



British Glass Foundation

WELCOME TO OUR NEW TRUSTEES ...

Dr Audrey Whitty



Audrey Whitty is one of the most respected museum curators in Europe. She is Keeper of the Art and Industry Division, National Museum of Ireland and is responsible for approximately 530,000 objects and the leading of all curatorial staff.

She was also one of the lead curators in the world's most prestigious glass museum, Corning Museum of Glass, New York USA in 2013 and 2014 where she managed their extensive collections of European and Asian glass, the first time a curator had been approached to manage and oversee both collection remits. She has also regularly taught in such faculties as the National University of Ireland.

Dr Audrey Whitty is very enthusiastic in recognizing that our collections are the finest worldwide after Corning and is delighted to participate in advising on all the museum requirements including exhibitions design and collecting policies. She has many contacts to draw on for any help required and will take on the responsibility for liaising with Dudley MBC's Keeper of Glass and, in the future, with the new Museum Manager at WHC.

Gregory Cook

Greg has considerable local knowledge and is currently Head of Operations at University of Birmingham Barber Institute of Fine Arts where he is responsible for the front of house team, security and commercial operations. He manages a team of 18 staff and leads on overall human resource management and volunteer recruitment. He is accountable for delivering the operational and capital budgets and for the commercial income generation through the shop, café and venue hire.

Gregory Cook is widely experienced in the management of museum buildings; he is keen to take full responsibility for all the requirements of [WHCmog](#) and will be liaising with the new Museum Manager accordingly in due course.



John P Smith



John is Chairman of The Glass Circle, one of the premier collectors' organisations in the UK. He has been a member for 50 years and has been Chairman for 15 of those.

A former Director of Glass at Mallett and Sons (Antiques) Ltd where customers included most of the major museums with glass in both the UK and the USA, he also served on the main committee of The Friends of the Victoria and Albert Museum helping to raise over £300,000 per annum. He is a member and past Vice President of The European Society for Light and Glass; Honorary Member of The Guild of Glass Engravers and a Fellow of Corning Museum of Glass. He has lectured widely on glass and lighting both in Europe and the USA and is the author of five books.

We are delighted that John Smith is joining our Board of Trustees and he will be able to add his extensive knowledge of glass collecting to the new museum. He is also in touch with a number of charities which will assist with our future fundraising.

Philip Cook

Philip is a Chartered Accountant and recently retired Senior Partner of Clement Keys, one of the major accountancy firms in the region employing around 150 people. Phil was Head of the Tax Department and was their Managing Partner. He will be responsible for the overview of all financial matters and will lead on the development of systems, reporting and control of operational performance and strategic planning.

Philip Cook will also take the lead on all fiscal issues and enjoys good contacts with providers of finance.



AND A REMINDER OF THE ORIGINALS ...

'Still there after all these years'

Graham Knowles (BGF Chairman)

Graham and his family have been in business in the Black Country for over 50 years. Graham is Chief Executive of the local family-run Hulbert Group of companies, founded in 1939 by his father. He has extensive experience of general and financial management and was a Director of the Group that developed The Mailbox in Birmingham. He is committed to Black Country activities and has assisted various initiatives e.g. installing and maintaining the press at the entrance to the Black Country Living Museum. Graham Knowles was also a benefactor of Broadfield House Glass Museum, with items of glass loaned to them, and was President of the former Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum.



Graham Fisher MBE

Graham is an adult education lecturer, author, public speaker, local radio presenter and *ad hoc* ambassador for the Stourbridge Glass industry, with a lifelong dedication to inland waterways and latterly Stourbridge Glass. For many years he was Special Features correspondent for a monthly waterways magazine. His involvement in waterways initiatives led to being awarded the MBE in 2001 for services to inland waterways. He has given hundreds of presentations over the past 45 years in addition to writing several books and numerous articles on glass making and the local waterways network.

Graham sits on the West Midlands Waterways Partnership and in 2005 was voted Inland Waterways Personality of the Year. He has appeared extensively on television and radio. Graham Fisher MBE is responsible for PR and communications and edits BGF's e-magazine *GlassCuts*.



Allister Malcolm



Allister is a *Glass with Sculpture* graduate and the resident glass artist at [White House Cone Museum of Glass](#). He is a renowned craftsman within his field and has worked as a product designer and lecturer. He produces and markets his own products and has exhibitions throughout the UK and USA.

Allister Malcolm's studio is rapidly expanding as demand for his work grows; commissions from corporate and private clients in the USA, Europe and the Middle East offer evidence of his international acclaim.

Meriel Harris

Meriel has 25 years' experience as a senior management consultant in London and more recently with her own company in the Midlands. She is immediate past Chairman of Stourbridge Decorative and Fine Arts Society and is Deputy Area Chairman of the West Midlands Decorative and Fine Arts Society comprising 15 Societies with around 5000 members.

Meriel Harris has been a Director of Worcestershire County Cricket Club and its Trading Company since 2003 and is a Trustee on the PCC of St Mary's Church, Old Swinford, Stourbridge. She is Treasurer for the BGF.



David Williams-Thomas (BGF Patron)



David Williams-Thomas is former Trustee of the British Glass Foundation and former managing director and chairman of Stevens & Williams Limited, which became Royal Brierley Crystal Limited, world famous for its glass.

Founded in 1846 the trading name of Stevens and Williams was used until 1930 when the company became Royal Brierley Crystal to signify its appointment as the Royal British Glassmakers. Previously President of the Glass Manufacturers Federation and a Council member of the Society of Glass Technology David has extensive experience of financial management and is also a Trustee of Pershore Abbey.

Davis Williams-Thomas was High Sheriff of West Midlands County in 1982, Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Worcester 1985 (continuing) and a Member of the Council of the Royal Warrant Holders Association 1985-95.

Lynn Boleyn MBE (Secretary To The Trustees)

Lynn Boleyn MBE is a former local Councillor and was previously PA to the Area Manager of HSBC Bank plc in Stourbridge where she worked for 24 years. She was awarded the MBE in June 2015 for services to her local community in Wall Heath where she led the successful campaign to save her son's primary school from closure, as a consequence of which she was elected as a Ward Councillor for Kingswinford North & Wall Heath to serve on Dudley Council. More recently she has raised £1.2m for a brand new sporting complex for a children's football club in Wall Heath, Kewford Eagles, where she is a Charity Trustee.

Lynn Boleyn MBE was a Governor of Maidensbridge Primary School in Wall Heath, a voluntary post she held for 14 years until 2016.



Details correct as at publication 13.12.17. E&OE. Usual caveats apply.