



GlassCuts 25

Issue dated 16.4.13

For updates also visit our blog at www.britishglassfoundation.tumblr.com

Archives of *GlassCuts* and the BGF *Newsletter* are held at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Hallo once again, glass fans. Spotted recently on the Corning Museum of Glass website (www.cmog.org) was this little gem: *This spring the glass is growing*. Gosh, I wish I had thought of that one. Anyway, to the latest edition of your fave-rave glass fanzine, as we catch up with news from this side of the pond in the *Wonderful World of Glass* ^{©GF}

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Oh well, parts 1 & 2 (©*Fleetwood Mac*)

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Beads at the Bonded

It's a pleasure to hear from both our newer recruits and our 'regulars', and we are always delighted to help bring you news of what they are up to. Hot from our inbox is this one from our chum Pat at Gallowglass Beads.

Dear Graham. Thank you for your good work in keeping us up to date with the glass world. The Bead Fair will be on again this year (our 10th birthday), between 10:00 and 16:30 on Sunday 25th August at the Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge, DY8 4LU. Details at www.stourbridgebeadfair.co.uk Perhaps you will be able to find a corner to put it in your next and subsequent newsletters. Many thanks.

Yep, I reckon we can sort that.



Oh well, parts 1 & 2 (©*Fleetwood Mac*)

Back in GC23 (*Extra, extra, hear all about it*) I described the work of Claire Bayley and Roger Green at Black Country Talking Newspapers (BCTN)/Pocklington Trust, and their invitation to record a couple of interviews, one of which was released shortly thereafter. Oh well, part 2 is now out (hence the snappy heading) and Claire has kindly sent me a copy.

The conversation this time around roams, as before, in languid, almost desultory, fashion for the thick end of 12 minutes - believe me, that's a lot of valuable air time - and strays into areas including new glass and the future of glassmaking, glass applications, studio-glass exponents, the Ruskin Centre, Broadfield House, Red House Cone, the International Festival of Glass, the BGF and much more.

Fellow *GlassCuts* conspirator Lynn Boleyn is arranging the necessary permissions even as I scribble, so expect mp3 versions to be available online via the BGF blog by the time you get this - <http://britishglassfoundation.tumblr.com/>

Ta for sorting that one, Lynn, and my thanks once more to Claire and Roger, who have done us all mighty proud.

Thomas Pocklington Trust and BCTN are at the Mary Stevens Centre, Oldswinford. For more information about the Black Country Talking Newspapers and Magazine, try www.pocklington-trust.org.uk or call Claire direct on 01384 889884.

Whilst we are at it ...

... many thanks to the irrepressible Mick Pearson, Head Honcho of *The Blackcountryman* magazine, the voice of the Black Country Society. For those of you not familiar with the society and its eponymous quarterly magazine, which is widely available at £2.75 or sent free to members, this is the quintessential first port of call for anyone wishing to study their Black Country ancestry and heritage. So, not to put too fine a point on it, only stuff of the highest integrity gets considered for the mag.

We are therefore inordinately delighted by recent coverage in *The Blackcountryman*, which continues with several glassy items and mentions in the latest (Spring 2013) edition. Editor Mick makes no secret of his support for our work, nor do we for his, and so there is the likelihood of more to come as our friendship continues to broaden.

I know that Mick will also be happy for me to mention that he is always on the lookout for quality articles and images on any aspect of the Black Country; editor@blackcountryrsociety.co.uk will find him. The Black Country Society - shame on you if you are of BC origins and not a member - is on www.blackcountryrsociety.co.uk

Contemporary, both by name and nature

To illustrate, as if illustration be required, that the tendrils of the glass world stretch far and wide beyond Stourbridge, and even into deepest cyberspace, we are happy to mention the latest exhibition by the Contemporary Glass Society. It explores the creativity, variety and dexterity of artists who make marks on and into glass, using techniques ranging from cutting and engraving to painting and staining. And, as if that ain't impressive enough, the show is virtual. Meaning it is only viewable online.

This innovative use of the net also means that an increasing number of artistes can expose their work to the world, and hence the markets, without the costly overheads associated with more traditional, physical galleries. It's called progress, folks. And, nailing my colours to the mast, I think it's brilliant.

Twenty-seven artists were chosen for the show, and stunning examples of their output can be seen at www.cgs.org.uk. Many of the works are for sale and the artists can be contacted through the Contemporary Glass Society's directory of member artists.

Clever stuff, a top idea and commendable engagement with technology for contemporary presentations. Who said glass was old-fashioned? A quick chat with Rebeca Dearden of the CGS, by boring old landline, it has to be said, revealed that there is more of the same heading your way, probably on a monthly basis or so. Her sage advice is to keep abreast of it all by tracking the CGS website, as above. Rebecca herself is on 07972 167945 or info@rebeccadearden.co.uk

Money matters

The *Centuries of Glass Auction* held at Fieldings Auctioneers on Saturday 23rd March (*GCs passim*) was blessed with horrendous weather, which obviously did little to encourage the good folk of Stourbridge to venture past their sodden doorsteps. But all was not lost, and, despite the lower than expected turnout, a tidy sum not unadjacent to several hundred pounds was raised to help swell BGF coffers. Congratulations to all the artistes concerned, and our thanks, as always, to Will Farmer *et al* at Fieldings who, according to my mate down the pub, have recently been nominated in the 'Best Auctioneers in Recorded History' competition. (*Note to Research Dept; you might want to check that last bit for accuracy – Ed*).



By Nancy Sutcliffe

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Knowing one's Station

There's only one *GlassCuts*, but there are others out there spreading the word in similar cyber fashion. One such noteworthy - and a mighty impressive missive it is too, Sir - emanates from the electronic quill of Richard Golding, over at Station Glass in Shenton, Warwickshire. Richard's easy-going, avuncular style cannot conceal a blizzard of activity, which you can share in by subscribing to his list, if you ask him nicely. There's also his *Spring Open Day & Treasure Hunt* on Saturday 18th May that may tempt you away from the telly for a bit. Details of everything Station at www.stationglass.com

Friends indeed



Much obliged to Dennis Hebden, Editor of *Cameo*, the magazine of Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum, who has agreed to consider for publication a piece outlining the work of BGF and a synopsis of its progress to date. That will, I hope, appear in due course but in the meantime this may be an opportunity to offer clarity to the broader readership of *GlassCuts*, some of whom may not actually be that familiar with the glass world other than sharing an interest in it.

The aims of the BGF are explained on our website but, in essence, BGF exists to safeguard the future of the world-famous Stourbridge collection and, more broadly, to promote glass and glassmaking in general, and Stourbridge Glass and its exponents in particular. It is entirely apolitical and purely philanthropic, with none of its Trustees receiving a penny piece in remuneration. More accurately, and to be honest, it actually costs us all more than a few bob in time and expenses to run it, but no-one is quibbling. The same fact of life applies to many other similar groups, which operate more on passion than financial return.

The thing is, though we like to consider ourselves an umbrella organisation covering the interests of the whole industry, we are but one working together with numerous other organisations and individuals in the field, many of which feature routinely in *GlassCuts* or our sister *Newsletter*.

We also recognize that not everyone uses our method of email communications, and that the glass world encompasses a certain demographic that may prefer to receive news updates the old-fashioned way. No problem; just drop a letter to the BGF c/o Hulbert Properties Limited, Peartree Lodge, Hulbert Drive, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 OXW and we will sort it. Alternatively, call on 01384 217984 or 239019 and talk with one of the team.

I should add that Dennis has kindly indicated his willingness to publish regular BGF updates via *Cameo*. Spreading the message is crucial, and we would be more than willing to consider similar requests from any other group.

We are in exciting times, and we are eager that as broad a church as possible may share such times with BGF. Thank you, as always, for your support.

And finally ...

A foot in both camps

By now, I would hope that everyone and his dog will be aware of the ERDF bid that has gone in on the White House site, as reported in *GC24*. The site lies directly adjacent to the Stourbridge Canal Main Line. Without wishing to start sounding like too much of an anorak, this hugely significant canal, arguably the birthplace of the entire modern waterways restoration movement, was saved from near-certain dereliction in the 1960s and is now a popular and well-used route from the delightful Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal through to the Birmingham Canal Navigations and all points beyond. It is therefore as much in the interests of the waterways as it is to the world of glass that this project should be seen as being mutually beneficial to both.



Now, I declare an interest here, since I sit on the West Midlands Waterways Partnership, <http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/noticeboards/west-midlands-waterways/whos-who> part of the new Canal & River Trust, www.canalrivertrust.org.uk that superseded the old British Waterways. Whilst but a small cog in a big wheel, be assured that I try to do my bit on behalf of both. My reports to WMWP, though intended for my colleagues in the first instance, are nonetheless a matter of record, which I would be pleased to discuss with anyone with a bona fide interest who wishes to contact me via the usual address.

Dates for your diary

Send details of your spectaculars and festivities via the usual address for inclusion here, possibly a mention in the main body of *GC* as well, and all at no cost. Honest, guv. Bargain.

Events & Exhibitions at Broadfield House Glass Museum
www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/

10 February - 9th June 2013 - *Collectomania; West Meets East*

18 May 2013 - Beads Day

16 June 2013 - Paperweight Day

20 July 2013 - Bonhams Valuation Day

17 August 2013 - Family Fun Day

Saturday 18th May 2013

Spring Open Day & Treasure Hunt (see above)

Station Glass, Shenton CV13 6DJ

www.stationglass.com

Sunday 25th August 2013

10th Anniversary Bead Fair (see above)

Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge DY8 4LU

www.stourbridgebeadfair.co.uk

Various dates throughout September 2013-October 2013

North Lands International Master Classes & Conference, and exhibition of new works from the North Lands Creation Glass Collection of Contemporary Glass (featured *GC24*)

info@northlandsglass.com or Lorna MacMillan on 01593 721229

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

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

Disclaimers 'n stuff

Alright, no takers so far. So, let's give it another go and see if anyone ever actually reads this bit. This time, I'll give you a few lines about *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, as taken from DH Lawrence's biography. Perhaps the most famous of Lawrence's novels, it is no longer distinguished for the once-shockingly explicit treatment of its subject matter of the adulterous affair between an unfulfilled upper-class married woman and the game keeper who works for the estate owned by her wheelchair bound husband. Now that we're used to seeing such things in the movies, it's apparent that the novel is memorable for better reasons: namely, that Lawrence was a masterful and lyrical writer, whose story takes us bodily into the world of its characters.

This email is sent to you in good faith on the basis that you appear on our list of interested parties. However, if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* emails then send 'unsubscribe' to bfg@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why would be appreciated.

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. *Lady Chatterley* reshapes the individual's views on love and is a true masterpiece that takes a stand against the obsessive culture we live in today.

