

## Lockdown? When the going gets tough ...

### Our own TV and multi-media megastar

BGF is delighted to report that our resident glassblower at [WHCmog](#) has hit the 'media big-time.'

Allister Malcolm, for indeed it is he, has been selected to appear in a BBC 1 television programme *Home is Where the Art Is*, presented by Nick Knowles and scheduled for broadcast at 3:45 on the afternoon of **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020** (see *schedules* or *BBC Sounds* for details - Ed)

The plot is that after being invited to 'snoop' around a home Allister was tasked with creating a unique piece for the potential clients who he only met when pitching his ideas.

An excited Allister takes up the story:

*'When I heard that I was going to feature in the programme the nerves started to kick in! The challenge was tough as I was up against some talented artists with different skills. I had a short amount of time to come up with an idea for a bespoke piece for clients that I had not even met at that point. This gives a great insight into how people can go about commissioning an artist to produce a unique creation for their home. It was an amazing experience that I shall never forget.'*

Neither will we, Allister. Bravo, Sir, bravo. More details for the *meejah* and other interested parties at [www.allistermalcolm.com](http://www.allistermalcolm.com) and contact via the usual [info@](mailto:info@)



### Now it's your turn ...

We are understandably thrilled by Allister's achievement; he is, after all, 'one o' we'. However, this is just the sort of thing that we believe is helping to propel the *Wonderful World of Glass*<sup>©GF</sup> into a vibrant future. If you've got anything similar on the anvil let us know. We'll do the rest.

And, if you are looking for a vehicle to give traction to your profile, you may also like to read the bit directly below ...

### BGF's call to artists

With the easing of lockdown in the foreseeable future now a tantalising possibility, the British Glass Foundation is looking to broaden the 'hands-on' appeal of the new museum when it eventually opens and fully operational. Which, we are confident, is on the horizon. BGF is determined that the new museum will be vibrant, animated and 'alive'.

Want to be part of it? Then read on ...

We are seeking cold-work glass artists of any persuasion - copper wheel engraving; enamelling, cutting, painting, bead making, whatever - who may be interested in working within the new museum for a short period on an occasional but regular basis. Applicants would of course be expected to actively engage with visitors; which is the whole point. But it offers a wonderful showcase for your work. Normal *quid pro quos* of sales and *kudos* versus time commitment will apply and arrangements will be flexible based around requirements of weekends and 'honey-pot' periods.

Yes, it may be some time down the line. But we're looking now, so do get in touch with us soon.

Interested? [bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk)

### Owl together now



In last month's edition we mentioned our new owl on the roof of [WHCmog](#) and asked you kind readers to suggest a name for the critter. Quiet apart from having it pointed out to us that it might not actually do the job of keeping the pigeons off - oh dear, I fear owl pie on the horizon already unless he/she bucks his/her ideas up - we have otherwise been inundated with suggestions too numerous to mention for our feathery friend's new *moniker*. Please keep 'em coming; we love to hear from you. And, be honest, it does all help bring a little welcome levity to the current serious situation. With which we hope you are all still coping well.

## Virtually does it

Now read this carefully, because it is a lovely unsolicited gesture from a devoted glass-man who also happens to be a friend and supporter of BGF. The Antique Stourbridge Glass website <http://antiquestourbridgeglass.co.uk> is the brainchild of Dilwyn and Patricia Hier (Dil and Pat), known widely throughout the *Wonderful World of Glass*<sup>®GF</sup> as the founders of Specialist Glass Fairs Ltd and the National Glass Fair held at the National Motorcycle Museum.

The site is dedicated to 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century art glass produced in the Stourbridge area. It provides an overview of all the various types of glass produced with hundreds of images, many with 360 degree views, and details of production. The involvement of all the artists employed in the creation and making of the glass is described with full census records. Two sections, namely Cameo and Queens Burmese Ware, are in the form of self-contained eBooks. In the research section under museums, in a virtual gallery, is the 'Chinoiserie Cameo' exhibition previously held at Broadfield House Glass Museum.

Well, to cut to the chase, I was chatting recently with Dilwyn about Affairs of State, as you do, when he made the most generous offer to readers of *GlassCuts*. Let him tell you all about it himself:

*With lockdown still curtailing access to museums I would like to make an offer of providing your readers with a visit to a virtual glass museum via <http://antiquestourbridgeglass.co.uk/>*

*The offer is in the form of free 'Standard' membership to the Antique Stourbridge Glass website, for a period of three months. This membership level gives access to the main content of the site with the exception of access to the pattern books which requires 'Premium' membership. However, once signed up as a 'Standard' member your readers can upgrade for a fee of £12; **£10 of which goes direct to the BGF to support their endeavours.** (Note that last bit in bold - Ed). Then you will be able to see the many galleries of patterns, extracted and collated for each type of glass and artist.*

*To subscribe please email a user name to [info@antiquestourbridgeglass.com](mailto:info@antiquestourbridgeglass.com) with the subject: **BGF166 requesting membership.** You will be registered in the membership records and will receive an email requesting you to complete the registration i.e. define your password. Then you are good to go. As a tip, go to the bottom of the home page and click on the 'How to use this site' link.*

*I trust the above will give you something to get your teeth into. Regards; Dilwyn.*

It most certainly does. Our very grateful thanks to you, Sir. I suspect there's a glass of wine or two for you on us when this virus stuff is all behind us. Very much obliged.

## GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

Funding and maintaining a revenue stream is an ongoing requirement, and one that has never been more crucial. 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.

### Living la vida lockdown, part 3

\* Chipping in with another lockdown newsletter Susan Purser Hope has again brought us up to date with all the news that is news from the world of the Contemporary Glass Society in her latest *Dispatches From The Attic*. Not surprising with my waterways background, I was particularly taken by the story in issue 13 of the lady inspired by the canals. Issue 14 has since come through with more news and chat. Lovely stuff. But don't just take my word for it, there's much more besides. CGS are a welcoming and communicative lot so routinely send out all manner of releases promoting their programme of galleries, exhibitions, lectures, and suchlike that are at present accessible via cyberspace. Check them out at [www.cgs.org.uk](http://www.cgs.org.uk)

\* BGF has received this rather inspirational missive from Kate Figgitt, Museums Learning & Access Manager at Dudley Museums Service. *'We have launched a new initiative. **Arts Award Discover** enables children to be rewarded for the creative activities they enjoy and supports them to connect with their local museum, online or at home, until it's possible to visit us again. We hope it helps you to keep children engaged in the arts and creativity whilst at home'*. Click here: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/museums/learning/arts-award-discover/>

\* Here's an encouraging piece of news from Jane Lamine, Business Operations Manager at Dudley MBC: *'Hallo Graham. I am pleased to tell you that we are reopening the Red House Glass Cone site to the public on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The cone itself will remain closed pending surveys but all craft and commercial studio tenants will, where possible, reopen. During the next few weeks maintenance works are being carried out in and round the site, including painting of external windows on the High Street boundary. As a result traffic measures will be in place 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> July from the traffic lights outside the building past the bridge towards Wordsley. I also intend to reopen the Himley stores from the 1<sup>st</sup> August.'*

Thanks, Jane. Brilliant news. It looks like 'normality' may not be too far away.

\* And more encouraging news ... the Vessel Gallery in Kensington Park Road, London tell us that, in accordance with Government guidelines, they have reopened. Current hours are Monday to Friday 11:00am to 5:00pm. <https://www.vesselgallery.com>

\* Alan J. Poole newsletter. Blimey, where does he keep getting all this stuff? [alanjpoole@aol.com](mailto:alanjpoole@aol.com)

Keep them coming, folks.

**And finally, the BGF Thought For The Day** (Radio 4 does it so why shouldn't we?)

*The adjective for metal is metallic but not so for iron, which is ironic.*

I'll get my coat.

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 'Local' 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 Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enover Community Trust, Ibstock Enover Trust, Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity



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

... together with many other contributions from other trusts, foundations and individuals. (E&OE)

Full details of 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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The coronavirus pandemic is a serious matter and our services have been curtailed. But we are still obliged to comply with the provisions of Data Protection and so we must remind you that *GlassCuts* exists solely for the information of its supporters, our Privacy Statement is outlined in detail on our website and subscribers can withdraw at any time just by telling us to stop.

We also 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](mailto:bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk) or the contacts section at [www.britishglassfoundation.co.uk](http://www.britishglassfoundation.co.uk)

Thank you for your understanding.



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