

'Light at the end of the tunnel' edition

One to watch



We are grateful to The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London <https://www.glass-sellers.co.uk> for their 2021 'Dates for your diary' and note with interest the 'Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers Charity Fund, Michael Nathan Glass Engravers Lecture' which is to be delivered on 11th February 2021 via zoom by renowned glass engraver Katharine Coleman MBE. We are advised that further details will be forthcoming; in the meantime check out Katharine's stunning work at <https://katharinecoleman.co.uk>

Congratulations

News from the Contemporary Glass Society that the Amanda Moriarty Prize for 2021 has been awarded to Calum Dawes. He says: *'I'm really grateful for this opportunity, it will allow me to explore the body work I have been developing throughout lockdown and this year in general. Hopefully I can produce something really exciting with the support of CGS and Devereux & Huskie (sponsors - Ed). Can't think of a better way to start 2021!'*

By coincidence Calum is an alumnus of my old Alma Mater up t'north in Sunderland (*albeit I was there 45 years ahead of him! - Ed*) graduating in 2019 with a BA Glass & Ceramics. He won third place at the Contemporary Glass Society 2019 glass prize and was featured in the New Graduate Review 2019, sponsored by the aforementioned Worshipful Company.



Oh, and an update from CGS that their regular Wednesday talks are now available on their website for CGS members. www.cgs.org.uk

A reminder

BGF recently invited applications for our post of Curator, Learning Officer and Volunteer Co-Ordinator at the new museum. If you feel this could be the role for you then do remember the closing dates for applications is close of play on Sunday 7th February.

Details at <https://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/j0b-vacancies/> or via our usual contact details ('Keeping in touch' *below*).

Where in the world - an appeal



I declare an interest in this one since Dr Kate Round kateround.com and I shared many a platform during our early days as Outreach Workers for Dudley Museum Service. She has made a speciality of women in the glass industry but her expertise does not stop there. Kate is still a tour guide at Red House Cone but she is also now working as a part of a group within BGF. When Kate sets her sights on something she has a tendency to go flat-out. Here she is at her most enthusiastic

'Hello Graham. I am part of the design team working on some of the permanent displays for the new Glass Museum.'

One project will illustrate 'Where have our glassmakers gone?' There must be many of your readers working in contemporary glass, studio glass, commercial glass ... who have a history connected to Stourbridge. This is a shout-out to those who are willing to share information that I can use.

Who are you?

What is your connection to Stourbridge?

What is your work/style/medium?

Where in the world are you?

And would you share photographs of you and your work?

If you can answer these questions and are prepared to send me a very brief bio together with a few high resolution images (credited if used) you may well find fame/infamy in our new museum.

Here in Stourbridge we are fiercely proud of our industry and our heritage ... I want this to continue as a legacy for the future. Years ago many things were not recorded; help me change this.'

Do I hear the sound of a gauntlet being thrown down. Rise to the challenge, friends and contact Kate direct at kateround.round@gmail.com

In memoriam

We are greatly saddened to learn of the death of Fred Bridges, who passed away peacefully in Somerset in the early hours of Thursday 28th January, just a few days shy of his 96th birthday.

After a lifetime in the Stourbridge glass industry Fred's tendrils spread deep into the past and there are countless glass *artistes* out there, some of them now household names, who owe much to Fred both in his time as a practitioner and in his later years as an instructor at the Glass Centre. A local lad and 'one o' we' by extraction, Fred continued to live in our area even after his dear wife Thelma died in 2014. Son Richard informs us how Fred regularly walked around Ridge Wood and remained fiercely self-sufficient until well past 90 when age began to take its toll, necessitating a move southward to be nearer his family.



Richard has offered us a few words, which *per se* are a charming and fitting epitaph to the man: *'Obviously it is a sad event, because it is the end of a long and well filled life. But I don't think he had any real regrets, and I have only many, many happy memories. All who met him seemed to be charmed by him, and he leaves only friends behind.'*

Fred's funeral will take place in Somerset on 16th February at 1:30. Attendance will, of course, be restricted due to the covid pandemic so proceedings are being streamed live, for which Richard will offer a link in due course. In view of Fred's provenance within the glass world Richard has graciously suggested donations to the new White House Cone museum would be appropriate, for which many thanks from all at BGF.

Our sincere condolences to Richard and family and friends, together with all those who knew or who were touched by this gifted man of glass. Fred Bridges, glassman and teacher 1925 - 2021. R.I.P.

Not this time, maybe next

Bittersweet news from our friend Christina Glover at Specialist Glass Fairs. The bad news is that - guess why - their May event is definitely cancelled. But the good news is she is optimistic that should the Covid tide turn in our favour, the November 2021 event *might* go ahead. Watch this space for further details or keep up to date via www.nationalglassfair.com/

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 13

- * *More Dispatches From The Attic* and other news from CGS. (see feature above)
Hands across the World international online exhibition to mid-Feb 2021. www.cgs.org.uk
- * *Alan J. Poole monthly newsletter* March edn. Also death in November 2020 of Sam Herman, pioneering contemporary glass artist and historian. alanjpoole@aol.com

From the **WHCmog** Hot Studio:

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 ...

'Always verify the accuracy of what you may read on the internet' - Aristotle

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*)

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: bqf@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, Enover Community Trust, Istock 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/

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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