

GlassCuts

The journal of the British Glass Foundation

www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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WHITE HOT

A belated Happy New Year to all our readers.

As a new season approaches, the **GlassCuts** teamsters have been reminiscing. Looking back from the headland of this 83rd issue we note that it is just a little over four years since our modest first edition went out with the express aim of keeping everyone abreast of efforts to secure a permanent and suitable new home for the renowned Stourbridge Glass collection.

Thanks in no small part to the ensuing widespread support this has helped to generate, for which we thank you all, progress in the interim has by any yardstick been rapid. So, in this first edition of 2016 and in what promises to prove to be a momentous year in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{GF} we reaffirm our commitment to keep you fully informed and are delighted report that it is ...

All systems go

- * The new build at White House is scheduled for practical completion and handover within weeks
- * BGF is to become a Museum Trust to accept responsibility for a long-term lease of the collection
- * The collections lease will be synchronized with the lease on the building for long-term stability
- * The completed, fitted and stocked facility is scheduled for opening in 2017
 - ... *expect a high-profile opening ceremony*
- * There will be ongoing activity on-site soon, including Allister Malcom's relocated glass studio
- * A series of 'pop up' exhibitions are planned on the approach to final opening
- * The public will be invited at the earliest opportunity to peruse 'their' new museum
- * Our volunteer register is growing daily, with enthusiasts clamouring to be involved.
 - ... *contact us if you would like to be added to our register*
- * Names for the new facility are coming in fast; a committee has been established to decide
 - ... *deadline for suggestions is 29th February 2016*
- * We already have expressions of interest from traders and artisans to rentals and planners

... plus much more.

Watch this space for further details as they happen, or contact us direct if you can't wait.



White House Cone
Site 19.1.16

It's now official

As reported in GC82, the image confirms it. Friday 18th December 2015. Buckingham Palace. HRH Prince Charles and BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE. Brilliant.



News from the station

Richard Golding's New Year's news release gives details of his forthcoming *Hot Stuff!* Demonstration at Shenton, which he describes as his 'annual playday.' Regular readers will recall the 2015 event that saw him head-to-head with Allister Malcolm in creating the magnificent Frankie Valli piece which was sold as part of the 'Celebrity Doodles' auction at Fielding of Stourbridge last October. This time around he will be in collaboration with Nottingham-based Stuart Akroyd www.stuartakroydglass.com and he has confirmed the date as Saturday 2nd April 2016.

Richard also takes the opportunity to share his thoughts on longer-term proposals at Shenton, where he has now been in residence for six years. For more on this and everything else going on at Station Glass sign up for their 'Friends' newsletter via www.stationglass.com

That time of year again

The Glass Fair @ Knebworth will again be at Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2AX for two dates this year; Sundays 21st February and 2nd October. 10:30am - 4:00pm, admission £5.

The National Glass Fair is at the National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull, West Midlands B92 0EJ on 8th May and 13th November, again both these dates are Sunday. Same opening hours and admission prices as Knebworth.

Information and contact details for both Knebworth and NMM are www.nationalglassfair.com info@specialistglassfairs.com or 07887 762872

Sewing with glass

If the start of your New Year involves sitting next to some dinosaur or other who still feels that glass has had its day and there is no future for it, then get them to click on this link for a glimpse of how 3D-modelling meets the mathematics of dribbling fluids. The implications are enormous. Spellbinding stuff. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-35171408>

Bye bye, Keith

We were immeasurably saddened to hear of the recent death of Keith Smith. In his all-too-brief tenure as Sales Manager at Tudor Crystal, Audnam, he had already been instrumental in overhauling and transforming both the place and its product range and set it on course to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. He was also a great friend and supporter of BGF and we were looking very much to working alongside him for the longer term. Our own future is thus diminished by Keith's departure, and our sincerest condolences go to his family, work colleagues and friends.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

Please note: In acknowledging the support of donors *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.

All donations are greatly appreciated. BGF is entirely philanthropic and its Trustees are unremunerated. BGF policy is that all monies go directly to the cause. Donations can be as one-off contributions or standing order to the BGF direct, via the QR codes below or at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1005650>

CRYSTAL CALENDAR

Red House Glass Cone

To be notified

Elsewhere around Glassville^{®GF}

21st February and 2nd October 2016.

The Glass Fair @ Knebworth (see feature above)

Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2AX. 10:30am - 4:00pm. Admission £5.

www.nationalglassfair.com info@specialistglassfairs.com or 07887 762872

8th May and 13th November 2016

The National Glass Fair (see feature above)

National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull, West Midlands B92 0EJ. 10:30am - 4:00pm. Admission £5.

www.nationalglassfair.com info@specialistglassfairs.com or 07887 762872

2nd April 2016

Hot stuff! Demonstration by Richard Golding and Stuart Akroyd (*see feature above*)

Shenton Station, Dadlington Lane, Shenton Leicestershire CV13 6DJ

www.stationglass.com

4th - 28th May 2016

Connections. CGS exhibition in partnership with The Scottish Gallery (*featured GC76*)

16 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 6HZ.

www.cgs.org.uk

16th September - 8th October 2016

Black to white and back again

CGS exhibition hosted by London Glassblowing (*feature GC81*)

Further details: www.cgs.org.uk

PARISH NOTICES

Association of Independent Museums E-news. December 2015 No 76. Helpful info for all involved.

sassy@aim-museums.co.uk

The Neon Strikes Back. Info sheet. Workshops, galleries, classes and more from the world of neon.

www.neonworkshops.com

Media Release. National Glass Centre appoints two new senior arts executives.

www.nationalglasscentre.com

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

Graham Fisher MBE
Press & Publicity,
pp British Glass Foundation
www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

The White House Survey

The success of this project depends greatly on public support. BGF is very grateful for yours. Please spare a few moments to visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/96BDTV7> and complete the survey form. It will take very little of your time but will be of immense value to us. Thank you.



These are the QR codes for the British Glass Foundation (left) and Virgin Money Giving (right).

Scan to browse the work of the BGF or to make a donation.



THE BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND



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LOTTERY FUNDED

Details of other BGF partners and sponsors at: www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/

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Disclaimer

Our first issue of the New Year doesn't carry anything contentious so we'll dispense with all that Data Protection stuff by referring to the *Disclaimers* in the previous 82 editions of your fave-rave glass fanzine. Any problems, you know what to do. Instead, to get 2016 off to a flying start we review the highlights of 2015 by taking a look at a few of the more arcane but noteworthy stories that caught our glass eye.

In January we carried the sad tale of a man in Stourbridge who accidentally cut his own tongue off whilst eating turkey leftovers off a carving knife. We tried to interview him but he couldn't talk about it. We had better luck in February when we managed to contact the Pensnett man who was rushed to Russells Hall A&E after completely misunderstanding the concept of his Dyson Ball Cleaner. In March our attention was drawn to the strange medical condition suffered by a lady in Kingswinford who claimed the horse-meat she ate had given her the trots.

The silly season was over and the more serious stuff started coming in, commencing with a family in Tipton who had never been mis-sold PPI and ended up owing Barclays £4,300. Tragic. But we were particularly amused in summer when we heard the latest news from the world of mirth that a whoopee-cushion filled with lumpy gravy adds a whole new dimension to a rather tiresome old practical joke.

Fascinating progress in the world of medicine when the unique Gornal genome was finally cracked; scientists told us excitedly that it's XXY (boy), XYY (girl) and YYY (Delilah). There were further promising developments in preventative care when Dr. Erasmus Dolt of Audnam advertised cut-price prostate checks requiring nothing more than a modest fee and a discreet address with a waist-high letterbox. In November, on behalf all of our readers who had contacted us expressing the same concern, we took Nigella to task and asked her why, even when we followed her instructions to the letter by 'placing in oven at 180 degrees' everything fell out of the dish. We are yet to receive a response on that one but we'll keep you posted. The year ended on a happier note when a worker at a Brierley Hill mattress factory fell fifty feet into a pile of feathers and foam. We were mightily relieved to learn that condition was described as comfortable.

Overall, throughout the year we were hoping that our use of puns might raise a tickle and we were hoping that at least seven out of ten might have caused some amusement. However, no pun in ten did.

We can but hope that 2016 is anywhere near as eventful. Who knows, we may even be sending out the invites to see progress on a certain new home for Stourbridge Glass. Now that would be great news. A very happy and prosperous 2016 to you all.

The Disclaimer Compilation Team.
Your guarantee of quality, your chartermark of high-end reportage.