

Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 10 August 2009

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News and Events



Fellowship Council

Meet The Fellowship Council: With the elected Council members announced and the Trustee Nominees for the remaining places on the Fellowship Council confirmed, we are now bringing the 2009 Fellowship Council selection process to a close!

It is with great excitement that we are now able to announce the complete profile of the Fellowship Council, including the names of all Trustee Nominees. This marks the beginning of a new chapter in the Fellowship journey. Please see the [RSA website](#) for the full list of Council members.

Trustee Nominations were assessed against the criteria set for elected members and with a view to ensuring the Council is a balanced and representative body. Trustee Nominations were not selected to be strictly regionally proportional but consideration was given to gender, age, industry, length of Fellowship and region. Council Members, Elected and Trustee Nominated, will represent the entire Fellowship as part of their functional duties, with particular insight on their region. Further information is available on the [Fellowship Council web page](#).

A new interactive online space dedicated to the Council and its activities has also been created. This is a space for stimulating constructive and outcome focused discussions on Fellow and Fellowship related issues. The [RSA Fellowship Council site](#) is a great place to find out more about your Council Members and how to contact them, learn about new developments, proposals and meeting agenda items; as well as share your valuable thoughts and feedback. The site also provides up-to-date information on RSA Projects, Council related events, useful documents relating to the Council and more!

What would you like the Fellowship Council to achieve? How can the Council best serve the interests of the RSA and the Fellowship? Tell us and your Council by [signing-up now](#) and help shape the forward direction of the Fellowship Council.



Young Achievers Trust and mentoring

Do you know any inspirational young volunteers? The Young Achievers Trust recognises and supports exceptional young volunteers, to enable them to achieve the greatest possible impact in their communities, and works to inspire more young people to become engaged in volunteering. Nominations for the 2009 [Young Achievers Awards](#) are open now. To nominate a young person and find out more information, [read more](#).



RSA Event at the Festival of Politics

Climate for Change – From Economic Crash to Eco Recovery? Thursday, 20 August 2009, 15.00
 Main Chamber, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh

Not only has the recent collapse in the global economy devastated people's lives, it appears to have pushed the ever-increasing threat of climate change from people's minds.

Yet could the economic crisis present an opportunity to build a sustainable future? Join **Nicholas Stern** – renowned author of The Stern Review and A Blueprint for a Safer Planet, **Leo Murray** – Media Producer of The Age of Stupid, and **Andrew Price**, author of Slow-tech: Manifesto for an Over-wound World, as they discuss how our economically destructive past could become an environmentally sustainable future. Chaired by Louise Macdonald, Chair of RSA Scotland. Tickets available at [Festival of Politics](#)

North

The next City network at the [Liverpool Bluecoat](#) will meet on **Wednesday 26 August**.

For further details about this network and if you would like to get involved please contact [Viv Long-Ferguson](#).

You can see more details about the network and more information about the region on the [Merseyside Ning site](#).

South

RSA

Lectures at the RSA restart with RSA Thursday on Thursday 10 September. Please check [our website](#) for further event information.

Don't forget that if you cannot attend, you can always [listen live](#) to the event. Alternatively, you can subscribe to our [podcast](#) for past events and watch filmed events on [RSA Vision](#).

You can also follow RSA Events on [Twitter](#).

For further information about activities in the South East and South Central region please contact [Olivia Rainford](#).

East

The Norwich network meets every other month, and the Chelmsford project group meets monthly. Please contact [Clare Reilly](#) with any questions.

Wales/West

For activities in the region please contact [Chris Luffingham](#) or see [here](#) for more events and contacts in the area.

Scotland

Come along to the Glasgow City network on **Tuesday 11 August**. We will be there

website.



Fellow's Profile- Andy Marks

Andy Marks FRSA talks here about the Young Achievers Trust and tapping into the things that inspire people to make a change:

I describe myself as an agent of positive social change practicing at the intersection of business, society and culture. Specifically I am a Social Entrepreneur, lecturer, writer, curator and father of Oscar, a 5 month old bundle of pure joy.

There are a number of things that occupy my time at the moment. I am finalising the launch of a new Social Enterprise, Sleeping Bags™ - the bags with no baggage, a groundbreaking recycled bag enterprise which sees an extraordinary collaboration between product designers, fashion designers, artists and a number of leading lights from business and the third sector. There's VivaCity my ongoing cultural investigation into new ways of using cities - a celebration of grassroots movements which build community and empower people to act locally. I am also an advisor to the Young Achievers Trust which celebrates inspirational young achievers.

I joined the RSA as I wanted more space to think, and to hear and share new ideas. I am interested in how to excite and inspire people to engage in community and environmental issues. I look for the cultural drivers to tap in to that can make people give a damn and I am a big believer in the role of culture and creative expression to connect people and help them explore the world around them. I would change people's understanding of the role they can have in their local community, as I believe everyone can play a part and be rewarded and recognised for doing so. I would change the incredible paradox our cities represent in that we have never been closer to each other physically but never further away emotionally and spiritually.

[I recently learnt that] when you have a great idea that benefits society and the environment, when the idea is from the heart, and when collaboration is key to making the idea happen, incredible people appear who want to help you. This is the experience I have had planning the launch of my recycled bag enterprise - wonderful people, some of them RSA fellows, are energising, supporting and helping us.

The Young Achievers Awards are now open for nominations. I would therefore urge RSA Fellows to nominate 16-25 year-olds who have made a difference through volunteering, for the chance to win 'money can't buy' prizes, project support and RSA membership. *If you have someone you would like to nominate please **get in touch**.*

[On meeting another Fellow] I met Tom Flood, CEO of conservation charity BTCV last month at an RSA London Branch event - The Consumer Society: our downfall or our saviour? The BTCV has just launched the Carbon Army, which seeks to give 1.5 million people a taste of environmental volunteering through one-day courses run by BTCV. Tom and I share similar views on how to engage and reward people for their involvement in environmental and community issues.

*If you know any inspiring Fellows who would be suitable for a profile 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.

Nominate a Fellow

Fellows are passionate about joining forces to achieve positive change. Do you know more like minded people – optimistic, innovative and engaged – who can help us build a better society together? Please **nominate them** to join! You will need to log-in and have your membership number handy to complete the form.

from 5.00pm-7.00pm at **Cafe Gandolfi**. Feel free to drop in and out as you can make it.

Please **email** Judith Friedman with any queries about regional activities.

International

USA

Read about events and discussions at the **American Coffee House**. There are many events planned for September coinciding with the visit of Belinda Lester, Fellowship Director and Michael Devlin, Head of Fellowship Networks so please come along and get involved in the discussions.

New posts on **American Coffee House** include: **Is our approach to education completely out of date?** by Catherine Showlin and **Building the Network**, a call out to Fellows to build connections in the US and worldwide.

Please contact **Lynn Broadbent**, US Fellowship Director, for further information on US events and activities.

Australia

The first of a series of meetings organised by RSA A&NZ will take place on **Wednesday 19 August** in Carlton, Melbourne. The topic will be "A *Climate of Change...a Change in Climate?*" with a panel of guest speakers. For more information please see the **RSA A&NZ webpages**.

Should you have any queries about the event, please contact **Leigh-anne Shannon**.

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.

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