

GlassCuts

The Journal of the British Glass Foundation



white house cone
MUSEUM OF GLASS

Edition: 172
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Happy New Year edition



Come and join us

A very Happy New Year to you all. We start 2021 as we mean to carry on with the latest in a burgeoning line of positive developments ...

BGF is looking to appoint three - yes, *three* - new team members to help us get the job done:

Curator & Projects Officer
Learning & Public Programmes Officer
Volunteer co-ordinator

All posts are part-time; full details including application forms are on the BGF website and can be individually accessed by clicking here:

<https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/part-time-curator-projects-officer/>

<https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/part-time-learning-public-programmes-officer/>

<https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/volunteer-co-ordinator/>

Closing date for applications for all posts is 5:00pm on 7th February 2021.

Continuing support

As reported in previous GCs The Glass Association and The Glass Circle merged in 2019 to become The Glass Society. In whatever guise, be it Association, Circle or now the Society, the British Glass Foundation has been blessed with their support from the outset. For which, of course, we are hugely grateful. So we are truly delighted to announce that Membership Secretary Maurice Wimporly has advised us that The Glass Society has pledged its support by extending our membership for the next three years.

This excellent news comes at a critical time of our development and bolsters our confidence in the faith that the wider glass world has in us getting the job done. To all at The Glass Society, we thank you greatly and offer our best wishes for your own success through 2021 and beyond.

Fundraising at the museum



Owing to the vagaries of deadlines we regret that we did not have the opportunity to tell you before Christmas this was all happening, but we can now relate actually happened in the run up to the Big Day. Even better, we'll let resident glass-man Allister Malcolm tell you himself.

Now please bear in mind he sent us this before Christmas, so it will now all be in the past tense. Except for the 'donation here' bit - you can still support the project.

Al says: *'We are running a fundraiser for The Good Shepherd Services. (* see below - Ed)*

We are in real time developing a piece to give away as a prize - and donations are already coming in. We will be posting daily progress reports within our Advent calendar (as reported last GC - Ed). £5 per entry to our draw - we will randomly select a winner - to be announced on Christmas Eve on Facebook. The aim is to provide a compassionate, supportive and caring service to assist the poor, homeless and socially isolated of our community.

Watch the inspiration behind the idea (2 mins):

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/2t3rzuxa71jxzpo/Advent%20door%2018.mp4?dl=0>

Donate here:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/911953579341119>

Links to all social media feeds here to follow the progress:

<https://linktr.ee/allistermalcolm>

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/0h9xrlduhr69hor/Advent%20Door%2022.mp4?dl=0>

<https://fb.watch/2SCodv2qXy/>

For anyone wishing to donate but without access to Facebook - contact us directly.'

As at the time of writing Al and his team have so far raised northwards of £1,000. Magnificent.

(*) The Good Shepherd was established in 2003 by the Brothers of Saint John of God to address poverty, homelessness and inequality in Wolverhampton. The Brothers have been involved in supporting the community in Wolverhampton for over 30 years. Today they volunteer their time to support our service users and assist the day to day running of the centre. After starting as a soup kitchen supporting a few hundred individuals the Good Shepherd grew to a service that provides support services, hot meals, and food parcels to over 3500 registered clients.



Well done, that man

Congratulations to Colonel Bill Chesshyre MA who has become the latest incumbent as Master of The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers. A fulsome and most illuminating biography on the man and his career can be found by clicking here:

<https://www.glass-sellers.co.uk/news/members-in-the-news-new-master-colonel-bill-chesshyre-ma/>

Crystal tones

This is so seriously off the wall we just had to include it here and we are most grateful to our Museum Director Ollie Buckley for drawing it to our attention. You know that parlour trick where you can moisten your finger, rub it round the top of a glass and generate a note? Oh come on, we've all done it. Well, Benjamin Franklin - he of lightning storm electricity fame - went one further and actually produced a musical instrument based on the same principle. It is called an *Armonica*, from the Italian for 'harmony' and consists of a series of rotating glass bowls where the application of the fingers can result in up to ten notes being produced either singly or in chromatic sequences and chords.



It looks a nightmare to play and doesn't fit anywhere within the family of 'standard' instruments. But here's the amazing part - whereas in your parlour trick you can put water into the glass to alter the pitch of the note, the Armonica has pre-set tones. Which means the glass not only has to be blown and fashioned, it also has to be set pitch perfect. Little wonder that the curious example on this YouTube link suggests the instrument requires the attentions of a 'master glassblower'.

Click here to be amazed: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdtLK9pAh5k> then *read all abaht it* at www.fi.edu/history-resources/franklins-glass-armonica

If anyone based in the UK can play the armonica please get in touch.

In memoriam

We were saddened to learn of the death of Jennifer Batty who died following injuries sustained in a car crash on the morning of December 18th. The 59 year old was hit by a car in Brettell Lane whilst walking her dog. Jenny latterly ran school uniform shop Totally Uniform in Kingswinford but will be known to many in the glass world from her years at Stuart Crystal in the 1970s and 80s and it was indeed former Stuart man Ian Dury who first brought the sad news to our attention.

Describing her as 'a much-respected member of staff' Ian knew Jenny from the time she worked in the Sandblast department at Stuart Crystal and was promoted to Sandblasting Supervisor. She then went into the corporate sales section where she provided an essential link between the production team and sales.

On behalf of BGF we extend our commiserations to husband Gavin and family. More tributes at: www.stourbridgenews.co.uk/news/18968992.tributes-paid-ablecote-crash-victim-jenny-batty/

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.

Living la vida lockdown, part 12

- * More *Dispatches From The Attic* and other news from CGS. www.cgs.org.uk
- * *Cambridge Invitational Art Contest & Exhibition 2021*. Call for entries. www.camartcontest.com

From the **WHCmog** Hot Studio:

Fundraising for The Good Shepherd (see main feature, above).

Just a reminder in these troubled times

If you've got something 'glassy' to say and you want it said to somebody else, consider sending it to us and we'll do our best to help pass the information via *GlassCuts*. Usual address.

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

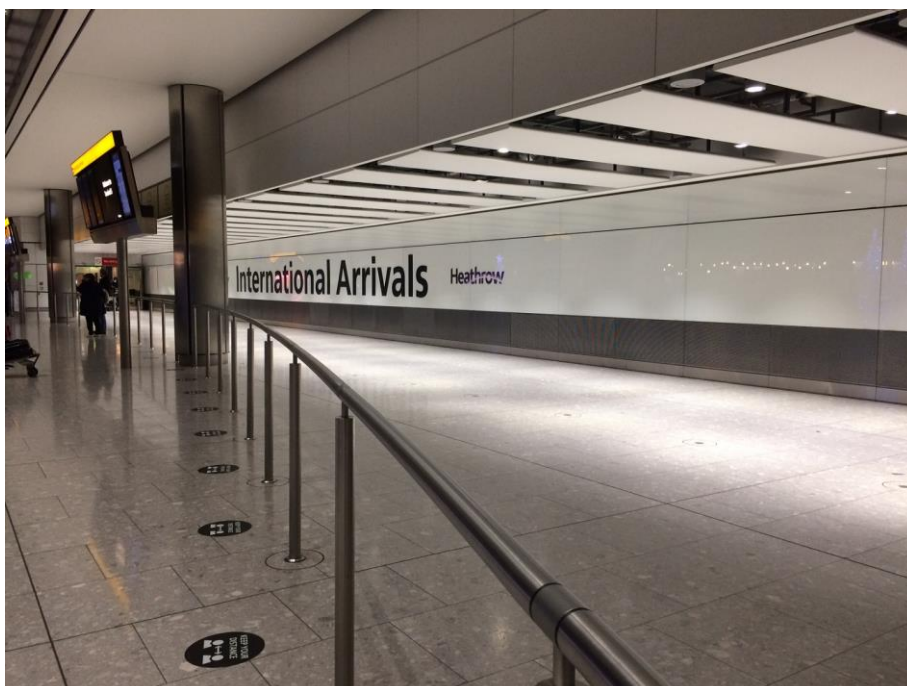
'Hallo listeners. My new year's resolution is to never again let anyone tell me what to do. Just look at Beethoven. Everyone told him he would never be a musician because he was deaf. But did he listen?'

I'll get my coat.

Graham Fisher MBE
Press & Publicity,
pp British Glass Foundation
www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

Postscript. All quiet

The pandemic has caused considerable changes to our way of life, epitomised in this image taken by BGF Secretary Lynn showing what is normally a crammed Heathrow Airport.



Let us hope that 2021 brings us the optimism that things can only get better.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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)*

Keeping in touch with *White House Cone museum of glass*

Museum Director Ollie Buckley

Direct Line: 01384 431760: Mobile: 07483 157242

Email: museumdirector@whcmog.org.uk

BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE

Direct Line: 01384 431761: Mobile: 07747 563623

Email: bgf@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



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



British Glass Foundation

www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk

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