

A 'welcome to more people joining us' edition

Welcome aboard (1)

The BGF Trustees are delighted to announce that Deborah Kermode, CEO and artistic Director at Midlands Arts Centre based in Cannon Hill Park, has accepted an invitation to become a Director of BGF Trading Ltd, the recently-founded trading arm of the British Glass Foundation.

Deborah joined Midlands Arts Centre in August 2016, prior to which she was Deputy Director at the internationally acclaimed Ikon Gallery, Birmingham. Previous roles include Director of Bright Space, an arts education charity that delivered the Creative Partnerships programme for Birmingham, to improve the skills of children and young people through cultural opportunities by raising aspirations, achievements and life chances.



Deborah's curatorial background saw her lead Ikon's off-site programme and act as producer for organisations including Fierce Festival, Birmingham Opera Company, RSC and Supersonic Festival, bringing programmes as diverse as opera, live art and heavy metal music to younger audiences in more innovative public situations. Deborah is also currently a Trustee of Supersonic and a member of the executive board of Culture Central.

BGF Chairman Graham Knowles said: *'Deborah's extensive experience will prove invaluable in the development of our trading arm that is in turn a key element in our plans.'*

Welcome aboard (2)

Those aforementioned plans also include a substantial bolstering of our PR and marketing which, in view of an opening date for [WHCmog](#) looming ever closer, now requires the ministrations of the professionals. We interviewed several and they were all darned good - our sincere thanks to all of those who tendered - but some hard decisions had to be made. So, after extensive interviewing and paring-down of the candidates, BGF has chosen to engage the services of BORN Communication of Wolverhampton.

They're sharp, they're in the zone and if you take a look at <https://www.borncommunication.co.uk> you'll see why we like them. We are confident that Ricky and the team at BORN will help us in our express aim of being amongst the best of the best in the *Wonderful World of Glass*^{©GF}

Welcome aboard (3)

Talking of opening dates, we currently have a mighty fine gallery here at [WHCmog](#) that - prior to this pesky bug problem - has already hosted several fine shows, been a venue of the International Festival of Glass and is home to a resident glassblower. Oh, not forgetting a top-notch photographer who specialises in taking images of glass. Plus all sorts of other bits and bobs. It's really all going in the forward direction at a rate of knots. But it is still not yet an *Accredited Museum* that can house the world-renowned Stourbridge Glass collection.

We hope to be correcting that *erratum* in the not-too-distant-future when we will appoint a design and internal fit-out team. It's expensive, but don't fret; as reported in previous *GlassCuts* we have the 'readies' sitting in the bank courtesy of our grant from the Heritage Fund (for which many thanks HF).

All we have to do now is get somebody to spend it for us. We're working on it. Watch this space.

Keeping in touch

We now have lines of external communication that extend deep into the pulsing heart of [White House Cone museum of glass](#). Here's the update for your diary ...

Museum Director Ollie Buckley

Direct Line: 01384 431760

Mobile: 07483 157242

Email: museumdirector@whcmog.org.uk

BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn

Direct Line: 01384 431761

Mobile: 07747 563623

Email: bjf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Or info@whcmog.org.uk

Both by snail-mail at:

White House Cone Museum of Glass, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

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.

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.

Harley tales

We are always happy to support our colleagues in the Stourbridge Glass quarter in whatever way we can and occasionally this may take us down some rather beguiling avenues. So, when photographer Mandy Hunter recently invited me to her studio at Glasshouse College down in deepest sunny Amblecote (*focal point, of course, for the International Festival of Glass*) to partake in something very different from the more usual affairs-of-glass, I was particularly delighted to assist.

Mandy, y'see, is not only a dab hand behind the lens she is also ace when it comes to offering a helping hand to special needs folk who are looking to better their life chances. She introduced me to Graham Butcher, let's call him that for indeed it is his name, a young man who is looking to expand his own portfolio in order to find work as a photographer. And that Graham, like this Graham, happens to like motorbikes. The result? Judge for yourself from just this one shot out of socially-distanced dozens but personally I think he has the knack. Good luck to him and congratulations to Mandy in successfully passing on her skills. <https://www.hunterandday.co.uk>



Would you believe it?

Ian Dury, now retired but still up to his neck in glassy-stuff, tells us with some incredulity that recently it was, amazingly, nine years to the day since the blanks were blown for his epic Portland Vase project (*for which your Editor was the official biographer - just thought I'd mention that, 'cos the book is still on sale at WHCmog with proceeds to BGF*),.

Hmmm, so that gives us twelve months to plan a celebratory 'big bash' for the tenth anniversary of this remarkable undertaking.

Any suggestions? Usual address. Ta.



Living la vida lockdown, part 7

* More *Dispatches From The Attic* and other news from CGS, including an upgraded website. www.cgs.org.uk

* Alan J. Poole newsletter. alanjpoole@aol.com

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

Do you wear both glasses and a protective mask? You may be entitled to condensation.

I'll get my coat.

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 '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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... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enovert Community Trust, Istock 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/

Follow us on *Facebook* and *Twitter*



<https://m.facebook.com/The-White-House-Cone-Museum-of-Glass-1783619608579416/>



<https://twitter.com/whitehousecone>

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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



www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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