

GlassCuts

The Journal of the British Glass Foundation



Edition: 155
Dated: 28.1.20

WHITE HOT

news from WHCmog

Nearly there, honest!

Look, I know we keep going on about how close we are but please be assured we are nearly there. For reasons of confidentiality we can't say more right now but we urge you, our loyal supporters, to Keep the Faith. And we promise that as soon as we know, you will too.

Y'all join us in a sing-along: 'Any day now ... ' (Traditional)



GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

It may be all quiet on the Home Front right now, but running a museum is a costly business that requires on-going funding in a revenue stream requirement that never ends.

We greatly value your gifts and donations; 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

National Glass Fair(s)

We are reticent to use the word 'season' to describe glassy goings-on because there's always something happening all year round, but it is understandable that the shows and festivals in particular tend to slow down over the winter months. So, it's always encouraging to see them start picking up again and we look forward to the usual bumper crop of announcements heading our way. No problem, send them in and we'll be happy to do what we can.

Like this, for example. Christina Glover and Paul Bishop over at Specialist Glass Fairs are straight out of the starting blocks for the New Year in advising us that their National Glass Fair will be held as *per* usual at the delightful National Motorcycle Museum, just off the M42 at Junction 6. The two dates for your diary are Sunday 10th May 2020 and Sunday 8th November 2020.

For anyone new to the game The National Glass Fair is described as Britain's leading antique and collectable glass show, with exhibitors offer a wide choice of glassware from 18th C drinking glasses through to contemporary studio glass.

For those more familiar with the regular contributions of Specialist Glass Fairs Ltd. Christina has asked us to point out that the usual Knebworth and Ickworth events are on hold this time around. However, there's plenty more afoot and all is revealed by clicking on www.nationalglassfair.com and www.cambridgeglassfair.com or via 01787 277100

We're jammin'

Our colleague Kate Figgitt, Museums Learning & Access Manager at Dudley Museums Service, has kindly sent us the latest *JAM (Juniors at Museums)* programme. And impressive it is too, with a range of activities around the area, some of which, of course, include a 'glassy' theme. But there's more, as Kate tells us: *'In response to audience requests we have introduced a few new offers including 'Eco Art', Get Arty for teenagers and a 'Special Sticky Saturday' at Dudley Museum aimed at families with children or parents/carers who don't enjoy noisy, busy places'*. As usual, there's also a version for the young at heart who may not be quite so young in the bones but don't want to miss out on the enjoyment.

Details at www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums and via Twitter and Facebook feeds. For large print leaflets ring 01384 815571. A word version, which includes the adult information, is available from Julie.edmonds@dudley.gov.uk

Another Chance

Time to update your address books. Our colleagues at the former Chance Glass Works Heritage Trust have had a bit of a makeover and, largely in order to accommodate a broadening of their remit, are now known as Chance Heritage Trust. And they have hit the ground running with a new look and a programme of activities; like this one, at Smethwick Library from 11.100 on Saturday 29th February, where there's an opportunity to get that piece of Chance glass valued, become a shareholder, tell your story and contribute to the vision of an organization that is seeking to develop sites of special heritage beyond the old glassworks themselves. And it's all free. More at www.chanceht.org



CGS at the Pyramid

An exhibition of glass by 34 members of the Contemporary Glass Society opens on May 2nd 2020 at the Pyramid Gallery, 43 Stonegate, York YO1 8AW. With recent protests about climate change and extinction of species, the organisers wanted to celebrate nature and natural forms and also mark the 200th anniversary of the launch of the ship *HMS Beagle* that was to take Charles Darwin on his voyage to the Galapagos Islands. Pyramid Gallery enjoys a long-standing reputation for representing contemporary glass artists in York and has been working with the CGS since 2008. The exhibition runs daily until 12th July; opening times vary at weekends. www.cgs.org.uk

Finches Of The Galapagos
Frans Wesselman

And whilst we're on the subject of CGS, following the moving on of the previous incumbent they are seeking an Editor to continue their magazine *Glass Network*. If you reckon you've got what it takes there's a job description at <https://www.cgs.org.uk/news/cgs-seeking-new-editor-glass-network> but don't hang about as the deadline is 17th February.

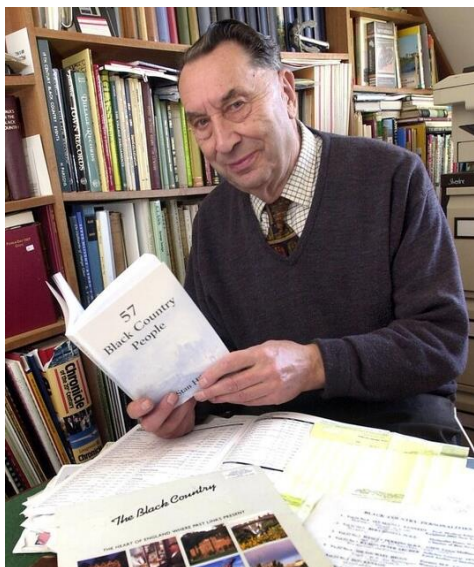
Venice calling

A new scholarship has been issued by Fondazione Giorgio Cini of Venice. Aimed at undergraduate, graduate, PhDs and post-doctorates it covers a 6-month residency for a research project on 20th C glassmaking art in Venice and will be offered between April and December 2020 at the Vittore Branca Centre, Venice.

The scholarship, worth 6.200 euros, is offered to Italian and foreign scholars, preferably working on materials held in the Glass Study Centre. Application deadline is 29th February 2020, more at centrostudivetro@cini.it and centrobranca@cini.it



Farewell Stan



We were deeply saddened to learn of the loss of Stan Hill who died on January 16th aged 90 following a short illness. If anyone justified the tag 'pillar of the Black Country' it was Stan and, as a passionate advocate of an area he described as 'more of a state of mind than defined by physical boundaries', he was *sans pareil*.

Achieving national distinction in his career as a teacher his altruism blossomed yet further in retirement when he was, *inter alia*, President of the Black Country Society Kingswinford Branch, Editor of the Black Country Society's prestigious magazine *The BlackCountryman* and author of many books, notably his singular *57 Black Country People*. No great surprise, he was also a supporter of BGF and I spoke with him occasionally to share some aspect of our glassmaking heritage as a result of which, inevitably, I knew substantially more at the end of our conversation than before it.

We are advised that well-wishers are invited to attend a celebration of Stan's life on February 12th at Gornal Wood Crematorium followed by a wake at Himley Hall where donations in aid of Mary Stevens Hospice are requested in lieu of flowers.

They just don't make 'em like this any more. Stan Hill, Educator, historian, author and Black Country Man 1929 - 2020. RIP.

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

Various dates to June 2020

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

A wide range of activities for kids and adults 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/>

Elsewhere around Glassville^{®GF}

10th May 2020

National Glass Fair

National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Solihull B92 0EJ

www.nationalglassfair.com

8th November 2020

National Glass Fair

National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Solihull B92 0EJ

www.nationalglassfair.com

PARISH NOTICES

thank you for contacting us

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

CGS Newsletter featuring The Manda Moriarty Prize 2020. www.cgs.org.uk

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.

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
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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/

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.

- *fin* -

Disclaimer

I start with the tragic tale of the time my dad had a serious accident and needed a transfusion but we couldn't remember his blood type. As he slipped away he kept telling us to 'be positive' but it's hard without him. Very sad. But the medical world isn't all bad news; a few years back my auntie had a neck brace fitted and she hasn't looked back since. So, we thought it was high time we dedicated a *Disclaimer* to the subject of fitness and well-being. We all owe it to ourselves to do so; I mean, even claustrophics feel better when they think outside the box. Anyway ...

GlassCuts is the menthol-inhaler of the British Homeopathy Foundation. It is compiled by a team of saw-bones here in the shimmering opulence that is *GlassCuts* 'Oss-Doctors and has no other function than to bridge the unbridgeable, explain the inexplicable, derpan the underpantable (*what? - Ed*) and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

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

This email is sent to you solely on the basis that you believe that the opposite of 'urine' is 'you're out' but if you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then either explain why there's a valium fountain in my Dentist's waiting room or send an email marked: *the last thing I want to hear when I'm having an operation is someone saying Oops-a-daisy* to bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk A brief indication in a kidney-shaped metal bowl as to why we are no longer your favourite joy-bringers would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone you feel may be interested in our rolling programme of vigour and workouts. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be worthy of our colleagues out there in the *Wonderful World of StrainedCartliages*^{®GF} then send it to BGF at the usual address.

And finally, scientists have at last admitted that oxygen really is a toxic gas; anyone who inhales it inevitably dies within about eighty years or so. Just sayin'.



www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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