

## An optimistic 'we are getting closer by the day' edition

### Welcome to the madhouse

The Trustees of BGF are delighted to announce the appointment of Ollie Buckley as Museum Director at White House Cone *museum of glass*.



Ollie lives in Kinver and has an MA in Museum Studies on top of a BA (Hons) in English and History of Art & Design. He has over 25 years' experience in the museum industry and for the last 17 years has worked at Birmingham Museum Trust. He also has a track record of delivering capital and revenue projects and has expertise in interpretation, community engagement and art commissioning and the care, conservation and development of museum heritage sites. Ollie also has experience of working with designers and volunteers. He was part of the team who launched the lottery-funded New Art Gallery Walsall to widespread critical acclaim, together with recent major installations at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Soho House and the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter.

Graham Knowles, Chairman of The British Glass Foundation says: *'The interviewing panel were unanimous in their decision to appoint Ollie and I am sure he will do a fantastic job.'*

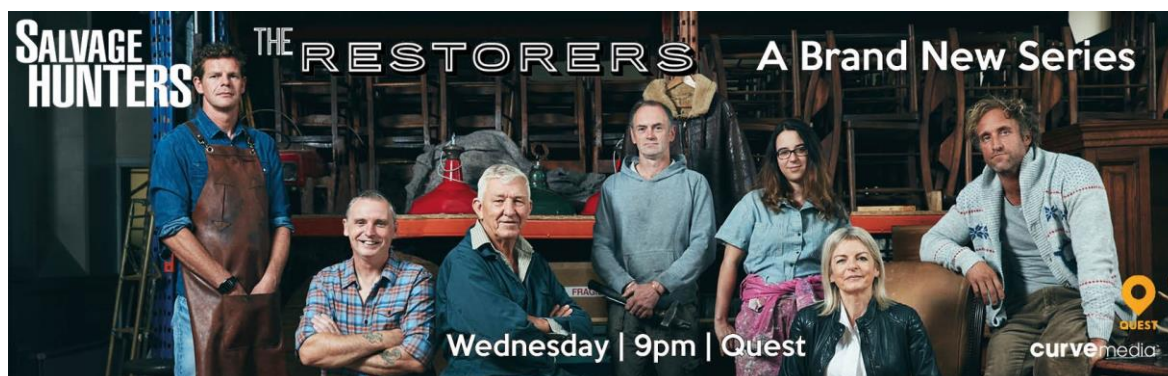
We took the opportunity for a meet-and-greet with Ollie at our socially-distanced Trustees meeting in [WHCmog](#) on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August so now we are all 'good to go'. Ollie Buckley officially commences his new role on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and we are looking forward enormously to working with him. Welcome aboard, Sir.

## The quest for glass

Regular readers will be aware that our all-round multi-media megastar and resident glassblower Allister M has been busy filming for television with *Discovery Channel QUEST*. He tells us:

*'What a year it's been in the studio for us. We are due to show another side of our skills in the latest series of 'Salvage Hunters - The Restorers' in which we are set the challenge of creating glass to fit certain objects. These items arrive in our studio after some restoration as initially they were barely holding themselves together. We then create the glass as the finishing touch to restore them back to their former glory. The team and I are always up for a challenge and this was an amazing experience.'*

See Al and his team in action on *Discovery Channel QUEST* on the following dates (Wednesdays): 26<sup>th</sup> August (episode 9), 9<sup>th</sup> September (episode 11) and 23<sup>rd</sup> September (Episode 13).





## 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 5

\* The Contemporary Glass Society newsletter we received at the back end of July carries news of the launch of *Glass Network digital*. Editor Linda Banks welcomes your glass news, images and press releases at: [linda@wordbanks.uk](mailto:linda@wordbanks.uk)

\* They're a busy lot at CGS and there have been further news items from them since we compiled this. Details at [www.cgs.org.uk](http://www.cgs.org.uk)

\* *'Why glamorous glassware is booming. It's bold, beautiful - and is adorning tables all around the world. Dominic Lutyens speaks to the designers, brands and craftspeople behind the global glass resurgence'*. <https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20200714-why-glamorous-glassware-is-booming>

I think, Mr Lutyens, you will find that we have been saying that here at BGF for some time. (*spotter A. Malcolm Esq, whose piece in the Vessel Gallery, London is also featured*).

**'There's a Red House over yonder'** (© Jimi Hendrix. It's a blues song - Ed)

By the time you good folk are reading this, and subject to Covid-19 compliance, the Red House Cone will already have been reopened. (*Official date 1<sup>st</sup> August - Ed*)

Jane Lamine, Business Operations Manager at Dudley MBC tells us:

*'The past few months have been a difficult time for everyone, and I appreciate that normal is very long time away. However, I want to reassure everyone that we will do everything we can to support our traders and gain back customer confidence in visiting the site'.*

Good luck to all at RHC.

## Teach yourself Espanol

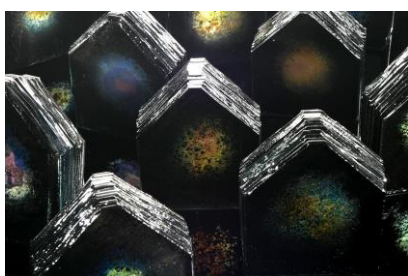
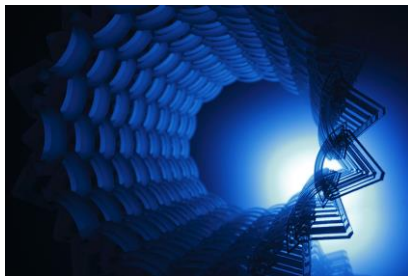


You'll need to if you wish to read the latest edition of the impressively glossy *Objetos Con Vidrio*, or at least switch on the translator at the top of the page. We'll save you the trouble in deciphering it as *Art Glass Objects* but can tell you that threaded between the lines of mellifluous Mediterranean-speak are the decidedly more recognisable names of Stuart Crystal, Thomas Webb, Royal Brierley, Stourbridge Art College, International Glass Centre, Helen Millard, Elliot Walker, British Glass Foundation and many more, all of which carry their own *gravitas* in whatever tongue they appear.

And, staring in contemplation from the header page, camera in hand, is someone else who needs no translation across his own specialist world of glass photography. Simon Bruntnell, for it is he - [www.bruntnell-astley.com](http://www.bruntnell-astley.com) - has

illustrated the piece with a complementary array of shots that are, as usual, simply stunning.

Evidently the great names from both the past and present still exert influence across the globe and, with the current crop of new practitioners in the ascendancy through reportage like this, it only serves to reinforce our long-held faith that the Stourbridge Glass industry is on the very cusp of a great revival. As critic Barry Norman used to say: 'And why not?' <http://www.objetosconvidrio.com/>



## Flicking through the leaves

Now this internet-thingy is all well and good but, at the end of the day, there is nothing quite like riffling through the pages of a good old-fashioned book. And, if your taste happens to be books on glass then here's your big opportunity. With thanks to the various individuals and organisations who have made various donations of books - from which we have, of course, selected our favourites for the eventual BGF research facility – we have a surfeit for disposal.

We are currently in the process of cataloguing them for inclusion on Facebook etc, but if you would like to know in the meantime what's on offer then contact BGF via the usual address and we will advise you. All funds raised will, of course, go to BGF coffers.

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

*'Wise man will question everything he reads on internet' - Confucius*

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. (*Temporarily suspended due to lockdown; back in due course - Ed*)



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



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Investing in Your Future  
European Regional  
Development Fund 2007-13



... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enovert Community Trust, Ibstock Enovert 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.

– *fin* –

### *Disclaimer*

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.



British Glass Foundation

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