

GlassCuts

The Journal of the British Glass Foundation;
the Voice of Stourbridge Glass Museum

STOURBRIDGE
GLASS MUSEUM

Stourbridge Glass Museum – how it came into being.

The remarkable tale of the period from the formation of BGF in 2010 to SGM official opening in 2013.
Now available direct from the museum. All proceeds to BGF.

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Bore da! from the Glass Society

It means 'good morning' in Welsh, which is quite appropriate for the news that the Glass Society are extending an invitation to a free Zoom presentation on historic Welsh glass.

Whenever one thinks of glass, especially in our part of the world, thoughts inevitably turn to the Stourbridge Glass collection or other English producers, perhaps sometimes Italian, maybe American. But *Welsh*? It may come as a bit of a surprise to realise that there was a thriving glass industry here between the 17th and 19th Centuries. Speaker Simon Cottle is the man to explain all, since not only is he widely accomplished and recognised (including Chairman of the Glass Society and a Fellow of Corning Museum of Glass) he is also Welsh.

It's all happening from 7:00pm on Thursday 6th February 2025 and you can book your place up until 4th February via GSMeetings@outlook.com whereupon you'll be sent details of how to join the Zoom. And just to round off their news for now, the Circle's AGM will be on 11th March, again by Zoom.

lechyd da! (We'll let you work that one out for yourself.)



Photo: Loughor Glass Cone, c1760, © Swansea Museum Collections Centre

A cheery start for the New Year

We are delighted to learn that the beleaguered National Glass Museum in Sunderland (see GCs passim) has been awarded a £5m grant by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. More [here](#)

Exhibition news

BGF Trustee Chris Day is taking his glassmaking talents from strength to strength as he presents his forthcoming exhibition *Storyteller in Glass*. This [extract from our website](#) tells all:

Chris, a self-employed plumber from Staffordshire, embarked on his glass journey at the University of Wolverhampton in 2017. Since then, he has risen to international acclaim for blending compelling narrative with innovative craftsmanship.

His work explores the interplay of a vibrant range of colours, natural forms, and the texture of mixed materials. He often incorporates recycled plumbing materials, like copper metal cages, into which he breathes life by manipulating glass to create tension and emotional depth.

*As one of few black technical glassblowers, Day addresses social issues such as civil rights, Black History, and the Black Lives Matter movement, sparking dialogue and celebrating his heritage. *Storyteller in Glass* showcases his expertise and visionary approach, establishing him as a leading figure in contemporary glass art.*

Presented in collaboration with Vessel Gallery London, the exhibition is open to the public here at Stourbridge Glass Museum from 1st February to 1st June 2025.



GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

Funding and maintaining a revenue stream is an ongoing requirement. We greatly value your contributions. BGF Trustees are unremunerated; all monies received go to the cause. Donations can be as one-off contributions or standing order.

BGF routinely reviews its donation procedures. Enhancements are announced as and when but we currently accept donations direct by cash, cheque and BACS. **We would respectfully ask that *all* cheques and orders be made payable to BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION.**



This is the QR code for the British Glass Foundation.
Scan to browse the work of the BGF or to make a donation.

For donations by BACS our bank details are:

HSBC Bank
Branch Identifier Code: MIDLGB2108U
Sort code: 40-38-07
Account number: 72076780

To donate via *JustGiving* visit:

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To donate *PayPal* visit: <https://www.paypal.com/uk/for-you/transfer-money/send-money> and donate to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

To donate through our website visit: www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk and hit the 'Donate' button.

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 your Gift Aid declaration; contact us for details if you have not already supplied us with relevant particulars.

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.

In addition to cash BGF is similarly grateful for donations of good quality glass to sell in our shop. All funds raised from the sale of donated glass go into a separate Collections Account towards future acquisitions for the museum. To make a donation directly into the **British Glass Foundation Collections Account** use sort code: **40-38-07** and account number: **52291789**.

Stourbridge Glass Museum information corner

Details of forthcoming events are [here](#) or subscribe [here](#) for updates of events and other GDPR-compliant communications from SGM, including *GlassCuts* and promotions, direct to your inbox.

Notes and queries

Whilst we are happy to facilitate this *ad hoc* information exchange on unusual items of interest BGF cannot undertake valuations or offer comment other than that supplied by our correspondents. Submission does not guarantee publication. No responsibility ... etc (*usual caveats apply*)

PARISH NOTICES

tell us the news from your world

Send us yours and we'll try to mention it. No guarantees other than we'll do our best. Sponsors and supporters listed first.

- * *Alan J. Poole newsletter* latest edition. alanjpoole@aol.com
- * *Contemporary Glass Society* latest news www.cgs.org.uk Monthly *Glass Network Digital* also available.
- * *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Updates: info@glass-sellers.co.uk
- * *The Glass Society Events Schedule*. <http://glassassociation.org.uk>

From the Hot Studio:

www.allistermalcolm.com **Facebook** @allistermalcolmglass **Twitter** @allistermalcolm **Instagram** @allistermalcolmglassLtd
Follow all that's going on via Allister's feeds.

Keep up with developments down at the studio and his work throughout IFoG via Al's media feeds. His latest news is also now available [here](#)

Just a reminder ...

If you've got something 'glassy' to say and you want it said to somebody else, consider sending it to us and we'll do our best to help pass the information via *GlassCuts* or *OffCuts*. Usual address. There's no fee, but if you've got a few bob lying around in a spare pocket we can always find a good use for it.

And finally ...

Some New Year's thoughts to ponder:

- * *To do is to be* - Socrates; *To be is to do* - Plato; *Do-be do-be doo* – Sinatra.
- * My grandfather was raised in the days of the horse. I recall his last words: 'Ooh look, it's a truck.'
- * Uri Geller – very difficult man to stab with a fork.

So, what's six feet tall and doesn't get hit by bricks? Me in my lucky new coat. Go on, give it a try.

Graham Fisher MBE FRGS
Trustee, PR & Comms
pp British Glass Foundation
www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Volunteering at Stourbridge Glass Museum

Would you like to be part of a vibrant and enthusiastic group of volunteers dedicated to supporting the British Glass Foundation and its work at Stourbridge Glass Museum?

Specialist skills or knowledge are welcome but not essential. We are committed to equal opportunities and full training will be given where necessary. To find out more, contact us [here](#)

Promotional opportunities

Award-winning *Black Country Radio* and *BCR Xtra* broadcast throughout the Black Country on 102.5 FM and also via DAB and on-line around the world. Part of BCR's remit is to promote local events. If you are organising an event that satisfies the criteria of not-for-profit, charitable or philanthropic and is community orientated then you may be eligible for no-fee promotion.

Go to www.blackcountryradio.co.uk hover over 'Local' and click 'Local Events Guide'. Submit the form you'll find at upper left under '+ Add Event'. Your announcement will then appear on the *Events Guide*. Allow sufficient notice and the event may be 'voiced' and broadcast live on air during daytime broadcasting. Depending on the number of events, yours might be broadcast several times; there's no guarantee but it should appear at least once. Meanwhile it stays on the *Events Guide* listings on the world-wide web until the day itself. And it's all entirely free of charge.

Second time around

GlassCuts is compiled and edited *pro bono* and distributed to its subscribers free of charge. To receive *GlassCuts* contact our Secretary (below). However, if you miss us first time around, or if you are searching for that elusive feature, then all issues of *GlassCuts* right back to number 1 are archived [here](#).

Keeping in touch

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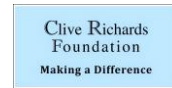
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BGF would also like to acknowledge the following, *inter alia*, for their support and generosity ...

Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership Growing Places Fund : Garfield Weston : Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust : The Headley Trust : The Charles Hayward Foundation : W.A. Cadbury Charitable Trust : John Ellerman Foundation : The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London : The Pilgrim Trust : FCC Communities Foundation ... plus many contributions from other trusts, foundations and individuals. (E&OE)

Full details of BGF partners, supporters and sponsors at: www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/

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Our full Privacy Statement is at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk or can be supplied by us on request. Subscribers can withdraw at any time simply by sending an email to the bgf address below with 'stop' in the subject header. No responsibility etc. etc ... (usual caveats apply)

We welcome you passing *GlassCuts* on to anyone you feel may be interested in our work. You know the rest but if in any doubt then please communicate with us directly in the first instance via bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk



British Glass Foundation

www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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