

Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 26 April 2010

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News and Events



Launch of the Peterborough network

Monday 17 May marks the inaugural date of the Peterborough Fellows' network! The first network meeting will be an opportunity to meet other local

Fellows and explore potential project ideas for the **Citizen Power** programme of work. You can read more information about the project in Peterborough and the scoping report on the **Citizen Power** online space. This will be the first in a series of events.

[Read more...](#)



Engineering, Social Justice, and Peace Conference and Fellows network

The **Engineering, Social Justice, and Peace (ESJP) conference** is taking place at the RSA on **4 to 6 August 2010**. RSA Fellows interested in the subject are invited to **attend and register**. Fellows are also invited to a separate evening networking event on **Thursday 5 August**, launching the ESJP Fellows network in the UK. This will be an opportunity to network with professionals in the field and there will be a talk by Phil Ball, award winning writer. Please **register** for the Fellows network event. [Read more...](#)



Fellow's profile- Bill Stone

Bill Stone FRSA is an entrepreneur and principal lawyer at Outside GC LLC. Bill's firm **Outside GC LLC** is an example of a new kind of professional

services firm and workplace which has benefits for clients, employees, family and the larger community and one that warrants study and the support of policy makers. He will discuss this further at an event on **May 6, in Cambridge, MA**, "*New Paradigms in the Workplace: making Virtual a Reality*". For more information on the event please see the [American Coffee House](#).

Bill talks here of contributing to the Fellowship, what inspires him and what he would change given the chance:

"I run two legal services firms, called **Outside GC** and **Patent GC**. Both are pioneering firms that use a new model for providing businesses with best-in-class legal services, in the form of on-demand general counsel and intellectual property counsel, respectively, all the while substantially reducing the clients' expenditures on legal services."

"I joined the Fellowship for intellectual stimulation, and as a conduit for my own thinking beyond the confines of my day-to-day business. I have contributed already as one of the Fellows who planned and executed the Liverpool/Providence Urban Transformation Symposium in 2005 and was involved in planning the 2007 conference, "IP Rights and the Trend towards Openness". I look forward to more opportunities to contribute to programming in the US and to help promote understanding and participation in the US in the RSA."

[On changing something in society given the chance] "Speaking from a US perspective at the moment, I think I'd change the tone of political discourse. Gone, apparently, are the days of civil disagreement about important matters of policy, replaced by full-time gloves-off sparring for the 24-hour news camera. The hysterical pitch of TV news commentators has permeated the dialogue of ordinary citizens whose understanding of the "facts on the ground" depends entirely on which "news" channel they watch, exacerbating the feeling that there is no common ground anymore. With serious social issues to tackle, both on a national and international basis, our inability to have serious discussion about serious issues has me very worried."

"I was recently inspired by a high school senior whom I interviewed

In brief

A selection of activities taking place worldwide...

RSA Catalyst

Following the launch in the last newsletter, the monthly seed fund for new or early-stage Fellow-led projects has received a number of applications. Please keep them coming! The deadline for applications to the first month's assessment panel is **30 April**. Alongside this, RSA Support enables you to register skills and interests to collaborate with Fellow-led projects. [Find out more.](#)

Birmingham

Come along to the RSA Birmingham Surgery at **9:30 - 11am on Tuesday 11 May**.



Viv Long-Ferguson, Senior Networks Manager, RSA will be based at main reception, City Inn Birmingham to meet with Fellows and share ideas for projects and potential partnerships. Contact [Vivs](#) for further information or to agree a time.

RSA

Come to the RSA on **Thursday 29 April, 1pm** for our regular RSA Thursday series. Join Alex Bellos to discover the beauty of mathematical patterns in nature, the peculiar predictability of random behaviour, and why the best Scrabble players are mathematicians. [Find out more and book now.](#)

Alternatively you can [listen](#), or you can subscribe to our [podcast](#) for past events. Filmed events are available to watch on [RSA Vision](#).



York

Join RSA Fellows on **29 April at 6pm** for "A Short History of Bright Ideas: The RSA and the Road to 21st Century

Bright Ideas: The RSA and the Road to 21st Century



in connection with her application for admission to Tufts University, my alma mater. She and I discussed her involvement in an international student program called Future Problem Solving Program International. Through her school's local chapter of this program, she and fellow students developed an interest in the problem of proper disposal of electrical waste (WEEE) and took action to establish computer recycling programs in her town and later developed and testified in favour of legislation in my state of Rhode Island to prohibit improper dumping of such material. Hearing her speak excitedly about how she participated and influenced the political process (they succeeded in getting the law passed) reminded me of the value of grass roots efforts at change and inspired me to remember that the role of active citizen starts early and does not end."

"I'm interested in connecting with Fellows in the UK who are pioneers in the area of outsourced executives/professional services. Those groups in the UK who pursue similar business interests; those representing a new model of providing professional services, would be of great interest." Get in touch with Bill [by email](#).



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.

RSA House news

Spring into action with 25% off room hire.

If you're in London this spring you can book any room at RSA House (April and May 2010) and get 25% off. This offer is available Monday to Friday. Discount is not available in conjunction with any other offers. Call 020 7930 5115 or email us to take advantage of this offer. Quote 'Spring' when making your booking. Contact the [RSA House team](#).

The newly refurbished [Fellows' Meeting Room](#) at RSA House is perfect for small meetings, interviews and brainstorming sessions accommodating up to five people. £40.00 + VAT per 2 hours. To book, call 020 7451 6812 or [email us](#).

Gerard bar busy? You can now get your caffeine fix at our new 'bean to cup' coffee station. The station is located by the Tavern room on the ground floor, and offers premium smooth [Mozzo coffee](#). Enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or a glass of cool water the next time you are at RSA House for meet and greets, catch-ups or while browsing the day's newspapers (or our [Journal](#)!)

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.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, you can [unsubscribe](#). You might miss out on the latest RSA news!

Enlightenment". Rob Baker, Head of RSA Archive, will illustrate how the RSA has operated as a national institution interacting with local individuals and organisations, with examples from Yorkshire. This event will be held at the York Medical Society. For further information on this event and how to book, please see the [RSA website](#).

USA

US events include a [Fellows' network meeting](#) on April 26 in New York, and the [US Board of Trustees](#) meet on April 27.

On May 6, Bill Stone, profiled here in this newsletter, will give a presentation on [New Paradigms in the Work place](#) and there are a number of other events taking place in New York, including [Adapting to Volatile Global Business](#), May 11, the launch of the [New York-Manchester Business Club](#) on May 12, and [Creative Places to Work](#) with Jeremy Myerson and Kursty Groves on May 17. Graeme Harper's digital extravaganza "[The College of the Future](#)", has been postponed to April 28 due to the recent travel disruptions. If you are travelling to the US keep an eye on the [American Coffee House](#) for the latest discussions and event announcements. Everybody is welcome! Contact [Lynn Broadbent](#) for more information.

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](#).