

1<sup>st</sup> April 2009

### **Pewterer's work included in G20 goody bags!**

The work of pewterer Ian McIntyre, 25, will be handed out by Prime Minister Gordon Brown to world leaders - including US President Barack Obama – at the G20 summit dinner today.

Ian's 'Slush Cast' pewter bowls are part of the 'Best of British' welcome basket for delegates. Ian made the unique bowls for upmarket London store Kelly Hoppen Interiors, where they were spotted by Downing Street officials who thought they would make perfect gifts for the world's most influential political leaders.

Ian said: "I only received the order three weeks ago and I wasn't sure if I would be able to finish it, because making the bowls usually takes a long time. But as soon as I heard who the clients were, I said yes straight away. It's been three weeks of constant hard work but definitely worth it."

He added: "It's amazing to think that Barack Obama could have my pewter bowl on display in the White House. It's a real honour. In the future, I hope to design and make more of my own products, as well as doing consultancy work and making products for larger companies."

The Prime Minister's spokesman said: "In the eye of an economic crisis, we went out of the way to keep costs down with items showcasing the best of our creative talent."

Ian's bowls are created using a process developed to capture the beauty and inherent characteristics of pewter. Molten pewter is swirled inside a mould to form a fine skin. The smooth exterior contrasts with the inner surface, which retains molten textures that seem to freeze a moment in time.

The talented artist graduated with a first class degree in three-dimensional design and business development from Manchester Metropolitan University in 2007, where he was also named best student entrepreneur, and is currently studying for an MA at the London College of Art.

Ian has shown work at world-renowned design shows 100% Design and Designersblock and been highlighted by the Crafts Council as an "Emerging Talent". Last year Ian was selected to take part in New Designers One Year On, which "show-cases a selected group of innovative, enthusiastic and creative makers", and for which he was awarded Arts Council support.

Tonight's VIP dinner precedes tomorrow's G20 summit in London, with 20 of the world's most powerful leaders jetting into the capital for the event. Guests will include French President Nicolas Sarkozy, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

**- Ends -**

For further information, please contact Ian McIntyre on 07887582110 / [www.ianmcintyre.co.uk](http://www.ianmcintyre.co.uk) or Anna Fenton in the MMU Press Office on 0161 247 2184 / [a.fenton@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:a.fenton@mmu.ac.uk).

Manchester Metropolitan University: a leading university for the professions and a powerful driver of the North West economy.

MMU educates and trains large numbers of the region's legal and business professionals, teachers, health workers and creative professionals. The University enjoys an excellent reputation for teaching, applied research and project work with its communities and the North West, nationally and internationally. It is currently investing almost £300 million in its estate and facilities.