

GlassCuts

The Journal of the British Glass Foundation;
the Voice of Stourbridge Glass Museum

STOURBRIDGE
GLASS MUSEUM

Celebrating BGF History 2009 – 2022

Click: www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk/the-foundation/ or <https://grahamfisher.co.uk/resources>

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A SPECIAL 'SO NOW IT'S OFFICIAL' EDITION

We always had the confidence that we would get there.
And now, it seems, so do others.

To all of our visitors, friends and supporters, this one's for you ...

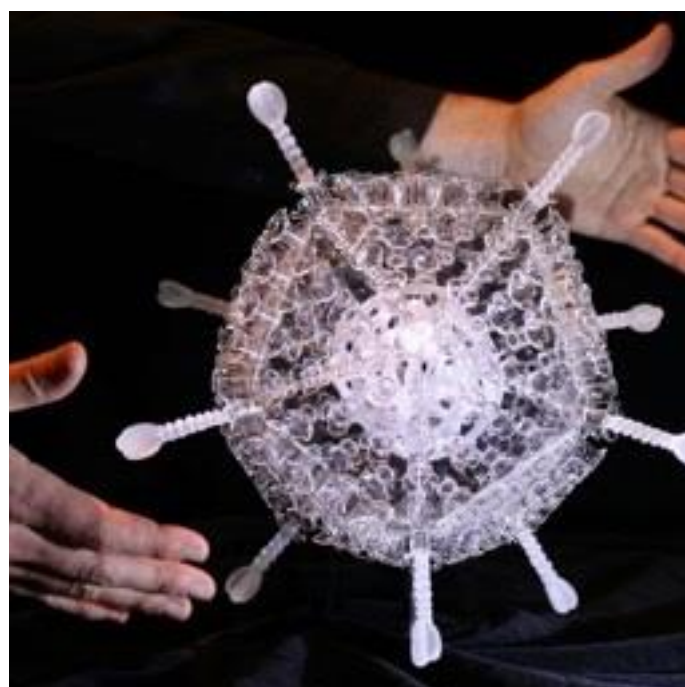


Bioscience meets glass

As a practising cartographer who makes her living by how she translates a jumble of coordinates into lucid maps, my other half needs to keep up to date with current developments so is a regular participant in webinars and Zoom presentations. These are inevitably populated by some very clever folk of similar ilk yet for whom glass would not usually appear on their radar.

So, I was rather taken aback when, following the most recent exposition, she fair bounded down the stairs a'quivering with excitement to tell me all about a man of whom hitherto I had never heard. Mary's interest was kindled because of his Gaia, Moon and Mars artworks - essentially giant globes. For me it the mention of his glass and I am sufficiently impressed, nay indeed amazed, by what I have since seen to bring it to the attention of you, our Dear Reader and put my omission to rights.

His name is Luke Jerram and his artistic talents bridge an expansive spectrum. Luke has created some extraordinary projects that have excited and inspired people around the globe, involving sculptures, installations and live arts. All marvellous stuff *per se*, yet the aspect that particularly caught my eye is his quite astonishing work in the field of glass microbiology. Here, with acknowledgements and thanks (*Glass Microbiology Artwork by Luke Jerram*) are a few examples that have a contemporary resonance: *image 1* is the HIV virus, *image 2* is the Covid 19 virus and *image 3* is the Astra Zenica covid vaccine. All made in glass. Remarkable.



The *Glass Microbiology* sculptures are in museum collections around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum, NYC; Wellcome Collection, London and the Museum of Glass, Shanghai. They are also regularly displayed in exhibitions around the globe and sold to private collectors. Famous pop stars, celebrities and scientists own his works. Jerram often operates in partnership with scientific institutions to develop new microbes for the series, including partnerships with Wellcome Trust, Pirbright Institute, Bath & Bristol Science Park, University of Sheffield, UK and Micropia, Amsterdam. He didn't actually make the glass bugs himself but was facilitator working with people at the National Glass Centre, Sunderland. These included Kim George, Norman Vetchand Brian Jones, some or all of whom we suspect may have since retired.

His awards are commensurate with his talents here is just a brief selection: In 2010, Jerram received the 25th Rakow Award for the series from the Corning Museum of Glass, New York. In 2009, his sculptures were presented at the Mori Museum, Tokyo and in 2015 his sculptures were presented at ArtScience Museum, Singapore alongside Leonardo Da Vinci's *Codex Atlanticus*.

There is a most entertaining tale of how Wellcome came to acquire his glass sculpture of the HIV virus which now sits in their lobby but it's only fair I let Luke tell that for himself sometime. For now, more about the man and his remarkable glass creations - and believe me, it's worth the diversionary 'click' - can be found at <https://www.lukejerram.com/glass/>

Carnival Glass Society Exhibition Talk – 15 July 4.30 p.m.



Don't miss this fascinating talk by Professor James Measell on Stourbridge glass pioneers, Thomas Dugan and Harry Northwood, who travelled to America where they set up companies producing spectacular carnival glass, aimed at making iridescence a luxury that was affordable by all. After the talk, enjoy a complimentary glass of wine, beer or soft drink as you tour the exhibition which displays over 300 items of pressed iridised glass, many of which have never been exhibited before, and browse the museum's other exhibits.

Book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/carnival-glass-titans-thomas-dugan-and-harry-northwood-by-james-measell-tickets-630710420847?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Call to graduates

The Contemporary Glass Society CGS has announced the launch of its 2023 Graduate Prize and New Graduate Review. The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London Charity Fund is again supporting the awards together with Professor Michael Barnes MC FRCP and other sponsors, Creative Glass, Pearsons Glass, Warm Glass and Neues Glas - New Glass: Art & Architecture.

The Graduate Review offers graduates the chance to promote their work to a worldwide audience and many previous winners have gone on to establish themselves as professional makers. There will be a Winner, Second Prize plus two Runners-up prizes, along with several Commendations. All will appear in the CGS – New Graduate Review 2023.

Application forms are available [here](#) and the deadline is 5:00pm Monday 17th July 2023.

The Quest (*sic*) continues

The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (*hence QEST – Ed*) awards scholarship and apprenticeship funding of up to £18,000 to talented and aspiring craftspeople working in a broad range of skills, including glassblowing. The next application round is open 10th July to 14th August.

QEST celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2020 and since 1990 has awarded £5.5million to 800 individuals working in over 130 different crafts. The term is broadly applied and applications are welcomed from all areas including rural skills, contemporary craft, conservation, luthiery and much more. A directory of alumni along with details on how to apply can be seen at www.qest.org.uk

In addition to Scholarship and Apprenticeship funding, QEST is also launching *Emerging Maker Grants* this summer. This supports talented early-career craftspeople in their development. Makers with four years or less of professional practice can apply for up to £10,000. The funding specifically supports training and education to enable makers to enhance their craft skills and advance their careers. This can take many forms, from traditional college courses to vocational one-on-one training with a master craftsman, or a bespoke programme of short courses.

QEST will be running three 'How To' sessions via Zoom to introduce interested makers to the different funding available, tips and advice for filling in applications and the opportunity for Q&A.

* *How to Apply for a Scholarship* click [here](#)

* *How to Apply for an Apprenticeship* click [here](#)

* *How to Apply for an Emerging Makers Grant* click [here](#)

Champagne corks popping



A huge 'well done' to one of our ace volunteers here at SGM who came up trumps in the recent local by-elections. We are immensely proud to report that Karen Westwood, for indeed it is she, was returned as Councillor for Brockmoor & Pensnett and, of course, we wish her well in her new role. But away from the hotbed of politics Karen is also of great service to us in her work where she cheerily meets-and-greets visitors to the museum. She also performs duties as a guide on our popular tunnel tours which, thanks in no small part to her and her colleagues, are always a sell-out.

If you would like to join Karen and our splendid team of volunteers please contact us to discuss the various roles we have, or to arrange a visit. We would love to hear from you. So would the team; it's getting busier by the day down their way and they could do with a hand!

WHAT'S ON AT SGM

Full details of our packed programme of events are contained in our brochure (available free of charge from the Museum and other local outlets) or via the Stourbridge Glass Museum website by clicking here: <https://www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk/events/>

And here's a further reminder of the two forthcoming presentations that are taking place at the museum as part of the Carnival Glass Society's current exhibition. See the supplement to this edition for full details and booking.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

to BGF funds, for which we thank you

Funding and maintaining a revenue stream is an ongoing requirement. We greatly value your contributions. BGF Trustees are unremunerated; all monies received go to the cause. Donations can be as one-off contributions or standing order.

BGF routinely reviews its donation procedures. Enhancements are announced as and when but we currently accept donations direct by cash, cheque and BACS. **We would respectfully ask that all cheques and orders be made payable to BRITISH GLASS FOUNDATION.**



This is the QR code for the British Glass Foundation.
Scan to browse the work of the BGF or to make a donation.

For donations by BACS our bank details are:

HSBC Bank
Branch Identifier Code: MIDLGB2108U
Sort code: 40-38-07
Account number: 72076780

To donate via *JustGiving* visit:

<https://donate.justgiving.com/donation-amount?uri=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmcuY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvN2FIMjIxNDIhNDUxMjIzODgzOFRiZihkMDQ=>

To donate *PayPal* visit: <https://www.paypal.com/uk/for-you/transfer-money/send-money> and donate to bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk

To donate through our website visit: www.stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk and hit the 'Donate' button.

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.

In addition to cash BGF is similarly grateful for donations of good quality glass to sell in our shop. All funds raised from the sale of donated glass go into a separate Collections Account towards future acquisitions for the museum. To make a donation directly into the **British Glass Foundation Collections Account** use sort code: **40-38-07** and account number: **52291789**.

Notes and queries

Whilst we are happy to facilitate this *ad hoc* information exchange on unusual items of interest BGF cannot undertake valuations or offer comment other than that supplied by our correspondents. Submission does not guarantee publication. No responsibility ... etc (*usual caveats apply*)

Keep 'em coming. Our track record for solving your little difficulties is admirable. And if we can't sort it, we almost certainly know someone who can.

PARISH NOTICES

tell us the news from your world

Send us yours and we'll try to mention it. No guarantees other than we'll do our best.

- * Latest news from the *Contemporary Glass Society*. www.cgs.org.uk
- * *Alan J. Poole newsletter* latest edition. alanjpoole@aol.com
- * *The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London*. Updates. info@glass-sellers.co.uk
- * *The Glass Society Events Schedule*. <http://glassassociation.org.uk>
- * *ArtLight* newsletter: Caution GLASS! Exhibition and more. newsletter@artlight-magazine.com
- * *Inspirer Expirer exhibition*. Richard Jackson & Sally Fawkes. Opens 1st July, France. More [here](#).

From the Hot Studio:

www.allistermalcolm.com **Facebook** @allistermalcolmglass **Twitter** @allistermalcolm **Instagram** @allistermalcolmglassLtd

In last GC we cryptically alluded to Allister's latest innovation, which turns out to be a rather fine IPA ale. At £3.50 a bottle it's selling like hot cakes alongside some other specialist craft beers also in stock. Just the job after a thirsty trip around the museum. See more by clicking [here](#) and [here](#).

Just a reminder ...

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 ...

'I'm a dairy farmer and in winter I fit my cows with tubular bells so I can hear them in my cold field'.
(You might have to say that last bit quick – Ed)

Yes I know, it's rubbish.

Graham Fisher MBE FRGS
Trustee, PR & Comms
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 the new glass museum?

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

Award-winning *Black Country Radio* and *BCR Xtra* broadcast throughout the Black Country on 102.5 FM and also via DAB and on-line around the world. Part of BCR's remit is to promote local events. If you are organising an event that satisfies the criteria of not-for-profit, charitable or philanthropic and is community orientated then you may be eligible for no-fee promotion.

Go to www.blackcountryradio.co.uk hover over 'Local' and click 'Local Events Guide'. Submit the form you'll find at upper left under '+ Add Event'. 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. And it's all entirely free of charge.

Keeping in touch

BGF Secretary Lynn Boleyn MBE
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Email: bqf@britishglassfoundation.org.uk
Snailmail: Stourbridge Glass Museum, Stuart Works, High Street, Wordsley, West Midlands, DY8 4FB

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



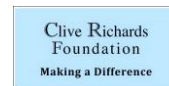
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... also Dudley MBC, Fieldings Auctioneers, Enovert Community Trust, Ibstock Enovert Trust, Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity



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 : The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London : The Pilgrim Trust : FCC Communities 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/

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Disclaimer

We 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 at www.britishglassfoundation.org.uk and subscribers can withdraw at any time just by sending an email to the bgf address below with 'stop' in the subject header.

No responsibility etc. etc ... (usual caveats apply)

We 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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