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*Tim Boswell – Photography by Simon Bruntnell*

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

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### **From the archives**

Some while back we reported on the brand new building housing the Dudley Archives. We did a gig there ourselves shortly after opening and can tell you it is indeed a very smart place. We have received notice of the forthcoming Local history Day on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015. Potential exhibitors are asked to register their interest via [archives.centre@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:archives.centre@dudley.gov.uk)

The Archives & Local History Centre is on Tipton Road Dudley DY1 4SQ right next to the Black Country Living Museum. More at [www.dudley.gov.uk/archives](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/archives)

## **I wondered what was under there**

For years past visitors to Broadfield House Glass Museum may have looked out the back window and been curious as to what lay beneath the blue tarpaulin. Well, all can now be revealed thanks to Glass Interpretation Officer Alex Woodward who called in the experts to assess the mystery object. *Et voila*; the Rugeley Furnace - for that is indeed what it is - turns out to be proves to be one of the oldest examples in the country and is in great condition. Find out more from Alex direct via [alexander.woodward@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:alexander.woodward@dudley.gov.uk)



## **Money matters**

*All money is a matter of belief.* Adam Smith.  
Believe in us friends, and give us yours.

*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.

## Fan-doodle-tastic

This is just so brilliant it is bordering on the insane. Read, mark and inwardly digest: Allister Malcolm's *Doodles* project and Fieldings *Decades of Design* Auction on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Got those? Now click here ... <http://youtu.be/J98tGOezXVk>



*Gwen Rhys Doodle in Glass* by Nadia Lammas  
Photography by Simon Bruntnell [www.northlightphotography.co.uk](http://www.northlightphotography.co.uk) 01384 399465

*And finally ...*

### **Bye-bye Keith**

We are saddened to hear that for medical reasons our very good pal and supporter Keith Smith has decided to retire from his position as Sales Manager of Tudor Crystal. Regular readers of *GlassCuts*, and indeed anyone who has met Keith at Tudor, cannot fail to have been impressed by his urbane charm combined with a gritty determination to get the job done. So no surprise that he has been largely instrumental as the driver of improvements in both production methods and product range and, dare one say, in helping secure the long-term future of the last major manufacturer of fine quality full lead crystal in the Stourbridge Glass Quarter.

Keith's mantra has been consistent in striving for a sustainable industry that is based squarely in recognition of its own roots and if he is looking for a snappy definition of his legacy then I reckon that about sums the man up. Doubtless to say he will be sadly missed and on behalf of all of us at the BGF we extend him our very best wishes.

On a somewhat more personal note I would also like to formally record my appreciation for Keith's recent substantive contribution towards my own modest efforts in recording the industry for posterity, which would have been so much the poorer but for his most gracious assistance. Bye-bye for now Keith, and all the best, good bro'.

In the meantime, all enquiries for Tudor/Plowden & Thompson should be directed via [colin.hadlington@plowden-thompson.com](mailto:colin.hadlington@plowden-thompson.com)

## 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/)

See *Friends*, below

### *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/)

All quiet at the mo'.

### *Elsewhere around the highways and byways of Glassville*<sup>®GF</sup>

25<sup>th</sup> July - 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:celiagoodman1@gmail.com)

11<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2AX

Glass Fair @ Knebworth (featured GC70)

[www.cambridgeglassfair.com](http://www.cambridgeglassfair.com), [info@specialistglassfairs.com](mailto:info@specialistglassfairs.com) 07887 762872

24<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Fieldings Auctioneers, Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN

*Decades of Design*, featuring items for auction arising from the Allister Malcolm *Doodles* project, with project proceeds to BGF (see feature above and GCs passim)

<http://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk/>

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015

National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Solihull B92 0EJ

National Glass Fair (featured GC66)

[OxbridgeFairs@aol.com](mailto: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](http://www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk) or [brbeadman@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brbeadman@yahoo.co.uk) 07702 565265.

### **Bulletin Board**

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

*Alan J. Poole's Glass Newsletter*, June edn. [alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk](mailto:alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk)

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)

**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**

I'm sure I was the victim recently of a most unusual burglary during which person or persons unknown entered my house, stole every single item I possess and then left exact duplicates in their original place. Odd, eh? As my friend Father Dougal says: *'I think I'm going mad, Ted.'* Then again, I've started cycling in a bid to get fit, but people say it makes me look effeminate. To macho up my image a little bit I've drawn some racing stripes on my wicker basket and I can't understand why still I am an object of ridicule. Hence I think I will devote this *Disclaimer* to the simple notion of misunderstanding and confusion.

*GlassCuts* is the *ad hoc* email bulletin of the Mildred Morton Home for Unmarried Mothers. (*What? I don't understand - Ed*). It is compiled by a team of Gornal-educated aardvarks and has no other function than to save the rain forests of nearby Tipton, ensure that the hills are alive with the sound of muskrat and even perhaps say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure that *wibble wibble wibble*, no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual candle-fats apply*).

This email is sent to you from the very depths of lunacy in which I comfortably reside and solely on the basis that you appear on a list stuffed in your gold-top bottle saying *'Two pints of GlassCuts today please, milkie*, which is then handed to a High Court Judge.

If you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then knock three times on the old oak tree and tie a yellow ribbon round the ceiling, or send an email marked: *'The Reverend Spooner tells me he has just bit his shed'* to [bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk). A brief indication as to why we are no longer your favourite pheasant pluckers would be appreciated. Just bear in mind the difference between a constipated owl and a bad archer is that the one can shoot without hitting. So there. Work it out for yourself. As did the owl.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone whom you feel may be vaguely interested in our drive for a safer, cleaner world for cats and glow-worms. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our fellow *curios* then send it to BGF at the usual address.

On a slightly more informative note, just go to bed tonight and ponder that here are 400 billion birds in the world, 750,000 airplanes, but only one Superman. So, in answer to your question ... it's probably a bird. And that's it. I'm off now to listen to *'If I had a hi-fi'*, the latest hit single from The Palindromes. Toodle-pip. (*You're an idiot - Ed*)

