

# GlassCuts

The journal of the British Glass Foundation

[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk)

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British Glass Foundation

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## WHITE HOT

### How it looks right now

The latest imagery through the lens of BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE



### New venue; prestigious meeting

BGF are delighted to announce that the Glass Association [www.glassassociation.org.uk](http://www.glassassociation.org.uk) will be holding their 2016 AGM at *White House Cone - museum of glass*.

The date of the AGM meeting is Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October but Andy McConnell and Eric Knowles will be speaking at a fundraiser on the previous evening (14<sup>th</sup>), when these two old friends will share memories and banter over 'Six of the Best' which, as the name suggests, represents six of their favourite pieces of glass. Andy is then staying over to speak again on the Saturday.

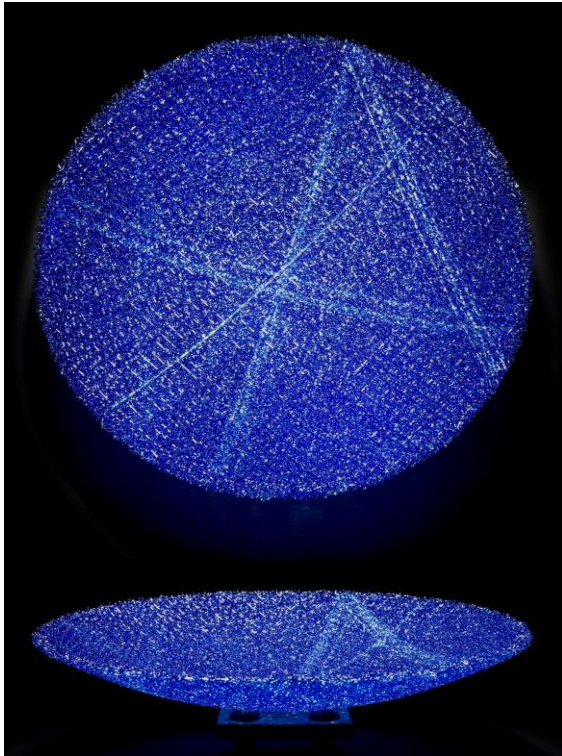
Also included on the programme for the Saturday afternoon are BGF Chairman Graham Knowles, Resident Glassmaker Allister Malcolm and your Editor who between them will be presenting a comprehensive overview of the new museum.

We are grateful to the Glass Association for inviting us to undertake this and also for their kind consideration in asking us to host the event.

Booking is essential and full details can be found either on the Glass Association website cited above or via 0121354 4100.

## RICH MIXTURE

### Thief alert



We are saddened to bring the distressing news of the theft of *Diorama - Straddling the Stratosphere* by Cathryn Shilling.

If you have any information, you know what to do. Cathryn can be contacted on 07940 708275 or via [www.cathrynshilling.co.uk](http://www.cathrynshilling.co.uk)

In somewhat happier vein, this gives us opportunity to promote Cathryn's work. She tells us:  
*I will be exhibiting in the Craft Council curated British Craft Pavilion at London Design Fair, 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Old Truman Brewery, 91 Brick Lane, London E1 6QL*

*My exhibitions also include:*

*Summer Show 2016: Weave 16<sup>th</sup> July – 11<sup>th</sup> September, Craft in the Bay Gallery, Cardiff*

*International Glass Art 2016: 6<sup>th</sup> August –*

*3<sup>rd</sup> October, Waldmuseum, Zwiesel, Germany*

*Black to White & Back Again CGS Exhibition at London Glassblowing:*

*16<sup>th</sup> September - 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016, The London Glassblowing Gallery, 62-066 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3UD*

*Cloaked - A film about the work of Cathryn Shilling is available at <https://vimeo.com/174716876>*

BGF extends best wishes to Cathryn and our hope for good fortune in finding her missing piece.

### Lucky dip

Chris Blade, Managing Director of Cumbria Crystal, informs us that the company is looking to offer an acid polishing service for UK based glass artists or manufacturers working with lead crystal.

This will initially be on an experimental basis to ascertain demand. Contact Chris on 01229 584400 or via [www.cumbriacrystal.com](http://www.cumbriacrystal.com)

### New Chief Up North

North Lands Creative Glass has announced the appointment of Karen Phillips as its new Chief Executive as from 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016. The position is supported by *Creative Scotland* and *Highlands and Islands Enterprise*.

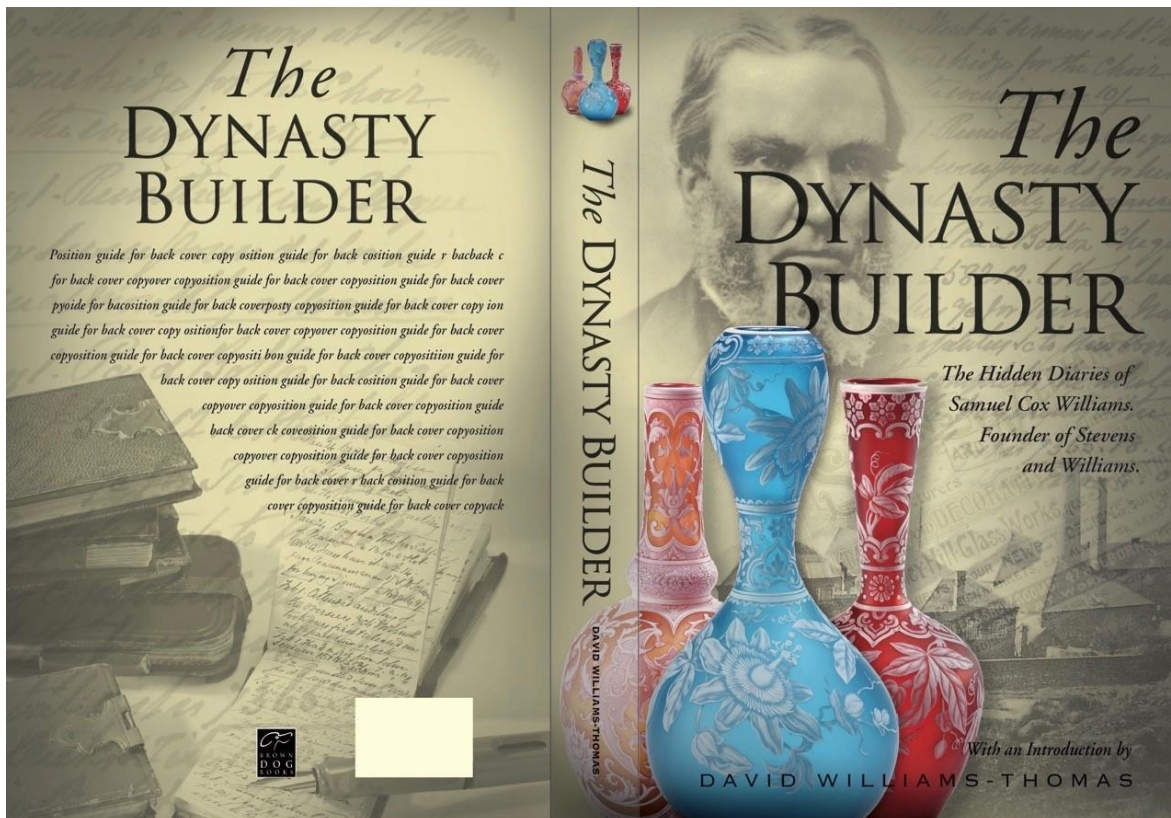
Karen has recently been Executive Director of RUA RED South Dublin Arts Centre Company, an award winning centre of contemporary arts practice incorporating artist studios, incubation spaces, art galleries, performance and rehearsal spaces and workshop activity rooms. Previous roles include Craft Development Officer at An Tuireann Arts Centre on the Isle of Skye, Development Manager at the Glasgow Sculpture Studios and Development Manager at the Creative Enterprise Office of Louth Enterprise Board. [www.northlandsglass.com](http://www.northlandsglass.com)

### Thank you

Much obliged to Luke Fowler and colleagues at Stourbridge Library, together with an audience numbering towards fifty in total, who made your Editor so welcome for his presentation 'A New Home' (for the Stourbridge Glass collection) on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August. The new [White House Cone - museum of glass](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/libraries-museum-of-glass) deserves promoting at every opportunity and I am thus most grateful to Luke for his invitation to do so in such a public setting. <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/libraries-archives/libraries/find-a-library/stourbridge-library/>

**New book: *The Dynasty Builder***

David Williams-Thomas, our BGF Patron, has a distinguished career as Chairman and CEO of Royal Brierley Crystal, formerly Stevens & Williams. He is thus the ideal man to enlighten us on all matters RB/S&W. No surprise, therefore, that he is about to launch a book based on the life of one of his forebears. We let David take up the story ...



*'My book is based on the diaries of one of the principal protagonists in the Victorian handmade glass industry, Samuel Cox Williams - the Dynasty Builder. Samuel lived near Stourbridge for forty years, founding Stevens and Williams in 1846 and building it into the most important Art Glass manufacturer in the world.*

*The work is principally about Samuel, his business and family life and is based on the diaries he kept from 1869-1883. The diaries have been hidden in the company archives until now and are transcribed in full as part of the book. It also covers the history of the firm from the end of this period up to 1998, when the family's involvement in the business finished. As Samuel's great-great-grandson, and the sixth generation to be involved, I ran the firm (which later became Royal Brierley Crystal) throughout my working life. Using public and private company and family archives, as well as personal memories, the book traces the history of the firm and the family from 1846 to 1998, with particular reference to the period of Samuel's diaries.'*

Watch this space for further details of the book launch and availability.



STOP PRESS +++ STOP PRESS +++



We are delighted to welcome Chloe Winter-Taylor in her new role as Keeper of Glass & Fine Art for Dudley Museums Service.

A full profile will appear in a future edition of *GlassCuts*.

## CRYSTAL CALENDAR

### ***White House Cone - museum of glass***

16<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (all day, and preceding evening)  
AGM Glass Association, with guest speakers (*featured above*)  
Booking and more information: [www.glassassociation.org.uk](http://www.glassassociation.org.uk)

### ***Red House Glass Cone***

As always, Red House Glass Cone has a jam-packed programme of exhibitions and events running throughout the season. The list is extensive so for details click here for a pdf download: <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/EasysiteWeb/getresource.axd?AssetID=280652&type=full&servicetype=Attachment> or visit <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/>

### ***Ruskin Glass Centre***

See <http://ruskinglasscentre.co.uk/events/>

### ***Elsewhere around Glassville***<sup>®GF</sup>

12<sup>th</sup> September 2016 - 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
*Exhibition:* The life and work of stained-glass artist Margaret Agnes Rope (*featured GC85*)  
Shrewsbury Museum, The Square, Shrewsbury SY1 1LH.  
[www.shrewsburymuseum.org.uk/events/?c24event=EVENT532611](http://www.shrewsburymuseum.org.uk/events/?c24event=EVENT532611)

16<sup>th</sup> September - 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
*Black to white and back again*  
Contemporary Glass Society exhibition hosted by London Glassblowing (*featured GC81*)  
<http://londonglassblowing.co.uk/exhibition/black-to-white-back-again/>

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016  
*The Glass Fair @ Knebworth* (*featured GC83*)  
Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2AX. 10:30am - 4:00pm. Admission £5.  
[www.nationalglassfair.com](http://www.nationalglassfair.com) [info@specialistglassfairs.com](mailto:info@specialistglassfairs.com) or 07887 762872

13<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
*The National Glass Fair* (*featured GC83*)  
National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull, West Midlands B92 0EJ. 10:30am - 4:00pm.  
[www.nationalglassfair.com](http://www.nationalglassfair.com) [info@specialistglassfairs.com](mailto:info@specialistglassfairs.com) or 07887 762872

## PARISH NOTICES

*Transition: Edinburgh College of Art Alumni Glass Exhibition.* Retrospective of the ECA Glass Programme. 16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at ECA, Edinburgh EH3 9DF. Runs alongside *North Lands 20 Conference* at same venue, 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>. [www.eca.ed.ac.uk](http://www.eca.ed.ac.uk)

*Benefit Auction.* In support of International Summer Academy Bild-Werk Frauenau. 100 art works, 70 artists, 22 countries. 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016. <http://www.bild-werk-benefit.de/>

*Cumbria Crystal* sponsor and produce the winner's trophy for the 2016 Tour of Britain cycle race. [www.cumbriacrack.com/2016/08/16/cumbria-crystal-brings-touch-class-final-tour-britain-podium/](http://www.cumbriacrack.com/2016/08/16/cumbria-crystal-brings-touch-class-final-tour-britain-podium/)

*Neus Glas-New Glass: art & architecture.* Calls for submissions for November 2016 edition. Back issues also available online. [info@neuesglas-newglass.com](mailto:info@neuesglas-newglass.com)

*Gillies Jones promotional release.* Field Poppy bowl, limited edition of 100, hand blown, hand engraved, signed dated and numbered. [studio@gilliesjonesglass.co.uk](mailto:studio@gilliesjonesglass.co.uk)

*A.J Poole monthly newsletter.* Eclectic and comprehensive mix of exhibitions, open studios, fairs and markets. Subscribe via [alanjpoole@aol.com](mailto:alanjpoole@aol.com)

More soon. In the meantime, Keep it Glass.

Graham Fisher MBE  
Press & Publicity,  
pp British Glass Foundation  
[www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk)

### The White House Survey

The success of this project depends greatly on public support. BGF is very grateful for yours. Please spare a few moments to visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/96BDTV7> and complete the survey form. It will take very little of your time but will be of immense value to us. Thank you.



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.



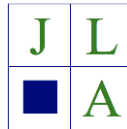
THE BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND



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Development Fund 2007-13



Also Jane Alexander and colleagues at JLA Consulting for advice on the securing and management of funding  
[www.jlaconsulting.org.uk](http://www.jlaconsulting.org.uk)



Details of other BGF partners and sponsors at: [www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/](http://www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/)

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**Disclaimer**

Most of us need a break sometimes. Unfortunately I recently took a once in a lifetime holiday but I thought: '*Never again*'. It was really disappointing; I was so excited getting ready to go that I tried to pack myself into a small suitcase. Honestly, I couldn't contain myself. Yet I know there are those who relish going abroad for all that sun, sea, sangria, muggings and malaria, so I thought it was the season to dedicate a **Disclaimer** to the subject of getting away from it all. There's a lot to be said for the satisfaction of taking a break and I remember a mate of mine who wanted to go on a steam train holiday. When he eventually got his wish he was chuffed to bits. Anyway ...

**GlassCuts** is the luxurious-but-sticky *Factor 34* of the British Glass Foundation. It is compiled in a tropical tax haven a mere twenty seven hours of cattle-crammed air-flight away from Costa-del-Gornal in a tequila sunrise-filled yacht moored behind a *bordello* that is at the ABTA registered HQ of *GlassCuts Towers* by a team of sun-bronzed gods and goddesses whose bodies are shrines. Or, in my case, a listed vandalized ruin. It has no other function than to provide guided tours around local breweries, supply unlimited quantities of stuffed donkeys and tasteful *Kiss Me Quick* sombreros for the *cognoscenti* and perhaps even say a bit about glass.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, no responsibility etc etc ... (*usual sun hats apply*).

This email is sent to you solely on the basis that you would like to share in our love of the good life but If you do not wish to receive further **GlassCuts** then either explain whether it is possible to swim in the Mediterranean without just going through the motions or send an email marked: '*I promised my missus a trip to see the whole world but she wanted to go somewhere else*' to [bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk](mailto:bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk). A brief indication as to why we are no longer your favourite timeshare-sheisters would be appreciated.

BGF welcomes onward transmission to anyone whom you feel we may be able to help relieve the stresses and strains of their lives in order to conceal those other stresses and strains hidden underneath. Similarly if you have anything you consider may be of interest to our fellow Thomas Cooks out there in the *Wonderful World of Glass*<sup>GF</sup> then send it to BGF at the usual address.

I leave you with the discomforting tale of my stay in a top flea-pit where unfortunately the Head Waiter was a very sarcastic man with only one arm. He could dish it out but he couldn't take it. *Boom boom*.