

Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 1 February 2010

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News and Events



Social Media in Sheffield

The RSA is running a Digital Engagement Programme providing small social media surgeries across the UK. The programme moves next to

Sheffield, on **Wednesday 24 February, 6pm**.

If you have a project that would benefit from an online space or have an online project which will benefit from peer interaction and getting the wider community involved, then we would be delighted to see you. This is the third in a series of events which have proved very successful. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, [read more](#).



School Governors' network

In 2008 the RSA launched the School Governors' network to share best practice and encourage innovation amongst the largest volunteer workforce in the country. The network has recently been re-launched in partnership with national charity **School Governors' One-Stop Shop (SGOSS)**. An **online forum** has now been launched where members will be able to contribute to discussions, share ideas and interact with colleagues. If you wish to hear more about the network or SGOSS please [read more](#).



Cumbria Forest Food network

The Cumbria Forest Food Network emerged from the **RSA Arts & Ecology Cumbria** meeting last September. The Network aims to contribute to the ecological well-being of all Cumbrian communities in a future Low Carbon Economy, by providing healthy food, outdoor recreation, fostering local enterprise and encouraging public participation through the Arts. The hope is that this group will develop and there are plans to meet in the Spring to plot the next steps. If you wish to get involved please [read more](#).



Drugs Project and Symposium

On **Monday 18 January**, RSA House was taken over by 70 delegates participating in **the Route Maps to Recovery Symposium**. Consisting of 'experts by experience' and 'experts by profession' the participants took part in a number of activities, culminating in a 'Dragon's Den' ideas forum. Plans to develop the ideal operating framework for truly user centred services are now underway and will be presented to local workshops in Feb/Mar 2010. To find more out more about the project and how Fellows around West Sussex can participate, [read more](#).



Fellows Profile- Petra Stefankova

Petra Stefankova is an art director at **Animacia**, graphic designer and illustrator. She talks of the opportunities presented by winning Channel 4's **4Talent** award and developing more multicultural exchanges and perhaps using the Fellowship's connections to do this:

"I have worked on feature films and TV commercials, branding, advertising offline and online for blue-chip companies, books and magazines. The clients include Universal Pictures, Channel 4, The Economist, Orange and others. Drawing has been a passion since an early age and I quite naturally pursued a career in arts. I won Channel 4's **4Talent Award** in 2007 which was perfect for a breakthrough in the UK and also brought international opportunities through immediate attention worldwide.

It was a great honour to receive the invitation from the RSA and

In brief

Please see a selection of activities taking place worldwide...

Slough

FRSA First Monday's tonight, **Monday 1 February**, in Slough at the **Cophorne Hotel** from 6-8pm and every first Monday of the month.



For further information on this network and all activities going on in the area please visit the **FRSA South Central online site** or contact the local Network Manager **Olivia Rainford**.

Singapore

The RSA Singapore community network meets again on **Thursday 4 February** from 6-8pm at 76A Ridley Park, Singapore, 248501.



If you are in the area please come along; the event will include lively debate and a talk by Tan Ngiap Heng, an established local photographer. For further information please [contact us](#).

RSA

Come and join us live at the RSA for **Do we get the politics we deserve?** on **Wednesday 10 February, at 8pm**. As the election approaches and faith in our politicians seems ready to hit an all-time low, are we right to place 100% of the blame in the laps of our representatives?



Speakers include Matthew Taylor, chief executive, RSA and Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, journalist, chaired by James O'Brien, LBC. Join us for the first in this special series of lively and topical debates held in association with LBC Radio. **The event will be broadcast live from the RSA Great Room on LBC 97.3FM.**

Alternatively you can [listen](#), or you can subscribe to our [podcast](#) for past events.

Filmed events are available

It was a great honor to receive the invitation from the RSA and join the network of experts, innovators and leading thinkers. I represent young achievers at the RSA and as such hope to both inspire and gain inspiration. Coming from non-British society originally I would like to see more of multicultural exchange, debate and movement across all the platforms the RSA provides and communicates on. Local action based on global thinking and influence should be encouraged and highlighted where possible.

Beside my professional expertise in design, branding and the arts sector I would like to pursue effective communication between the State Embassies based in Britain and the RSA Fellows acting as the ambassadors of the respective nations. I am coming from the point that Fellows have great potential, capabilities and connections for international progress, innovation and change. Another area to explore is the involvement of the RSA in education; lectures could be organised for the general public at schools and universities to increase awareness (not only at the RSA House but arranged individually).

Some changes are desired in resolving conflicts on a diplomatic level to avoid losses among innocent people and in supporting initiatives to eliminate illiteracy and poverty - the sources of various troublesome consequences.

Since I have worked with Microsoft Game Studios recently I was excited when the company unveiled a new gaming device allowing users to control a game using only their body movements and voice. There's a lot of new potential around this. I love to be inspired constantly by the progress in science and technology.

I have met many great Fellows since joining the RSA. One very proactive member is Steve Nimmons who is an information technologist and social media guru, Freeman of London and a Kentucky Colonel. He designs services in SOA, Business Intelligence, Content Management, Enterprise Rules Systems and security. I'd like to connect with Fellows involved with multicultural communities in Britain and abroad, people with a background in foreign politics, multicultural sociology, active commerce, and community life. If you are interested in any of these issues please [contact me](#)".

Know of an inspiring Fellow whom you'd like us to feature in the next newsletter? Please [contact us](#) and let us know their name and details.



Who to contact at the RSA

To find out exactly which staff member you should contact at the RSA please see the [contacts page](#) on the RSA website.

And finally...

We hope you enjoyed this issue of the newsletter. We want this to work for you so please let us know your thoughts about the content and format.

Any news?

Communicating the activities of the Fellowship is the first step to creating the Fellowship network. As an RSA Fellow if there is anything you are doing in your area which other Fellows should know about and can get involved in, [please contact us](#).

We will only include items which relate to the goals of the RSA, where Fellows can get actively involved. Any decisions will be at the editor's discretion.

You have received this email as a Fellow of the RSA.
[Unsubscribe](#) from the Fellowship newsletter.

limited events are available to watch on [RSA Vision](#).

Birmingham

Join other Fellows in Birmingham on Wednesday 10



February, 5.30pm-8pm, at the [Old Join Stock](#) for lively debate and networking. For further information on the area visit [RSA West Midlands](#).

USA

Keep an eye on what's happening around the US at



the [American Coffee House](#) or contact [Lynn Broadbent](#). All Fellows are welcome at all US events regardless of their home base.

New York: February 4, [CCI Executive Briefing – Lessons from the Center of the Financial Meltdown](#), discounted rate for Fellows; and on February 24, [Perspectives Post Copenhagen](#) by Nikhil Chandavarkar, FRSA, UN Secretary for Water.

In **Washington DC**, a visit to the National Geographic exhibition of the Terra Cotta Warriors is proposed for **February 21**; and details are being finalized for a Fellows' breakfast on **February 23**. Elsewhere, southeast region Fellows will meet in Chattanooga (**Feb 10/20**), New Englanders will meet in March, and SoCal Fellows will have opportunities later this spring in Los Angeles and San Diego.

Visit the [American Coffee House](#) for all the latest information and for discussions on [Technology and Education: Digital Pandemic?](#) posted by Mack Hicks, and on a [Music and Disability project](#) proposed by Adele Drake.

Nominate a Friend

Do you know someone who you think should be a Fellow? Do you have colleagues, friends or contacts who could benefit from the opportunities of Fellowship?

[Tell us who and why](#), and we'll send an invitation citing your recommendation. Please note, you will need to log-in and have your membership number handy to complete the form. If you have any questions, please contact [Laura Billings](#).

