



## GRDM newsletter no.29

April 2017

### VERITY ELSON APPOINTED CURATOR/MUSEUM MANAGER

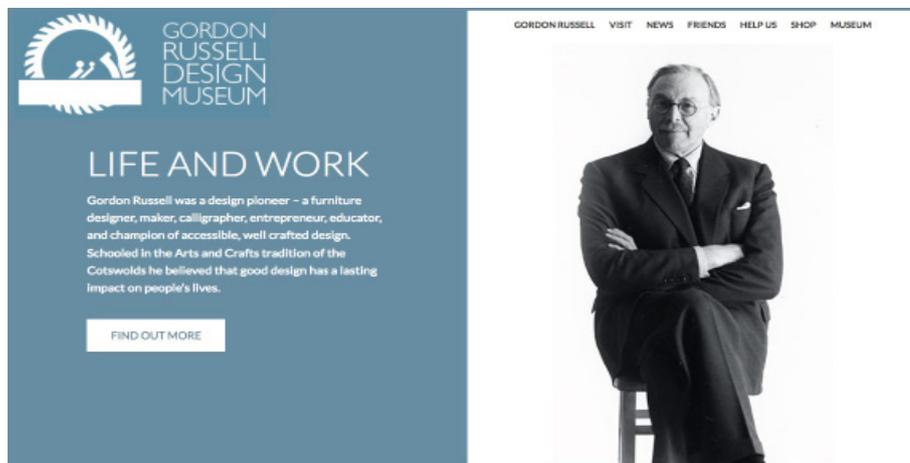
Verity Elson joins the museum with over 10 years' experience in the planning and delivery of exhibitions at Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park in Warwickshire. Her roles at the gallery have encompassed exhibitions and collections management as well as curating, working across historic and contemporary art and design. Verity has contributed to the development of both national and international partnerships in the development of the critically acclaimed programme.

Verity said: 'I am delighted to have been appointed by the Trustees as Museum Manager and Curator. I am looking forward to working with the team and the museum's supporters to lead the next stage of the museum's development and to bring the story of Gordon Russell to the widest possible audience.'



### WEBSITE LAUNCHED

A new website for the Gordon Russell Design Museum (<http://www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org/>) was launched on 7th April 2017. Designed to work on tablets and mobile phones as well as computers, the website provides information on what is on offer for visitors to the museum, from a visual tour of the collection to the story of the man himself, and his relationship with the village of Broadway. See the latest cards and stock available from the museum shop, and sign up as a volunteer or join the Friends Group. Some sections are still under development so do visit [www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org](http://www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org) (<http://www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org>) to see the latest updates. Annual membership costs £25 for two people, or £12.50 for individuals.



## FRIENDS GROUP LAUNCHED

The evening of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April saw the successful launch of the Friends of the Gordon Russell Design Museum. Over a glass of wine (kindly supplied by Guy Warner of Budgens) the guests heard about Gordon Russell's connection with the Lygon Arms (who had kindly provided the Torrington Room for this event). Ray Leigh, former Design Director, Managing Director and Chairman of Gordon Russell Ltd, and founder Trustee of the Gordon Russell Design Museum told the story of Gordon's arrival in Broadway, and his continuing association with the village. Christopher Hotten, Friends Organiser, explained the important role of the Friends in supporting the work of the museum and the range of benefits on offer. Everyone who signed up received a welcome pack, comprising a membership card, newsletter and a copy of Gordon Russell: Designer of Furniture 1892-1992 by Jeremy Myerson. Three visits have already been arranged for the Friends including a free talk in October on the Arts & Crafts designer,

To join the Friends and enjoy unlimited visits to the museum along with exclusive outings and events, download the Membership form at (<http://www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org/become-a-friend/>) or make an online application via the PayPal payment system. Further information and booking forms for Friends events can be found. (<http://www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org/visits-for-2017/>) (<http://www.gordonrusselldesignmuseum.org/visits-for-2017/>) in the Friends section of the website.



### A Long Distance Day Visitor

GRDM volunteer, and former Joint Managing Director of Gordon Russell Ltd, Laurie Wolder writes:

On a Saturday in late November a lady came into the museum. She had left her home in Brighton at 6.30 am to travel to Broadway - by public transport. This involved a train to Waterloo, a tube journey to Paddington where she caught a train to Moreton-in-Marsh and then she had to wait for a bus to bring her to Broadway. The lady, whose name is Sue Rockall, devoured a mine of information and stayed almost to closing time. That isn't the end of the story because she then had to return to Brighton on the same day. She purchased three of our books to read on the journey home and I gave her a copy of Ray Leigh's DVD. How's that for determination.

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