



GlassCuts

The informal email bulletin of the British Glass Foundation
Issue No: 76 Dated: 15.9.15

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*Terri Malcolm and Teresa Belmont
Photography by Simon Bruntnell*

A Special 'Beginning of a New Era' Edition **WHITE HOUSE IS GO!**

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We done good - and a thank you

Well, that's the easy bit over. The ERDF bid to develop the White House site at Wordsley has been granted; all we have to do now is build, stock, run and maintain the bloomin' thing. No pressure there, then.

Media coverage has been extensive and work is already well under way so there seems little point here in reinventing the wheel by repeating what is now high up in the public domain, other than to acknowledge everyone concerned for helping us get this far. The list is a lengthy one but chief amongst them, Ladies and Gentlemen, is your good selves. So, on behalf of the BGF we give a sincere and huge '*Thank You*' to everyone who has supported our efforts in facilitating the creation of what we intend will be a world-class showcase for the talents and skills of the Stourbridge Glass industry that simultaneously celebrates our glorious heritage, promotes contemporary practitioners and emboldens innovation way into the future.

This is a giant leap forward and so, not surprisingly, there needs to be a few fine tweaks to your fave-rave glass fanzine to accommodate the new direction. Our output from here onwards will increasingly reflect the momentous changes that are destined to take place in and around the *Wordsley Square Mile*^{®GF} - that, after all, is and always has been our primary objective. However, through the medium of *GlassCuts* (a unique publication which is, according to my mate down the pub, still officially number 1 in a field of 1) and other outlets including www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk, the British Glass Foundation will continue to support the wider *Wonderful World of Glass*^{®GF} and its practitioners and will be proud to maintain and develop its role as an umbrella organization that lauds glass in all its variants wherever it is made and used.

We will also continue to work alongside and support our colleagues out there in *Glassville*^{®GF} both across our current range of platforms and any others that may present themselves. So do please keep your messages, promotions, flyers, news, events and feedback coming in via the usual channels.

Together, we can do this. But without you, Dear Reader, we might as well all go home. So again, a heartfelt **'Thank You'** again for your continuing support.



Good morning from Corning

By the time you read this, glass artisan and BGF Trustee Allister Malcolm will be next to fellow maestro Helen Millard up to their necks in molten silica somewhere within the hallowed environs of the Corning Museum of Glass over there in sunny Corning, NY. We have been covering this for some while now but anyone who has been living under a rock for the past few months can glean the whole picture at www.cmog.org/bio/allister-malcolm

Allister and Helen are due back from the USA sometime after 21st September, doubtless armed with many a tale to tell if you want to stand them a beer. This will also allow Allister time to buff up his doodles (*to do what? - Ed*) in time for the grand auction at Fieldings on 24th October. Again, we have blitzed this one extensively but if you managed to miss it all so far you can make amends at <http://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk/auctions>

Talking of Allister's *Doodles* project, it has proved to be bigger than anyone, including Allister, could ever have imagined and he has assuredly already secured his place in BGF folklore with this caper. Yet he is not one to rest on his laurels. Now you know I'm not one for spreading rumours but word is on the street that this might not be the last you hear of him and his super-doper-doodlings. Watch this space.



Scottish connections

Pam Reekie of the Contemporary Glass Society (CGS) has sent us news of a collaboration with our glassy colleagues north of the border:

Connections, a CGS exhibition in partnership with The Scottish Gallery, is your chance to participate in an exhibition of contemporary glass at a leading UK gallery in the heart of Edinburgh.

Exhibition dates are 4th- 28th May 2016 with the closing date for submissions approaching rapidly on 16th October 2015. And the reason behind all of this? Pam goes on to explain ...

'In 2016 North Lands Creative Glass celebrates its 20th anniversary. This physically small and geographically remote organization has achieved a phenomenal amount over the last two decades. To acknowledge North Land's anniversary CGS will present an exhibition of CGS members' work exploring the theme of connections. These connections may relate directly to North Lands Creative Glass, to Scotland or to more personal collaborations inspiring work in glass.'

Applications can be downloaded from <http://www.cgs.org.uk/news/call-artists-exhibition-scottish-gallery-2016>. Non-members of CGS can join via www.cgs.org.uk. As well as becoming eligible to apply to take part in this exhibition new members will become part of a dynamic contemporary glass community and receive valuable membership benefits.

Money matters

Our thanks to Mr. M of Lancashire for his gracious donation and kind comments of support. Much obliged, Sir.

Please note: In recognizing donors and acknowledging their support, *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.

As we enter the next phase of establishing the new White House facility BGF would also like to advise potential donors of our re-appointment of Igor the Axe-man, the BGF h-enforcer with the h-unspecified speech h-impediment and severely limited h-intellect. He's tough but he ain't too bright, so please dig deep and keep Igor sweet, friends.

Dates for your diary

Events & Exhibitions at Broadfield House Glass Museum

www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/glass-museum/

See *Friends*, below

Events and Exhibitions at Red House Glass Cone

www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/

All quiet at the mo'.

Elsewhere around the highways and byways of Glassville^{®GF}

11th October 2015

Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2AX

Glass Fair @ Knebworth (*featured GC70*)

www.cambridgeglassfair.com, info@specialistglassfairs.com 07887 762872

24th October 2015

Fieldings Auctioneers, Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN

Decades of Design, featuring items for auction arising from the Allister Malcolm Doodles project, with project proceeds to BGF (*see feature above and GCs passim*)

<http://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk/>

22nd November 2015

National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Solihull B92 0EJ

National Glass Fair (*featured GC66*)

OxbridgeFairs@aol.com

4th- 28th May 2016

Connections

CGS Exhibition in partnership with The Scottish Gallery

16 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 6HZ. (*see feature above*)

www.cgs.org.uk

From Friends of BHGM

Events are usually held at Broadfield House Glass Museum unless otherwise stated. Costs vary. www.friendsofbroadfieldhouse.co.uk or brbeadman@yahoo.co.uk 07702 565265.

Bulletin Board

Since *GlassCuts* was last on air we have also been notified of ...

National Glass Centre email

Promoting various and diverse glassmaking activities for all ages. A subsequent news release describes how the museum has smashed its target of 200,000 visitors ahead of schedule and for the second year running, making it one of the most popular tourist venues in the Northeast. www.nationalglasscentre.com

Neon Workshops email

Guts, an exhibition by Jochen Holz/Richard William Wheater. Runs to 19th September 2015. neonworkshops@gmail.com

Alan J. Poole's Glass Newsletter, September edn. alanjpoole@ajpglass.co.uk

Friends of Station Glass Open Day 17th October 2015 at Shenton Station CV13 0LZ. RSVP before 9th October to richardgolding@stationglass.com or 01455 290799

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

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

The White House survey (featured GC58)

Please now spare few moments to click on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/96BDTV7> and complete the survey form. Thanks.



These are the QR codes for the British Glass Foundation (left) and Virgin Money Giving (right).

Scanning with a suitably enabled mobile or hand-held device will escort you directly to the websites, where you can either browse the work of the BGF or make a donation.

Devices of recent manufacture will most likely already have the necessary software built in. Older devices may require a download, usually free. If difficulties are encountered, contact your provider and not, please, BGF.



Disclaimers 'n stuff

A seasoned traveller I met as an impressionable youngster assured me that he had once encountered an animal with a trunk that hopped and grunted. He convinced me he had discovered the mythical Kangarelepig. I later learnt he had been taken away by some nice men in white coats and given a room in a special hotel with lovely soft padding on the walls. But his tales of exotic creatures left a deep impression in my *psyche*, so I thought I would dedicate this *Disclaimer* to the wonderful world of animals.

GlassCuts is the *ad hoc* email bulletin of the PDSA (Permanent Dystopia for Sad Authors), also known as the Editorial Team at *GlassCuts Towers*. It is compiled by a team of disqualified vets and has no other function than to save the greater-crested newt from the ravages of environmental degradation only to see it flattened by the tyre of an Eddie Stobart truck, evaluate how that mutt out of Scooby Doo manages to talk perfect English and even perhaps say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure an accurate answer as to why the dwarf mud-covered chicken crossed the road and crossed back again (*was it because he was a low-down dirty double-crosser?* - Ed) no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual pussy-cats apply*).

This email is sent to you from where I live in Whales (*You're an idiot - Ed*) and solely on the basis that you appear on our list of endangered readers.

If you do not wish to receive further *GlassCuts* then either confuse your gerbil by putting his treadmill on a left-hand thread, or send an email marked: *'I love the Giant Panda, we had one last Christmas and the flesh fell off the bone'* to bgf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk. A brief indication as to why we are no longer your favourite horse-whisperers would be appreciated. And if you can take this one message away with you, just remember that Algebra isn't an animal with stripes from the Middle East and you'll be OK when next visiting Baghdad.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone whom you feel may be vaguely interested in our two and four-legged charm offensive. Similarly, if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our fellow *animalistas* then send it to BGF at the usual address.

Must dash now to try and find my missing dog. If you see him he is neutered, blind in one eye, has lost a leg and had his nose, tail and ears bitten off in a fight. Give him a loud shout for me please, because he's deaf as well; he answers to the name of 'Lucky'.

I'll leave you with this wonderful piece of wisdom from Homer (not *that* Homer, this is Dennis Homer, who drinks in my local pub) when he proclaims sagely in his intoxication: *'Give a man a fish and you'll feed him for a day. Give a dog a Thornton's toffee and you'll see your pants laughing for a good two hours'*. Yeah, right. Don't try that at home, kids.



We conclude this commemorative edition with a few specially commissioned words from the BGF Poet Laureate:

Oh, White House, my White House
The new home
Of glass
I'm really
So chuffed
I could kiss your sweet
Brickwork

Henry Boyd Gibson the 3rd (1835 – 1991. RIP)