

 <p>Encouraging enterprise</p> <p>Moving towards a zero-waste society</p> <p>Fostering resilient communities</p> <p>Developing a capable population</p> <p>Advancing global citizenship</p>	<p><b>Newsletter for Fellows in the South Central Region</b></p>	<p><b>No 24 – Summer 2008</b></p> <p><b>Editor: Duncan Hanner</b>  duncanhanner@waitrose.com  or contributions by post to:  Hilary Carrington at  46 Lakewood Road, Chandler's Ford,  Hampshire SO53 1EX  Tel: 023 8026 5092</p>
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## From the Chairman Marie Lane

Over the last two years the RSA has been redefining itself and the focus is now much more on individual Fellows and how each one of us can contribute. We in South Central have been contributing to this change of emphasis with the extension of our local event groups, each of which are different but which all bring local Fellows together.

Our event in Chichester, which looked at what local projects Fellows wanted to take on, was interactive and really got local Fellows talking to each other. It also took the debate a step forward by the use of the RSA network platform and this allows the debate to reach other interested Fellows who could not attend the event. I think this combination of local events where Fellows can interact face to face coupled with the use of technology to take them further is a good concept and will allow the RSA to move forward.

However, the essential ingredient is that the RSA is a Fellowship organisation and true Fellowship feeds on Fellows actually talking to each other, making the spontaneous connections and feeding off the ideas generated to make a real difference. RSA South Central has a strong Fellowship connection as was once again evidenced at the annual dinner when the buzz of conversation reflected the ideas being exchanged and the connections being made. It is at times like these that I am especially proud of being part of RSA – a true Fellowship organisation.

It is with deep regret and not a little shock that I have to tell you that Hilary Carrington is to step down from the post of Honorary Regional Secretary. Hilary has always put tremendous effort into her role. Not only has she performed as Regional Secretary but also has organised all of our Regional events and I will miss her thoroughness, straightforwardness and good humour. I know you will all join me in a huge vote of thanks for her tremendous commitment to the South Central Region.

Although Hilary had already reached this decision, just a couple of days before the annual dinner, as many of you will know, she became unwell and within a fortnight was diagnosed with a brain tumour. I am delighted to tell you that within less than a month Hilary has been operated on, the tumour (which was benign) has been removed and Hilary is now recovering well at home.

Steuart Thompson has stepped into the breach to pick up where Hilary left off until the AGM and he too deserves a huge vote of thanks. Steuart is going to stand as Treasurer at the AGM and so we need to find a replacement for Hilary. Indeed with the increased size of the region and the increased number of local event groups we feel we need to split the role and have both a Minuting and an Events Secretary.

Hilary and Steuart are happy to talk to people about the roles and I would ask those interested in taking up these roles or in joining the committee please contact Steuart or myself.

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## Forthcoming events (more LEG events on pg4)

**5 July**, 10.30am - RSA South Central AGM & Living Rainforest, Hampstead Norreys, Newbury

**14 October**, 7pm - An evening with TV Producer Kate Beal

'Trust, transparency and documentary film making - reflecting reality or manipulating it?'

Tickets: £10 (RSA Fellows and CMI/WiM Network Members), £12 Guests

Kate Beal is Director of KMB Productions, Hampshire. Her series 'By Royal Appointment' is being aired on ITV in July and follows the success of previous series commissions from network television companies including the 'fly on the wall' documentary 'Vicars' Wives' and 'Cathedral Cities'. This event is being brought to RSA Fellows in a partnership with the Chartered Management Institute's Women in Management Network (Hampshire and West Sussex) and the Diocese of Winchester.

Venue: Highfield Church Rooms, Southampton. For details and booking email [duncanhanner@waitrose.com](mailto:duncanhanner@waitrose.com)

## ***Moving towards a zero waste society***

Hilary Carrington FRSA reviews a visit to the Marchwood Energy Recycling Facility, Southampton

About 65 Fellows and guests visited the Marchwood Energy Recycling Facility, which is hailed as the most progressive integrated waste management system in the country. It provides sustainable waste management for all domestic waste in the county.

The plant is owned and run by the French company, Veolia Environmental Services, part of the Project Integra partnership between Hampshire County Council, the Unitary Authorities of Southampton and Portsmouth and the 11 district councils.

Recyclables such as paper, cardboard, aluminium cans and certain types of plastic, are processed at plants in Alton and Portsmouth. In general any type of paper may be recycled, except shredded paper, which clogs up the machines.

Plastic bottles are acceptable, but without lids - these are made of a different type of plastic which cannot yet be recycled, as are plastic food trays, yogurt and margarine pots. 95000 tonnes per annum of paper, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles are recycled at Alton. Plastic bottles are made from a plastic known as PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate), and can be sorted, washed and flaked in the specially designed reprocessors. The reprocessed plastic can be used for roof insulation. HDPE (High Density Polyethylene such as is used in detergent bottles) can be reused in articles such as garden furniture and drainpipes.

Garden waste is composted at a site near Basingstoke, and the process includes monitoring the temperature, watering in dry weather and turning the

rows of composting piles. Sediment from the water is used as a liquid fertiliser. The whole process takes about six months, and the resulting bags of high-class compost are sold at Household Waste Recycling Centres as GroProw.

The Marchwood plant was opened about 2 years ago, and houses an incinerator dealing with non-recyclable waste which would otherwise go to landfill. By virtue of its position, the cooling system is able to use sea water, without the need of cooling towers. The incinerating system is modern and highly efficient, processing 165000 tonnes of waste per year, and producing 14 megawatt hours of electricity to sell to the National Grid, enough for 20,000 homes. It was intriguing to see the household detritus (stockings and chicken carcasses and all) hanging from the grab mechanism which collects the waste and feeds it into the hopper, thence to the incinerator itself.

Only 15% of household waste in Hampshire is now sent to landfill (the site is at Ringwood). Despite the efficiency of the incinerating process, which includes the cleaning of effluent gases, there are still concerns about emissions emanating from the plant, and their possible effects on surrounding housing. Tables showing emission rates can be downloaded from the Veolia Environmental Services website. It seems there is as yet no absolutely fool-proof answer to these concerns.

Maybe the answer is in our own hands - we must take all possible measures to reduce the amount of waste we produce.

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## ***Developing a capable population***

Greg Slay FRSA reports on the Academies, Comprehensive Schools & Sixth Form Colleges Debate

As a Fellow whose own secondary education was provided through a comprehensive school, I was interested in (but generally uninformed about) the proposition that it is not so much 'what you learn... but how you learn' that ensures our young people can make the fullest contribution to society and the global nature of modern life.

Churchers College, Petersfield was the venue for our March meeting on the topic of education. David Chapman, Principal of the Hampshire Collegiate School in Romsey, and a trustee of the United Church Schools Trust, chaired the evening. The guest speakers were Catherine Shaw (John Madejski Academy, Reading); William Atkinson (Phoenix High School, Shepherds Bush, London); Jane Machell (Alton Sixth Form College) and David Lewis (Portsmouth High School). Each described the particular model followed in their schools, ending with David Lewis of the Opening Minds Curriculum Network outlining the strategy that he had adopted so successfully in his previous school. It was noted that the RSA is a keen supporter of this approach as it focuses on enabling pupils to 'learn how to learn' - albeit within the overriding National Curriculum requirements.

The 'policy glue' that held all four speakers together

was a common commitment to working on individualised solutions for every single pupil. This was recognised as being particularly challenging within both the Academy model (which is focused on young people from families and communities where non-participation in education is historically endemic) and with inner-city comprehensive schools with high proportions of social, health and economic deprivation. The development of a culture of engagement with communities is key: from this develops a culture of learning and then a culture of achievement. The fact that it has taken the Phoenix High School more than a decade to move from 'special measures' to 'outstanding' (according to Ofsted reports) was cited as an example of the challenge facing new Academies.

Some present felt that success was less about the merits of the respective organisational models, and more about the leadership and passion that head-teachers, their teaching staff and their support staff bring to the school environment. The speakers were really inspiring to listen to and to debate with: is it any surprise then that their own pupils also now feel excited about the educational opportunities opening up for them?

## **RSA South Central events**

### **Giles Fletcher FRSA digests the Annual Dinner at Dorney Lake**

More than 85 Fellows and their guests sat down for our annual dinner on 25 April 2008, held at Dorney Lake, Eton College's International Rowing Centre and the site for 2012 Olympics rowing events. Our guests this year included keynote speakers from RSA South Central events held during the year, including David Chapman, from Hampshire Collegic School, William Atkinson of the Phoenix High School and Demi Nadworth who had talked so enthusiastically about the culture of India. We were especially privileged to welcome as our Guest of Honour Roderick Watson, construction project manager of the Dorney Lake Complex.

At the front of the conference centre there is a panoramic view down the 2,000 metre course. Inside, Fellows and guests enjoyed a splendid meal, beautifully cooked and served by friendly and attentive staff. Dorney

Lake is to be congratulated.

After the meal and the toasts to the Queen and Prince Philip, our patron, Roderick gave us an amusing and illustrated talk on the *raison d'etre*, construction and operation of the facility. He explained how ever increasing traffic on the Thames had so seriously curtailed Eton's competitive rowing that alternative arrangements had to be found. He provided many stories of battles with the local planners, the river authorities and the Environment Agency, not to mention contractors or the weather, that were finally won though, leading to the provision of the only fully International rowing course in the country suitable for the Olympics in 2012. Although used mainly by the college, it is also available to any local organisations with a 'starter pack' of boats and coaches if needed.

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### **RSA Networks, Chichester - Greg Slay reviews an innovative meeting with SC and SE Regions**

The RSA Networks event hosted by the RSA Chichester and Portsmouth Local Events Group in April 2008 attracted a lot of interest. It was held in The Council House, home to Chichester City Council, by invitation of the Mayor of Chichester (Councillor Ray Brown). This was the first RSA Networks project discussion to take place in southern England and to be organised by Fellows themselves.

The evening event was about confirming that RSA Fellows wanted the Fellowship to expand in new directions - and to align themselves with other Fellows around common themes and interests in order to make a difference in their local communities.

We were delighted to welcome Matthew Taylor, RSA Chief Executive, to introduce the RSA Networks project. Starting with a wide-ranging overview of British society he then spoke about how he believed the RSA could make a difference. In particular, he felt that the organisation needed to draw strength in common from four main strands: The House, the lecture programme, the current research programmes and the Fellowship.

For too long now, the Fellowship had been seen as a passive audience, and the contribution that individual Fellows might be able to make had been overlooked. He commended the enthusiasm in South Central, South East

and North West regions in starting the regional discussions on the RSA Networks project. He concluded by remarking that the RSA would definitely be strengthening its organisational capacity and infrastructure in 2008 in order to better support Fellows.

Laura Bunt, the RSA Networks officer, was also in attendance - with a remit from Matthew that she assist in extending the discussions that were to follow later by engaging with the wider Fellowship in the regions. The evening was then organised on the basis of a series of wide-ranging round-table discussions, designed to bring out the skills and interests of Fellows. Fellows (from both South Central and South East regions) themselves facilitated the discussions and the notes taken have been collated into a report that has subsequently been widely circulated. The report is now available on the RSA Networks website, and Fellows interested in further discussions around the themes raised should log in and access it at this address:  
<http://networks.thersa.org/discuss/drawing-together-rsa-spirit-regions>

To those of you who did not attend but would like more information about hosting a similar event in your own local geographical area, get in touch, and we will do what we can to help spread the word.

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### **Young Enterprise in Dorset is alive and well, finds Marie Lane FRSA**

Our February event was very interactive as we learnt about Dorset Young Enterprise from 3 different perspectives: the national perspective of Young Enterprise itself, how local companies contribute and from the students who take part. Young Enterprise is a national scheme run as a charity where students set up and run their own company, making all the decisions and learning how companies really work. They elect officers and finance the company by selling shares, using cash raised to make products which they then market and sell.

Each Company is supported by advisors from local business who offer guidance and support. Our event gave three companies that meet at JPMorgan in Bournemouth an opportunity to practice presentations which they could use for the local heats of the annual Young Enterprise Company competition. It was a successful event and one of the groups presenting to us went on to win the Dorset finals.

This scheme benefits both students and advisors, who can improve their influencing and coaching skills.

## **Local Event Groups News**

**Fellows are able to attend or book for events at any Local Event Group (LEG) and not just the ones taking place in their immediate locality.**

### **Joint event for the Bournemouth & Poole and Southampton LEGs**

A visit to the Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy, Bransgore was held on 3 June. The Centre uses horses and horse motivation to help vulnerable people with special needs. The next event for the Bournemouth & Poole LEG is still to be decided so any suggestions please to Marie Lane 91, Dorchester Rd, Oakdale, Poole, BH15 3QZ tel 01202 670921 or email [mclane@waitrose.com](mailto:mclane@waitrose.com)

### **Salisbury LEG**

This group is flourishing. It has formed a working party which is working with a local pressure group on housing issues in the area. A visit to The Earl of Radnor's seat, Longford Castle, is planned, and it is hoped will be in September. There is a visit to Salisbury Cathedral on 1 Oct with a talk from the Dean, the Very Revd June Osborne, about the business of running a cathedral, beginning at 11am followed by a tour of the Cathedral.

### **Isle of Wight LEG**

A meeting in the summer at Seaview is planned.

### **Chichester and Portsmouth LEG**

For the three Chichester and Portsmouth LEG events below, please apply in writing, enclosing payment to RSA South Central, to Greg Slay at the address below. Booking forms can also be found with the Chichester and Portsmouth LEG event emails sent to Fellows.

Greg Slay, RSA South Central, 7 Dolphin Close, Fishbourne, Chichester PO19 3QP

*Maximising Potential: The Aldingbourne Trust, Norton (7 miles east of Chichester)*

Wednesday 27 August 2008

1.45 for 2pm start, finish 4pm

The Aldingbourne Trust, a registered charity, creates opportunities for the training and development, employment and accommodation of people with learning difficulties. The Trust has been in operation for a number of years. Its strategic forward plan now seeks to take the Trust in different directions including the development of a range of social enterprises. This afternoon visit has been arranged on the invitation of Henry Chetwynd-Stapylton FRSA, one of the trustees, and Sue Livett, Managing Director. Tickets: £5 to include refreshments

*Jay Bolotin: Acclaimed Musician and Visual Artist*

Tuesday 16 September 2008 John Hansard Gallery, Southampton

5.30 for 6pm start

RSA Fellows are invited to a private viewing and discussion of the work of Kentucky-born animator, Jay Bolotin, whose latest exhibition is being held at the John Hansard Gallery at the University of Southampton (postcode SO17 1BJ) this autumn. Professor Pamela Howard OBE, FRSA will introduce Jay Bolotin and interview him about his current projects before we are treated to a film screening of some of that work in progress. Early booking and payment is advised. Car parking options will be advised on receipt of payment. Cost £10 per person

*Chichester Cathedral: Art and Spirituality*

Tuesday 11 November 2008

3.45pm for 4pm start; plus an evening buffet and lecture (finish 9pm)

This exclusive event has been organised in connection with the 900th anniversary of the Cathedral's consecration in 1108 and the 50th anniversary of the death of George Bell, Bishop of Chichester (and patron of the arts) from 1929-1958.

The Dean of Chichester is the Very Reverend Nicholas Frayling (if the surname is familiar it is because his brother, Christopher, received the RSA's Bicentenary Medal in 2001). The Dean has agreed to give an illustrated talk on the links between art and spirituality, drawing on the Cathedral's extensive modern art collection for inspiration. Our visit to the Cathedral starts with a specialist guided tour from inside the West Door at 4pm. There will then be an opportunity to attend choral evensong (sung by the Cathedral's renowned boy choristers) at 5.30pm for which seats for Fellows are being specially reserved. After evensong, there will be a reception and hot meal (with a licensed cash bar available) in the nearby Vicars' Hall, from 6.30pm - following which the Dean will give his illustrated lecture and take questions. The evening will finish around 9pm. Numbers are restricted to 80 Fellows so early booking and payment are advised. Car parking options will be advised on receipt of payment. Fully inclusive cost: £17 per person.

If you would like to be added to the RSA South Central email events list, contact Duncan Hanner (details on pg1).