

WHITE HOT

news from WHCmog

Yet wider do our tendrils spread

BGF is constantly seeking to expand its base of expertise and we have, as reported previously, sought to increase our assemblage of Trustees in line with this. So, we are delighted to welcome two more newcomers to our ranks ...



Seen here at a recent address at Wheeling, West Virginia is James Measell. His topic? Harry Northwood (1860 - 1919), eldest son of John Northwood Snr. Yes, *that* John Northwood, the one who engraved the 19th Century Portland Vase. So, no question James knows his stuff. Although based in the USA James is a regular visitor to these shores and is already well known to us as a friend and a scholar of considerable *gravitas*. Having lately obtained a PhD from the University of Birmingham, on 9th May this year he spoke to a packed audience at a meeting of the Stourbridge Historical Society, whereupon tumultuous applause was heard after his PowerPoint presentation on the Stourbridge School of Art and the local glass industry 1851 - 1905.

James contributes frequently to *The Blackcountryman* magazine, and you will also see his by-line in, *inter alia*, BGF publications, *Glass Matters* and *The Research Journal*.

Gavin Whitehouse needs little introduction since he has been advising us on various financial matters for some time. He now feels he is able to commit to BGF yet further and we are delighted to welcome him formally as a Trustee.

Gavin is a Chartered Accountant and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants; a Member of the Institute of Residential Property Management and an Associate of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Prior to setting up his own accountancy practice he was a Partner at Clement Keys, one of the major accountancy firms in Birmingham. He is Founder of Clearview Software, an accountancy software developer and a Director/owner of Moors Whitehouse, a provider of specialist accountancy and payroll services. He is also a Director of Pedmore Sporting Club, a Black Country based charity.



Gavin will be responsible for the overview of financial matters and will lead on the development of systems, reporting and control of operational performance and strategic planning.

Our congratulations to James and Gavin, and our thanks for their support.

And don't forget, if you feel you have a particular skill-set that could help us take the [White House Cone museum of glass](#) project forward, then please contact us in confidence via the usual address.

Well done that man (1)



Now here's a tale to warm the cockles ... back at the start of this year we received a query from none other than Harry Scoble, Publishing Director at the National Theatre. He told us: *'In a few months' time we will be staging a production of Rutherford and Son, Githa Sowerby's classic play. The play itself is most likely set in the Gateshead area and concerns the family of Mr Rutherford, who has made his fortune in glassmaking. Githa Sowerby's own father worked at the new Stourbridge Glass Works from 1871 onwards so the connection is clear.*

We would love to have an article in the programme about the glassmaking industry at the time, perhaps touching on the New Stourbridge Glass Works, and on the effects of the second wave of the industrial revolution, with more and more people leaving for work in the bigger cities. I am hoping that you might be able to direct me towards and expert who would be a good candidate for writing a piece along those lines'.

Hmmm ... methinks too much for us here at BGF to tackle, so we called upon the services of our good friend and supporter Charles Hajdamach, who also just happens to be an internationally acclaimed authority on glass.

Cue forward a few weeks and I bump into Charles who, with an equal mixture of excitement and pleasure, tells me how he has not only answered Mr Scoble's queries but has compiled a graphic pen-picture of life in the glassworks as seen from the perspective of a nine year old facing his working life in the noise, smell, smoke and heat of a glassworks. And they love it! Charles' contribution has not gone unrecognised, and he is already an invitee to the prestigious press night.

Rutherford and Son is playing from 16th May onwards, with booking details and prices at <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/shows/rutherford-and-son/whats-on> Should you go and see it, then just bear in mind that a true 'one o' we' had a hand in it all coming together. Congratulations, Charles and thanks for coming to our rescue; for nay indeed we would not have had a clue.

Well done that man (2)

Hand-shakes and back-pats all round for fellow Trustee and [WHCmog](#) resident glassmaker Allister Malcolm whose work has again been selected for submission to the Biennale exhibition at the International Festival of Glass to be held over August bank Holiday this year.

There will be more on this in due course but for now an delighted Allister tells us: *"I am really delighted to let you know I have been selected to show my latest 'Bubblewrap' pieces at the Biennale 2019. With stiff competition it's a great honour to be selected to show. I am really looking forward to being a part of this major exhibition and I can't wait to see the rest of the selected work'.*



Getting involved

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 White House Cone *museum of glass*? Well, here's your big chance. Volunteer Coordinator Julie Nichols is always looking to expand her team and all are welcome to join her and her colleagues in helping us develop what is destined to become one of the finest glass museums in the world

If you have any specialist skills or knowledge that you can bring to the table then we can certainly put them to good use. However, we are committed to equal opportunities so there is no requirement for these and full training will be given where necessary. Quite simply, if you are capable of saying: 'Welcome to our museum' then you're in.

You might also make it to the hallowed pages of *GlassCuts* since we will shortly be including an occasional 'Volunteers Corner' that will feature their work and give details of forthcoming activities including those all-important social gatherings.

To find out more, contact us via the usual address and we will be delighted to do the rest.



GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

In addition to cash donations (*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

It goes in cycles



Sylvia Barnett, Active Schools Officer for Sustrans, has drawn our attention to a novel initiative aimed at encouraging people of all ages to take up or improve their cycling. It is largely due to the likes of Sustrans' efforts that there are now a number of cycling hubs around Birmingham & Black Country - and beyond, as it happens, but let's stick to what we know - so Sylvia has asked us to help promote their local upcoming cycling activities programme that is ongoing from now right up to the end of October.

Several of the planned rides involve canal towpaths, including the one that passes right by our front door at [White House Cone museum of glass](#). And so, ever keen to highlight the synergy between glass and waterways, we are delighted to appeal to our readers on Sylvia's behalf for volunteers in support of just about any aspect from participation and education to ride-leading and hospitality. Sustrans will provide Ride Leader and Ride Manager training, as well as lunch and travel expenses on each day they volunteer. And what's more it's all free.

Blow the dust off your bike or just help in any other way you can by contacting Sylvia and her colleagues via <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/>

Filling the vessel

The Vessel Gallery in Kensington Road, London W11 2PW has acquired some fine new pieces of glass and porcelain by a selection of well-known artistes, some of whom (Elliot Walker, for example) are familiar names on the Stourbridge scene. Details are in the gallery's latest newsletter together with dates of forthcoming exhibitions. info@vesselgallery.com



Tempus fugit

Although the golden days of my *Alma Mater* in Sunderland often seem like only yesterday it is a sobering thought to realise they were in fact over 45 years ago. Ah yes, time flies. So I was equally taken aback to realise that The National Glass Centre, based at what is now the massive University complex that is unrecognisable from my time, is shortly to celebrate its 21st anniversary.

And it is doing so in style with an exhibition celebrating the work of founders and innovators of the Studio Glass Movement including Erwin Eisch from Germany and Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová from the Czech Republic. The NGC 21 press release states: *'Internationally known artists have taught at or graduated from the University of Sunderland and many graduates now teach at organisations reaching from the USA to China and from Scotland to New Zealand. The show is brought up to date with newly commissioned work by Erin Dickson and Jade Tapson, two of the centre's promising recent graduates. NGC 21 includes more individual artists than any other exhibition presented at National Glass Centre in recent times.'*

NGC 21 runs until 15th September 2019 in the Main Gallery at the National Glass Centre, Liberty Way, Sunderland SR6 0GL www.nationalglasscentre.com

CRYSTAL CALENDAR

what's going on and where. Tell us yours

White House Cone museum of glass

Saturday 1 June 10 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Open Day at WHC to support Sustrans Walking & Cycling Event from Bonded Warehouse

Refreshments Available provided by Volunteers

<http://www.thebondedwarehousestourbridge.co.uk/forthcoming-events/free-canal-walking-cycling-event-by-sustrans-1st-june/>

15th and 16th June 10 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Handcasting Sessions by Allister Malcolm

Lace Guild Workshop

Sale of Glass by Volunteers

Refreshments Available provided by Volunteers

Contact Allister Malcolm info@allistermalcolm.com

Red House Glass Cone

Various dates June to December 2019

JAM (Juniors at Museum) programme and 'Let's Do This' for adults

A wide range of activities for kids - adults as well but they get a separate leaflet - based principally at Red House Glass Cone and Dudley Archives & Local History Centre. Details at www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums and via Twitter and Facebook feeds. For large print leaflets ring 01384 815571.

Ruskin Glass Centre

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

The British Glass Biennale opens 23rd August and closes 28th September 2019

Submit applications via: <https://biennale.submittable.com/submit>

More information at: <http://www.biennale.org.uk>

Elsewhere around Glassville^{®GF}

No notifications this period.

PARISH NOTICES

thank you for contacting us

Alan J. Poole monthly newsletter, latest edn. alanjpoole@aol.com

Alison Kinnaird MBE Art in Glass solo exhibition, Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2nd - 26th August 2019.

www.alisonkinnaird.com

Taskmaster Burst. Exhibition featuring glass by Liam Reeves & Charles Stern. 8th - 30th May 2019.

Vessel Gallery, Kensington Park Road, London W11 2PW info@vesselgallery.com

Gillies Jones Exhibition Invitation (June 2019) & Spring News. 'Crossing Lines Crossing Colours' exhibition in June 2019 and details of forthcoming limited editions. studio@gilliesjonesglass.co.uk

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

Graham Fisher MBE

Press & Publicity,

pp British Glass Foundation

www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Getting involved

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 White House Cone museum of glass?

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 via the usual address and we will be delighted to do the rest.

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.

Promotional opportunities

Black Country Radio broadcasts throughout the Black Country on 102.5 FM and also via DAB and on-line around the world. If your event satisfies the criteria of not-for-profit, charitable or philanthropic and is community orientated there is no charge.

Go to www.blackcountryradio.co.uk hover over 'Live' and submit the form you'll find under *Events*. 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.



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.



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 JLA Consulting, Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers (Stourbridge) Enover Community Trust, Ibstock Enover Trust.



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-Cone-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.

Disclaimer

Oh dear. The things that come along to upset our daily routine and get us wondering what it's all about. For starters, I have been listening all morning to a woodpecker in my garden who I am convinced is telling me I am paranoid in morse code. Then I recall on Valentine's Day recently I took my other half for a romantic tea and biscuits. Complete failure; she really objected having to give a pint of blood first. And what about the time I took her for a dream holiday in the Med and all I could afford was fish and chips where they still wrapped them in newspaper. Even now she goes on and on about her Plaice in The Sun. It doesn't just affect us mere mortals and even celebrities suffer from it. I mean, Deal is a lovely town in Kent but Noel Edmonds can't decide whether to live there or not. So, I thought it was high time we dedicated a *Disclaimer* to the subject of life itself. After all, it was Spike Milligan who miserably claimed that life is a long agonised illness only curable by death. And he was supposed to be a comedian. Gosh, I feel depressed already. Anyway ...

GlassCuts is the treadmill of drudgery spun in never ending circles by those hamsters of boundless energy here in the shimmering opulence that is *GlassCuts Towers* and has no other function than to balance your Ying and Yang, provide inspiration for a more Zen way of life and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, no responsibility etc etc ... (usual insurance plans apply)

This email is sent to you solely on the basis that you know you're living in a posh area when all the graffiti is in Latin but if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then drop us a paperless note using invisible ink to bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone you feel may appreciate our carefully thought out plan of action. (*Yeah, whatever - Ed*). Similarly if you have anything you consider may be worth our colleagues out there in the *Wonderful World of LifeAsWeKnowIt*^{®GF} then send it to BGF at the usual address.

Actually, you might not know I'm a bit of a keen amateur palaeontologist. I'm getting pretty good now and have reached the stage that when watch films like Jurassic Park I can almost always tell if they use real dinosaurs or not.

And finally, we conclude with a health warning regarding the recent outbreak of equine flu. Contact your Pharmacist immediately if you feel a little horse. Oops, time to go.



www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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