

GlassCuts

The Journal of the British Glass Foundation



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WHITE HOT

news from *WHCmog*

Wish us luck

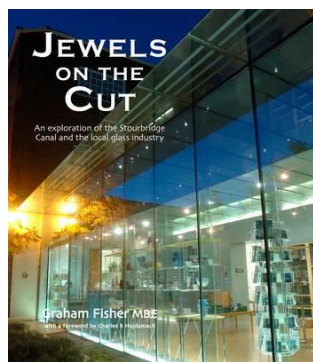
Well, we've talked the talk; now it's time to walk the walk as BGF Trustees and advisors prepare for assessment of the Round 2 stage of our Heritage Lottery Funding. This is the element that will help us complete internal fit-out, which in turn will be our springboard in elevating *White House Cone museum of glass* from merely a beautiful building into a fully accredited Museum.

The Big Day is later this month and we will, as always, ensure our loyal readership and supporters are the first to hear the news.

WHCMog & IFoG

The BGF website is now updated to include our involvement with the forthcoming International Festival of Glass. Do please visit, and do please give us your comments. Be advised that the tickets for lectures and presentations are starting to sell, so if you don't want to miss out then you'd best get cracking now and book yours. www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Blatant plug alert



This is also a timely opportunity to mention that the revised edition of the GC Editor's book *Jewels on the Cut* will be officially launched at IFoG on the Friday morning, followed by a waterside guided walk through the heart of the Stourbridge Glass industry in the afternoon. The book, first published in 2010, has been completely updated to include developments along the towpath including, of course, a *WHCmog* that was not even on the drawing board first time around. As usual, a contribution from sales will be made to BGF coffers. And it makes a wonderful Christmas gift.

Thank you, crowdfunders

Allister Malcolm's splendid crowdfunding initiative, reported *GCs passim*, has now run its course. An excited Allister tells us: *'The crowdfunding page has closed at a total of £7965. I also have £1275 in cheques in my possession which were given to me for this project. The total therefore stands at £9240 - this is before Gift Aid is added on too. There are a couple of donations I need to follow up so, fingers crossed, I think there will be at least another £1000 to come in. I am so grateful for everyone's support; thank you emails have gone out to all who donated and we are now in the process of organising and sending out the rewards'*.

Our heartiest congratulations to Allister on yet another magnificent fundraising effort, every penny of which is destined for BGF coffers.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

In addition to cash donations, which are always gratefully received (see below as to how you can do this), readers are reminded of the opportunity to secure a lasting *memento* in the new museum by way of purchasing one of Allister Malcolm's engraved glass plaques. Details via the usual BGF address.

BGF routinely reviews its donation procedures. Enhancements are announced as and when but in the meantime we continue to accept donations direct by cash, cheque and BACS. For donations by BACS our bank details are:

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

BGF recognizes those who wish to donate via *Virgin Money Giving*. Go via the *Virgin Money Giving* QR code listed below or click here: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1005650> **Potential donors are advised that contributions via VMG may invoke commission fees that are beyond the control of BGF.**

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.

All donations are greatly appreciated. BGF is entirely philanthropic and its Trustees are unremunerated. BGF policy is that all monies received go directly to the cause. Donations can be as one-off contributions or standing order.

RICH MIXTURE

news from elsewhere

Support our colleagues

We are delighted to hear that the Glasshouse Project has made it through to the finals of the 2017 National Lottery Awards. Now they are seeking your vote to help them win.

The National Lottery Awards are an annual search to find the UK's favourite Lottery-funded projects, and they aim to celebrate and recognise the difference that those projects have made to people, places and communities all across the UK.

The Glasshouse Project has been selected from over 1,300 entries and is now competing against six others for the title of Best Education Project. If it wins, it'll feature on a BBC 1 television show which would give some fantastic national publicity to the work of Ruskin Mill.

Voting is via <http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/project/glasshouse-project> or 0844 836 9682. Deadline is midnight on 27th July 2017. In the last two weeks of the voting period it will also be possible to vote on Facebook and Twitter.

The Glasshouse Project is the transformation and regeneration of an historic, semi-derelict glass factory site to create Glasshouse College (which provides a craft-based curriculum for students with learning and behavioural difficulties), the Ruskin Glass Centre (public café and workshops for local businesses that also provide work experience for Glasshouse College students), the Glasshouse Arts Centre and the Glasshouse Heritage Centre.

The Glasshouse Project is a partnership between Ruskin Mill Land Trust and Ruskin Mill Trust. The National Lottery, through the Heritage Lottery Fund, has invested about £2.5m in the regeneration of site over the past 8 years. More information about the work of Ruskin Mill Trust, including the Glasshouse, can be found on www.rmt.org

New brochure

The consistently excellent *Contemporary Makers & Designers* leaflet is now available to download in pdf format via www.glassquarter.org.uk and www.discoverdudley.org.uk

Hard copies are being run off as we speak and will be available in the usual outlets, including all Dudley MBC tourist attractions and libraries, well before the International Festival of Glass hits town. In fact, they're most likely out there by the time you are reading this.

If you want to know anything or anybody in the contemporary Stourbridge Glass scene then this is the one. Our thanks, as always, to Nicola Beckley, Tourism Officer Dudley MBC, for the update.

Stunning stuff Stateside

Reader Anne Wilson tells us how she was travelling around North Carolina in the USA when she happened across a remarkable piece of glass artistry. It is called *Threshold* by Danny Lane. It was created in 2010 and is made of stacked plate glass, moulded glass and steel. It measures a whopping 112in high x 321in long x 58in deep. Anne has kindly supplied us with some information about this stunning piece, for which much thanks:

American-born, London-based artist Danny Lane (b. 1955) trained as a painter and explores two- and three-dimensional line in his glass sculptures and furniture. During the 1980s and 1990s, he was internationally known as one of the bad boys of British Design, along with Ron Arad and Tom Dixon. His glass and steel chairs, in which the glass is smashed or stacked, are in museum collections worldwide, including the Mint Museum. Lane's work is modernist in its simplicity and baroque in its love of ornament. His London studio is equipped to create works of considerable scale in glass and steel. Glass furnaces enable Lane's team of skilled technicians to create works of brilliant colour. His most recent commission is for a conference table for a major Russian company board room.

Threshold (image: Peter Wood) was commissioned by the Mint Museum of Craft + Design to celebrate the opening of the new Mint Museum Uptown at the Levine Center (*sic*) for the Arts in October 2010. It is part of a series of commissions called *Project Ten Ten Ten*. The work is on the threshold of the craft and design galleries, guiding visitors in. Its 800 stacked sheets of glass undulate in front of coloured glass objects made in Lane's studio, as well as pieces of wood. Lane describes it as a sculpture to be experienced: *'The viewer activates it. As you walk by, things appear to move. Really, I think the purpose in making art is to make something ... that elevates the soul.'*



Message in a bottle

University of Sunderland graduate Dr Ayako Tani is searching for Wearside-based scientific glassblowers from the 1970s and 1980s to help support her latest project. Ten years on from the closure of the Pyrex factory in Millfield, Dr Tani is putting a call out to local scientific glassblowers for the memories that helped make the city famous for its glass industry. The research will support the planning of a major exhibition of glass ships in bottles, which will coincide with the arrival of the Tall Ships to Sunderland next year.

Dr Tani was awarded a PhD from the University of Sunderland in 2014 for her research into the art of glass. She regularly exhibits at an international level and her work has been collected by prestigious museums in the UK and overseas. Currently, she is an artist in residence at National Glass Centre preparing for her exhibition project, which has also received Arts Council Funding.

Anyone who knows of a Sunderland-based glassblower who made glass ships in bottles is asked to contact Dr Tani at National Glass Centre on 0191 515 5555.

Fringe benefits

Mention the Edinburgh Fringe and most people south of the border would immediately think of comedy and stand-up. But there's much more to it than that, and we are delighted to see that one of our own from the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{@GF} is making her impression there this year with a solo show running from 4th - 28th August.

Alison Kinnaird MBE enjoys an international reputation and uses the ancient technique of wheel engraving, often combining it with cutting-edge technology such as LED lighting. Her work ranges from small intimate pieces to architectural scale projects and is in many public and private collections, including the V&A Museum, the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, and the Corning Museum of Glass NY. This solo exhibition will take place in the conservation village of Temple, 12 miles south of Edinburgh, in Shillinghill Studios EH23 4SH; the converted church which has been Alison's home and studio for many years. Shillinghill Studios are also the base of Temple Records, which specialises in Scottish and Irish music. www.alisonkinnaird.com

CRYSTAL CALENDAR

what's going on and where. Tell us yours

White House Cone museum of glass

WATCH THIS SPACE

Red House Glass Cone

Various dates July to December 2017

Juniors at Museums

A wide range of activities for adults and kids alike, including a new additional venue at Dudley Archives & Local History Centre. Details at www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums and via Twitter and Facebook feeds. For large print leaflet ring 01384 815571.

Ruskin Glass Centre

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

Elsewhere around Glassville[®]GF

14th - 15th October 2017

Connections

20th anniversary celebrations of the Contemporary Glass Society (see feature above)

M Shed, Bristol BS1 4RN www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/m-shed

Further information at admin@cgs.org.uk

12th November 2017

The National Glass Fair 10:30am - 4:00pm

National Motorcycle Museum B92 0EJ

<http://specialistglassfairs.com/>

PARISH NOTICES

thank you for contacting us

Half Life. Exhibition by Elliot Walker 9th November - 16th December 2017. Vessel Gallery, 114 Kensington Park Road, London W11 2PW. www.vesselgallery.com

Vessels at Vessels Gallery. (Venue details as above). Open exhibition by Contemporary Glass Society. 6th July - 19th August 2017. www.cgs.org.uk

Contemporary Glass Society Newsletter. Fund Raising Raffle. www.cgs.org.uk

Alan J. Poole monthly newsletter. July edn. alanjpoole@aol.com

From Goblets to Gaslights: The Scottish Glass Industry 1750 - 2006. Jill Turnbull. Histories of flint glassworks in Scotland from 18th to 21st Century. RRP £50. www.socantscot.org/shop

Neon Workshops News. July edn. www.neonworkshops.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.co.uk/r/whcoffsite> 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. If you are donating by VMG then please note that VMG's own commission fees, over which BGF has no control, may apply.



Promotional opportunities

Black Country Radio (BCR) is the area's premier local radio station operating on 102.5FM. If you are organising a local event that is philanthropic, non-profit (it doesn't matter if there is an admission fee) and community orientated then it can be promoted free of charge via BCR. Visit www.blackcountryradio.co.uk, click on 'local' and follow the instructions.

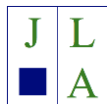
THE BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND



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



... also Jane Alexander and colleagues at JLA Consulting www.jlaconsulting.org.uk for advice on the securing and management of funding, partners at Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council www.dudley.gov.uk and all friends and associates at Fieldings Auctioneers (Stourbridge) <http://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk>



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

Follow us on *Facebook* and *Twitter*



<https://m.facebook.com/The-White-House-Museum-of-Glass-1783619608579416/>



<https://twitter.com/whitehousecone>

Please note: These are 'live' links - click to try - but depending on your operating system you may need to insert manually into your browser.

- fin -

Disclaimer

I was walking down the road towards *GlassCuts Towers* the other day when I saw these four blokes beating somebody up so I thought I'd do what I could to help. Yep, turned out he didn't stand a chance against five of us. Which got me thinking how useful it would be if we dedicated a *Disclaimer* to all those mothers'-little-helpers who try so hard but just can't get it right. Like when the postman told me he'd got a package for next door and I suggested in that case he'd obviously come to the wrong house. He gave me ever such a funny look. But it works both ways - I remember when I ordered a book entitled '*How to politely tolerate your stupid, offensive low-life neighbours*' and unfortunately when it came I was out, so he ... Oh dear. Anyway ...

GlassCuts is the do-gooder of the British Glass Foundation. It is compiled by a team of misguided but well-meaning souls in a nice room with no windows and foam walls in the shimmering opulence that is the Isolation Room at *GlassCuts Towers* and has no other function than to help you make a fire by rubbing two Boy Scouts together for Bob-a-Job week, cross that little old lady across the road who doesn't; actually want to cross - but she's gonna get it whatever - and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual teacher's pets apply*).

This email is sent to you solely on the basis that you believe that if you put a broken iPad under the pillow you'll get a shiny sixpence from the Bluetooth fairy but if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then either explain why my sister has got three brothers but I've only got two or send an email saying: '*I can't work out why missus got so upset when she asked for a Mini Cooper and I found her a dwarf who makes barrels*' to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk A brief indication as to why we are no longer your favourite advisers for that perfect gift or special occasion would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone who believes in helping out, especially if they can explain the mystery of our office assistant who claims to have invented an invisibility cloak just before we last saw him three months ago. He's around somewhere, I'm sure. Similarly if you have anything you consider may be worth passing on to our colleagues in the *Wonderful World of Walking Disasters*^{®GF} then send it to BGF at the usual address.

Final word goes on the tale I read recently about how all the animals, well nearly all, survived the great Biblical flood. Apparently we were down to the absolutely last two unicorns on earth. '*Hallo*' said one to the other as they boarded the ark. '*Looks like it's up to me and you now. My name's Gerald. What's yours?*' '*Erm*' ... came the reply, '*I'm Robert*'. Ah, well; back to the drawing board.

+++ LATEST NEWS +++ Have you been asked to walk 500 miles for no good reason? Do you expect to have to walk 500 more? You could be in line for compensation. Call Pro-claimers now!