

Glass Cuts 10
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Archives of *Glasscuts* and the BGF *Newsletter* are held at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Hallo, hallo and nay thrice times, hallo. From Mayors to fayres, history to mystery and dates to fêtes; to all points northwards and with more donation

news thrown in for good measure, we've got it all here in yet another choc-a-bloc update from the Wonderful World of Glass. Gorge yourself heartily, chums ...

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From the archives ...

In Memoriam 100 years, and a Stourbridge Glass connection

Shortly before midnight, on 14th April 1912, the 'unsinkable' *RMS Titanic* collided with an iceberg and sank with the loss of over 1500 lives. When, on that fatal Sunday night, luminaries of the day including Isidor and Ida Straus, the Astors and the Countess of Rothes sat to dine, it is quite probable that they would have supped from some of the finest glass ever produced by the supplier to *Titanic's* owners, White Star Line.

And that supplier was? - If you haven't already guessed, then see (*) at the end of this *GlassCuts* for the answer.

Cool lookin' Dude

Yes indeed-y, the raffish young cove posing avec insouciance outside Broadfield House, is none other than resident glass artist and fellow BGF Trustee Allister Malcolm. And if he is looking rather chuffed with himself to boot, well, he has good reason. The stunning pieces of glass he is holding have, along with other items out of shot, been made by his own fair hand in his studio at BH. They were commissioned by DMBC and, by the time you read this, will be in the appreciative ownership of the recipients of this year's Mayor's Civic Awards that were held on 16th March. Quoted in the official DMBC news release, Allister said: 'I've created something that is unique to mark the work that these people do. It's great to be part of the awards ceremony which celebrates the borough's rich glass heritage.'



Councillor Michael Evans, Mayor of Dudley, added: 'This glassware has been specially designed and created for the occasion. They are unique and fitting for the special people who will be receiving them. It's wonderful that we can celebrate the glass heritage and the work of the people who receive the awards in this way.'

What an achievement for all the worthy recipients of the 2012 Mayor's Civic Awards; what an honour for Allister; and what a great shot in the arm for Stourbridge Glass.

Bravo from the British Glass Foundation to everyone concerned.

Full details of the awards, recipients and sponsors at www.dudley.gov.uk/welcome/news-in-dudley/mayors-civic-awards-2012

Money matters

GlassCuts 9 carried an item outlining how, in response to readers' requests, we have instigated arrangements for donations to BGF funds to be made via standing order. We are delighted to announce that Mr R.L. of Sevenoaks in Kent has subsequently availed himself of this facility and is now a regular donor. Many thanks, Sir.

Donations are still welcomed in the usual way, but if you would like to follow suit on the standing order front then a downloadable standing order form can be found on our website at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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.

Kinver Country Fayre

The annual Kinver Country Fayre is being held this year on Sunday 17th June 2012. If you've never heard of this one, it's a prestigious local gathering that has, over the last few years blossomed into 'must attend' proportions.

The Stourbridge Glass Quarter will be out in force, with the 2012 Portland Vase team being on hand together with displays, tactile exhibits and even something for the kids. Looks like Yours Truly is destined for a particularly busy day in simultaneously representing Broadfield House Glass Museum, British Glass Foundation, 102.5 The 'Bridge Radio and the Hesketh Owners Group (it's a rare British motorbike wot I own, if you don't know).

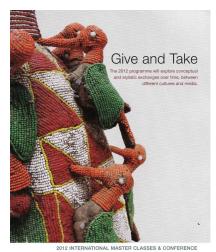
Details at www.kinveronline.co.uk/events/kinver-country-fayre-17th-june-2012 or see our blog at www.britishglassfoundation.tumblr.com - even better, come along on the day and seek us out. I think we're in a big marquee, somewhere on the meadow. Shouldn't be hard to spot.

Tea and Talk

Now here's one that deserves a bit of support. It's a lovely little informal afternoon in beautiful surroundings with someone who knows her stuff, and all for the cost of a cup of tea and a biccie.

The History of Stourbridge Glass Dr. Catherine Round Broadfield House Glass Museum, Kingswinford Tuesday 27th March 1.30 - 2.30pm, £1.90 per person Spaces limited; book in advance on 01384 812745

Go on, give it a go.



NORTH LANDS

A bit of Give and Take

The latest catalogue from Northlands Creative Glass gives details of their 2012 International Master Classes and Conferences. According to page 3, this year Northlands Creative Glass are working in partnership with our colleagues north of the Border in the Scottish Glass Society to host the SGS annual exhibition and events as part of the national campaign Glass Games, which was reported on here in *GC9*. Demonstrations and events will be taking place on 8th and 9th September this year.

Full details of this, and everything else in the absorbing world of Northlands Creative Glass (I say absorbing with assurance, 'cos I have read their brochure, and it is) can be found at www.northlandsglass.com

Dates for your diary

Until 5th August 2012 Broadfield House Blood and bones, an exhibition by Patricia Niemann *(featured in GC9)* www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk / www.dudley.gov.uk/glassmuseum

27th March 2012 Broadfield House The History of Stourbridge Glass Dr. Catherine Round (details as above)

23rd September 2012 Cambridge Glass Fair

6th May and 11th November 2012 National Glass Fair

12th May 2012 Bead Day

9th June 2012 Paperweight Day

... further details of these, and more, at www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk

One for your long-term planner

Wednesday 22nd August 2012 - Hagley Hall

An afternoon of erudition featuring BGF Trustee Charles Hajdamach. Joining Charles on stage will be Dr Paul Roberts of the British Museum, who will speak on The Portland Vase and cameo glass from the ancient world. Charles will complement this with the story of Stourbridge cameo from 1845 to present. Tickets £38 to include canapés and your chance to see at first hand the 2012 Portland Vase and Auldjo Jug.

This event is being generously supported by The Glass Association and Friends of Broadfield House.

Expect The Big Announcement very shortly; also booking form on BGF website soon.

One for your even longer-term planner

October 2012 Red House Cone Meeting of The Guild of Glass Engravers. Details to follow.

And finally ...

Lest we forget Four centuries of Stourbridge Glass

On 26th April 1612, Paulle Tysacke (Paul Tyzack) and his wife Bridget baptized their son John at St. Mary's Church, Kingswinford. Paul's occupation was listed as glassmaker; this is the earliest recorded name of a glassmaker in the area. The year 2012 is thus significant not only for the recreation of the Portland Vase, but also as the acknowledged 400th anniversary of glassmaking in Stourbridge.

More soon, good friends. In the meantime, let's Keep it Glass for another 400, eh?

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

(*) And that supplier was? (answer to question at In Memoriam, above)

Aw, c'mon ... you really had to scroll down here to find out? I thought everybody and his dog knew this one. It was, of course, our very own Stuart Crystal of Wordsley. Sadly, Stewart closed in 2001. But what a legacy of wonderful glassware it left behind.

Disclaimers 'n stuff (Yes I know, but we must)

GlassCuts is the ad hoc email newsletter of the British Glass Foundation. It is collated on a philanthropic basis and has no other function than to entertain and inform its subscribers. Whilst every effort is made...blah...no responsibility...etc. (usual caveats apply)

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BGF welcomes onward transmission of *GlassCuts* to interested parties; if you know someone who you think may also wish to receive *GlassCuts*, then feel free to forward it. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our readership, submit it to BGF at the usual address.