

GlassCuts

The journal of the British Glass Foundation
www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Edition: 87
Dated: 22.3.16



WHITE HOT

How it looks right now

The latest imagery through the lens of BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE



Friends reunited

On Tuesday 15th March *Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum* were shown around the White House site by way of special invitation. For obvious reasons the FoBH organisation is undergoing a period of review as to its future; in the meantime BGF is looking to extend a welcome to all those who wish to continue their allegiance to the glass collection by way of a new support structure. Details to be announced in due course.



Photographs courtesy of Graham Beckley, Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum

West Midlands History news

We are indebted once more to our friends at *History West Midlands* for their ongoing support of all matters Stourbridge Glass, this time by dint of the latest editions to their portfolio of podcasts.

Go to www.historywm.com click on podcasts and access three new audios recorded during the International Festival of Glass 2015. Or go to www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/podcasts/ where, by the time you are reading this and with kind permission of HWM, you will find them there also.

The first features acknowledged glass authority Charles Hajdamach who describes the sheer majesty and scope of our heritage, the second focuses on recent archaeological discoveries that shed new light on the local industry from its earliest days and the third looks at contemporary practitioners and future developments, which of course includes the rejuvenated White House site. The interviewer for all three cannot conceal his gravelly Black Country accent so I must declare an interest inasmuch that it is Yours Truly's, but don't let that put you off.

This is just the latest in a series of interviews, videos and publications touching on the region's glassmaking. HWM's back-catalogue, videos and podcast library examine just about every aspect of local history but for pure glass *aficionados* it includes a video on the 2012 Portland Vase Project (*Enigma in Glass*) and a whole issue of the HWM Magazine (*issue 4, Spring 2014*) that is devoted to glassmaking across the board, from stained glass to glass painting, and which includes a detailed investigation of Chance Brothers of Smethwick. There is also a fascinating video on Chance's development of lighthouse lens technology that, quite literally, illuminated the world, plus much, much more. But rather than try to list it all here, it would be far simpler if you, Dear Reader, would simply visit the site and explore it for yourself; it really is well worth the click of a mouse.

Is this a record?

Some months ago we asked for your submissions as to the most distant spot from the Stourbridge Glass Quarter where you received your issue of *GlassCuts*. We have since received responses from some weird and wonderful places around the globe but this one is going to take some beating.

We were both delighted and impressed to receive an email recently from Ian Harrabin of Complex Development Projects Ltd who, following his recent marriage, is taking a well-earned break just about as far away from Wordsley as he can get. Under the heading '*Wonders of Science*' he says: '*Managed to read this (GlassCuts 86 - Ed) on a bus with Wi-Fi (!) while driving through the Andes. Stuck now as the hillside has collapsed onto the road. Driver is clearing the road.*'

The Andes! Which just goes to show that, rather like a certain lager, *GlassCuts* refreshes the parts that other glass fanzines cannot reach. Thanks, Ian. Enjoy the rest of your holiday.

Have your say in craft

On first sight this one may appear a bit off the wall for a glass publication, but seeing how making glass can very definitely be considered a craft we thought it may be of interest to our readers. *CraftNet (East & West Midlands)* are holding a meeting on Wednesday 23rd March 2016 at Birmingham University, Curzon Building, 5 Cardigan Street, Birmingham B4 7BD. Registration is at 1:00pm. The meeting will take the form of a facilitated workshop to review and map the ecology of the crafts sector and to discuss challenges and opportunities. This will be followed by a guided tour of the facility. The event is free but must be pre-booked. Contact Jackie.lee@mac.com for more.

The Heat is On!

Plans are really now taking shape for this event (*GCs passim*) organized by Allister Malcolm and Bruntnell-Astley that will mark the inauguration of the new White House facility and also see the official 'lighting of the furnace' celebrations. Provisional dates are 11th June - 10th July 2016; watch this space for confirmation of details as they emerge. More at www.bruntnell-astley.com



A good home

Following a recent auction at Fieldings of Stourbridge that featured various items of innovative 'padeo' glass made by Allister Malcolm and Helen Millard (see *GCs passim*) we are delighted to announce that due to a measure of good fortune coupled with an even greater measure of philanthropy, a superb example in the form of a large padeo bowl has been secured by the BGF for inclusion as a permanent exhibit in the new White House facility.

An elated Allister Malcolm, who knew nothing of this *largesse* until after the event, told us: *'It was a real boost to both myself and Helen to find out that the large padded cameo bowl is now the BGF's. I'm pleased that the piece isn't going to disappear in to a private collection as to me it represents not only a lot of blood, sweat and tears but also for me the climax of an amazing experience. I feel privileged to be a part of this team and have thoroughly enjoyed the ride so far - and this is only the beginning!'*

Allister also advises us that the funds raised from the sale will go toward his hefty relocation costs, so a winning situation all round.



*Allister Malcolm with the Padded Cameo Bowl
Purchased for the new museum with funds donated by The Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum*

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

BGF is reviewing ways in which to donate to BGF. The *Virgin Money Giving* facility is no longer in use. New procedures will be announced in due course. In the meantime, donations can be accepted by contacting BGF direct in the usual way.

Donations made by a UK taxpayer can attract Gift Aid, which is a great supplement to our funds and costs the donor nothing. All we need to claim this is completion of our Gift Aid form; contact us for details when you donate. Thank you.

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. Contact us for details.

CRYSTAL CALENDAR

Red House Glass Cone

To be notified

Ruskin Glass Centre

See <http://ruskinglasscentre.co.uk/events/>

Elsewhere around Glassville®GF

2nd October 2016.

The Glass Fair @ Knebworth (featured GC83)

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 (featured GC83)

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 (featured GC83)

Shenton Station, Dadlington Lane, Shenton, Leicestershire CV13 6DJ

www.stationglass.com

4th - 28th May 2016

Connections. Contemporary Glass Society partnered with The Scottish Gallery (featured GC76)

16 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 6HZ.

www.cgs.org.uk

12th September 2016 - 15th January 2017

Exhibition: The life and work of stained-glass artist Margaret Agnes Rope (featured GC85)

Shrewsbury Museum, The Square, Shrewsbury SY1 1LH.

www.shrewsburymuseum.org.uk/events/?c24event=EVENT532611

16th September - 8th October 2016

Black to white and back again

Contemporary Glass Society exhibition hosted by London Glassblowing (featured GC81)

www.cgs.org.uk

PARISH NOTICES

Gillies Jones promotion. Limited edition 'Wild Daffodil' bowl launched. 75 only, individually signed.
www.gilliesjonesglass.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

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.



This is the QR code for the British Glass Foundation.

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

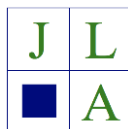
**THE BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND**



EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in Your Future
European Regional
Development Fund 2007-13



Also Jane Alexander and colleagues at JLA Consulting for advice on the securing and management of funding
www.jlaconsulting.org.uk



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

Disclaimer

As WC Fields famously remarked: *'Twas a woman who drove me to drink. I never had the courtesy to thank her.'* Like many other stars in the public eye he enjoyed a tipple. But he wasn't an alcoholic, oh no. Alcoholics go to meetings; he was just a drunk. There's a difference. I think. So, as I sit here wallowing in my bath of bubbles, and they're not all Radox believe me, I thought it was high time (*high - geddit?*) to dedicate a [Disclaimer](#) to those wonderful folks who defied the odds, enjoyed their lives in total inebriation by looking at it through the bottom of a bottle and didn't give two hoots for anyone or their health warnings. And, now I think about it, are in fact mostly dead. Hmmm ... anyway ...

GlassCuts is the cask-strength journal of the British Glass Foundation. It is brewed and fermented by a team of my really bestest, bestest mates - honest, on my babbie's life yo' really am - before being matured into the pure essence of liquid gold of cut-price lager that tastes like it's already gone through a donkey's kidneys before being bottled for your delight, delectation and sheer intoxication. It has no other function than to rot the internal organs, cause temporary memory loss and sickness in excess (*and what do we say to each other? - Good Health!*) whilst simultaneously bringing enormous hedonistic pleasure and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure ackeracy, no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual stillage racks apply*).

This email is sent to you solely on the basis that you have at some stage been so smashed that you indicated you wanted to know more. Whad'ya mean, you don't remember? If you do not wish to receive further **GlassCuts** then either drown your sorrows in a blizzard of Brasso with Zippo lighter-fuel chasers (*I've drunk worse - Ed*) or send an anonymous email marked *'As part of the unfurling tragedy of my life I confess that I am a GlassCuts reader but I am determined that I am taking every day as it comes in trying to quit'* to bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why we are no longer your favourite potential liver donors would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone whom you feel may be vaguely interested in our pot-still distillation process. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our fellow Oliver Reids and George Bests then send it to BGF at the usual address.

Me? Well I believe in that old advertising adage about alcohol making the opposite sex look more attractive since 1672. It's true; I remember once proposing romantically to my other half in the boozery by actually getting up on one knee.

Drive safely now, nice and sober. And always remember that alcohol never solves a problem. Then again, neither does milk. Choose wisely; milk has all those nasty germs.

