

## 2020 NEW YEAR EDITION

### WHITE HOT

news from WHCmog

On behalf of our Trustees, advisers and volunteers we wish our supporters the best of good fortune for 2020. And, as for our new museum, we sincerely trust that this is the year it will all happen. As always, you will be the first to know. A very happy new year to you all.

### GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

#### And now, a word about our sponsors

We are always appreciative of any gifts or donations made by you, our loyal supporters. BGF Trustees are unremunerated so we can continue to assure you that every single penny goes towards 'the cause'.

The amounts you give us, of course, vary considerably and arise from both individuals and organisations so in order to avoid any hint of favouritism our general policy is to keep both the sum and the name of the donor(s) confidential. However, there are occasions when our major contributors merit inclusion on our 'Roll of Honour' that appears in *GlassCuts* and / or on our website.

Back in GC147 we announced the securing of a substantial grant from the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity towards the fit out of the new [White House Cone museum of glass](#). The funding was awarded following an invitation by the Charity for representatives of BGF, including Yours Truly, to address them personally at their base in Herefordshire, not a million miles from WHCmog. Clive Richards said: 'Our Charity is delighted to have helped in this innovative new museum to ensure that the Stourbridge Glass Industry will be remembered forever.'

We are delighted to publicly acknowledge this contribution by the inclusion of the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity on our Roll of Honour. Space precludes us mentioning every major donor in *GlassCuts* so a more expansive list is at <https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/> and we take this opportunity to once more thank you all.



CSR

Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity

**The Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity** (Our aim is to 'make a difference') is committed to supporting Education, Healthcare, Heritage and Arts. We will provide support to charity organisations where we seek to be a catalyst to unlock other funding sources for good causes and ensure sustainability and transformational change. In addition, we will provide support to individuals who wish to further their education primarily in the Music and Arts sectors and for young people (normally based within the geographic area) performing charity work overseas.'

With acknowledgements to the website of Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity Lower Hope, Ullingswick, Herefordshire.  
<https://www.csrcharity.com>

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In an extraordinary coincidence of timing that none of us could ever have envisaged, barely had the ink dried on our copy we learned from the New Year's Honours list that Clive Richards has been invested with a CBE for his services to charity and the community. On behalf of BGF and our supporters we offer him our warmest congratulations.



Clive Richards CBE KSG DL FCA FCMA FCMi CGMA

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

### 2022 is 'The Year'

We are grateful to Simon Bruntnell for drawing this to our attention ...

An organisation calling itself The International Commission of Glass (ICG) <http://www.iyog2022.org> proposes to present to the United Nations (UN) a project to name the year 2022 as *International Year of Glass*. Here is a website quote from Alicia Durán Carrera, President of the ICG: *"The idea is to tell the whole world about the world of glass. Each sector will be covered and the objective is to have a high impact on the global community"*.

The initiative claims to already have the support of major organisations including Corning Museum of Glass <https://www.cmog.org> and a report to be presented to the UN in February 2020 will describe the importance of glass as a transformer material in the history of humanity, its role in a sustainable society and an emphasis that we are in the era of glass. BGF has expressed an interest to learn more about this initiative and we will report as appropriate.

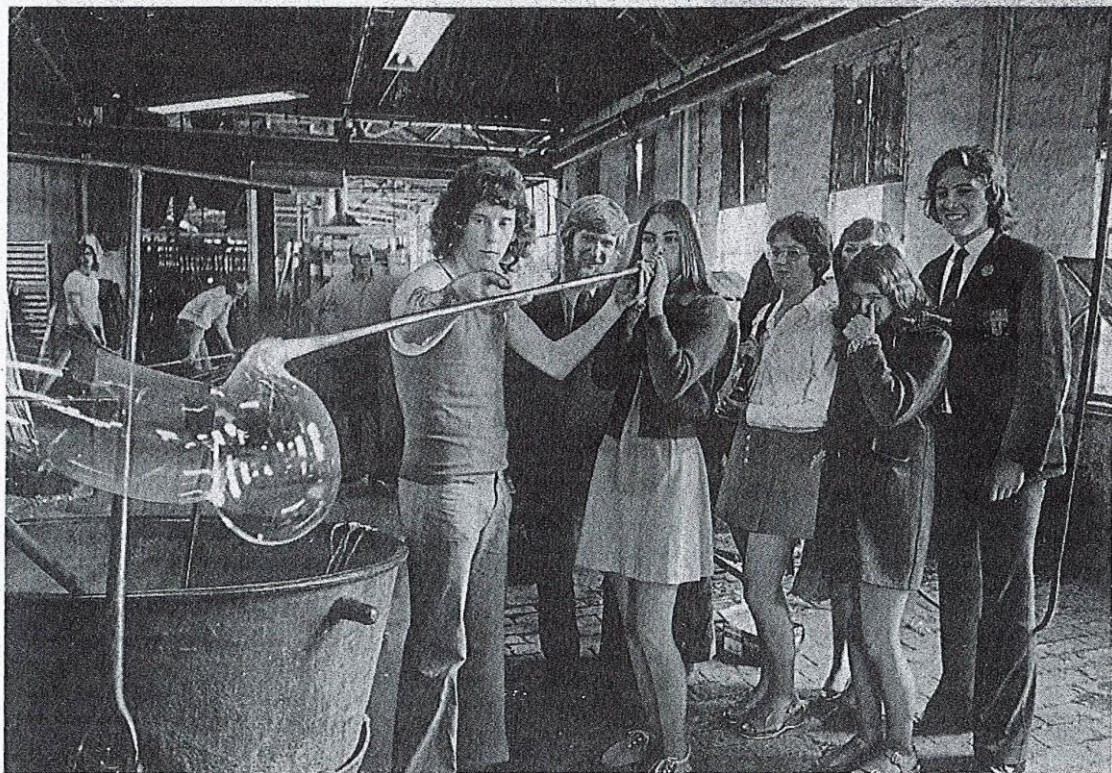


## Blast from the past

Thanks to BGF Secretary Lynn, and with acknowledgments to *Express & Star*, here is an enchanting picture of an age now passed. The caption reads 1974 but glassmaker Malcolm Sheaf's mullet gives the game away as being typical of the era. Rowley Regis Grammar School was my *alma mater* and that, too, has sadly long gone. I left in 1972 so don't know any of the students but I am guessing the weirdy-beardy next to Mr Sheaf is a teacher. And the gangly youth on the right is wearing a blazer that, if my ageing eyes don't deceive me, carries the RRGGS badge. It's motto was *Levavi Oculos* meaning, if my rusty Latin holds good, *I will lift up my eyes*. Half a century down the line I still can't work that one out.

## LETTERS

### PICTURE FROM THE ARCHIVE

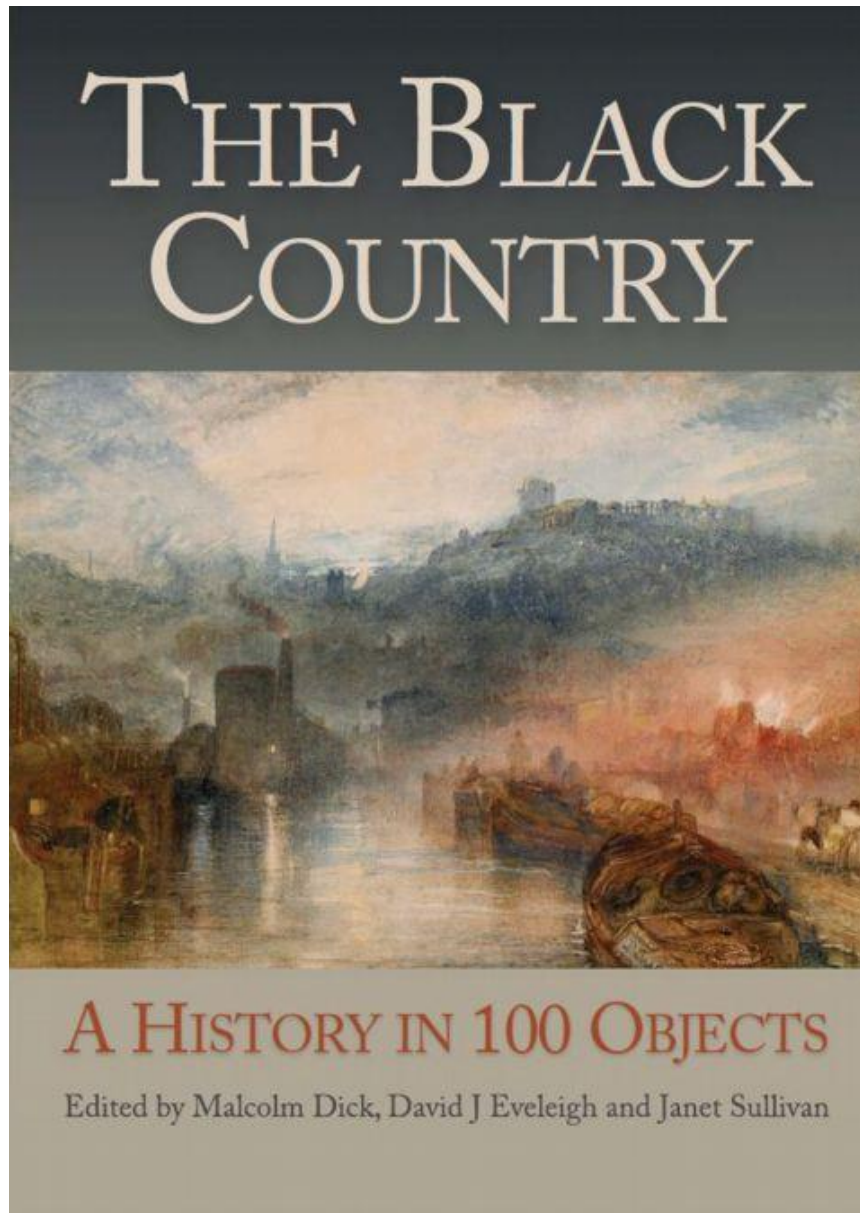


In July, 1974, Rowley Regis Grammar School hosted a group of teenagers from Iowa in the US. Among the many outings, students visited Stuart Crystal glassworks at Wordsley where Malcolm Sheaf gave a lesson. Blowing the glass is Karen Grillk. To see hundreds of pictures from the past visit our Photographic Collection at [photo-archive.expressandstar.co.uk](http://photo-archive.expressandstar.co.uk)

But hey, it's not all melancholy for lo and in wonderment that same Stuart building is, of course, now the new [White House Cone museum of glass](#). So, what has happened in the interim to everyone else captured through the lens all those years ago, including the onlookers in the background? Perhaps one of them is you? I see the potential for a fascinating bit of feedback here; send your comments and information to the usual address and we'll see about publishing a few.

## New book

At this very moment I have in front of me a simply sumptuous new book entitled *The Black Country; a history in 100 objects*. The title speaks for itself and although the eclectic contributions range from a narrowboat lamp to an enamelled tea kettle and all points in between there is, of course, a sizeable input on glass. And who should be a key contributor but BGF Trustee James Measell who can claim three items therein, namely the 1876 Portland Vase, a vase by Carder/Hodgetts, and a painting of a glasshouse interior. Then there are other 'glassy' articles dealing with people, objects and events that move James to comment: *'It's a great read throughout, even if I do say so myself!'*



The book has more contributors than we can list here but is jointly edited by Malcolm Dick, David J Eveleigh and Janet Sullivan, all of whom are friends of the BGF. For details, price and availability see <https://www.bclm.co.uk/shop/the-black-country-a-history-in-100-objects/1769.htm>



## CRYSTAL CALENDAR

what's going on and where. Tell us yours

### **White House Cone museum of glass**

See our website or contact us via the usual address. Plenty going on in 2020; watch this space.

### **Red House Glass Cone**

No notifications yet but the new season isn't far off

### **Ruskin Glass Centre**

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

### **Elsewhere around Glassville<sup>®GF</sup>**

No notifications yet but the new season isn't far off

## PARISH NOTICES

thank you for contacting us

Alan J. Poole monthly newsletter, latest edn. [alanjpoole@aol.com](mailto:alanjpoole@aol.com)

Neon Workshops winter/Spring 2020 newsletter & workshop information [www.neonworkshops.com](http://www.neonworkshops.com)

Graham Fisher MBE  
Press & Publicity,  
pp British Glass Foundation  
[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://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.

### **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](http://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, Enover Community Trust, Istock Enover Trust, Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity



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

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Disclaimer

I saw a sign recently in my off-license that said: 'Warning: drinking alcohol before pregnancy may cause pregnancy.' Ok, fair enough but it reminded me of another I saw saying: 'This may contain nuts' although that one was outside the Houses of Parliament. Nevertheless, it did give me cause to think it was about time we dedicated a *Disclaimer* to the subject of 'Elf and Safety' and all of that daftness that is designed by interfering nobodies to protect us from ourselves. Why bother? After all, protracted good health is merely an indication of the slowest possible rate that one can die. Anyway ...

*GlassCuts* is the risk-assessment document of the British Safety Foundation. It is compiled by a team of reckless chancers (*oh my, is that somewhere near the truth! - Ed*) here in the shimmering opulence that is *GlassCuts Towers* and has no other function than to revel in the joys of playing with asbestos, bungee-jumping without a bungee cord (don't try that at home, kids) and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, no responsibility etc etc ... (usual ointments apply, twice daily).

This email is sent to you solely on the basis that you believe that your ten fingers and ten toes are adequate recompense for a life in the booming unregulated band-saw industry (our Norfolk readers may need to revise those figures upwards for personal accuracy) but if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then either explain why undertakers don't use seat belts or send an email marked with the famous last words of Robert Maxwell: '*Stainless steel safety rails only £5.99 at B&Q*' to [bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk). A brief indication (in triplicate, please, using a non-toxic pen) as to why we are no longer your favourite meddlers would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone you feel may be interested in following our climb up the rickety unsupported ladder to the pinnacle of the uncertificated scaffold of success. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be worthy of our colleagues out there in the *Wonderful World of Compensation*<sup>®GF</sup> then send it to BGF at the usual address.

And finally, you may be as interested as I to learn that before the crowbar was invented crows had to drink at home. Gosh, it's an education in itself reading this stuff, ain't it? One day you'll thank me for it. Maybe not today; maybe not tomorrow; but soon, and for the rest of your life. (*©Humphrey Bogart*)



British Glass Foundation

[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk)

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