

## Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 2 August 2010

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Please note, the Fellowship newsletter is taking a short break over the summer. The next issue will be published **Monday 30 August**.

## News and Events



### Travelling Pantry workshops

The Travelling Pantry is an action research project designed by Fellows **Tessy Britton** and **David Gauntlett** to test whether giving ideas, methods and tools to small groups of people can encourage them to start new community projects.

Fellows can get involved in two ways. A number of workshops are currently planned which you are encouraged to attend. Or, if you are interested in working with local people to set up community projects, you can request a workshop in your area. [Read more...](#)



### RSA Fellowship Charter signed off

Following our last update in the **7 June issue** of the newsletter on the development of the Fellowship Charter, the working group used your comments to agree final amendments.

We are pleased to let you know that the Fellowship Council agreed the final version at their meeting on 29 June 2010 - so thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback.

[Read more...](#)



### RSA Catalyst: progress continues

As projects previously awarded **RSA Catalyst** resources begin to report real progress, Fellowship Council and RSA staff last week awarded four more projects Catalyst grants and Fellow expertise registered via **RSA Support**. One such project is where Fellows have been working to use a double-decker bus as a media production facility to engage school children in Manchester to engage in Manchester's creative industries. There were also exciting projects awarded resources from Glasgow, Ghana and London. Learn about how to get involved and [read more...](#)



### Turn Crisis to Opportunity: RSA and 2020 PST Public Services Summit

The RSA and 2020 Public Services Trust would like to offer Fellows an early opportunity to secure a place at The 2020/RSA Public Services Summit at the RSA on **Tuesday 9 November 2010**.

The conference will bring together key political thinkers and thought leaders from across government and the public and third sectors. [Read more and register](#) for the conference.



### RSA Scotland Conference

Fellows from Scotland and beyond are invited to attend the RSA Scotland Conference on **Saturday 4 September** in Edinburgh. The conference will look at the influence of market forces on the availability, affordability and accessibility in our society of food, building upon themes set out at the last RSA Scotland Conference in 2007.

Speakers include Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the RSA; Sheila Dillon of Radio 4; and Dr Anna Casey of Cranfield University. The conference starts at 9am until 4pm, at Stewart's Melville College in Edinburgh. Tickets costs £40. The RSA Scotland AGM will take place at 12 noon. For further details and to register please visit the [event page](#) or contact **Jamie Cooke**.

## In brief

A selection of activities taking place worldwide...

### Prestatyn

Fellows are invited to attend the first network meeting of the new North Wales coastal Fellows' group, to be held at **Scala Arts Centre** in Prestatyn on **Wednesday 4 August**. This network is being lead by Richard Edwards FRSA. Please come along for 6.30pm to 8.30pm. [Book now](#) to register your interest in the network. Contact **Chris Luffingham** for further queries.



### Kent

Fellows in Kent and the surrounding area are invited to attend the first in a new series of discussion panels taking place throughout the county. The first event will be held in the Old Town Hall in **Gravesend** on **Thursday 12 August, 7pm**.



This event will focus on **Lessons from the Future: Paths to a Caring Economy** and a panel will be discussing the relationship between businesses and the communities in which they operate and how they can move beyond their traditional roles to provide further benefits to themselves and the wider society. To book, please visit the [event invitation](#).

### London

A special Fellows' networking evening is taking place at the RSA on Thursday 5 August, at 6pm focusing on **how engineering and technology can contribute to a more just and peaceful society**. If you would like more information or would like to attend please [visit the invitation page](#).





Kath Davies FRSA works for Plymouth City Council. She talks here of why she joined the Fellowship and the contribution she would like to make in her

community:

"I have two roles which are interconnected by underpinning thoughts and ideas. In my role as **Principal Arts Officer** at Plymouth City Council, I work to support the growth of the arts sector. This developmental role works strategically across three strands: education, experience and experimentation. These three strands are underpinned by network and brokerage; information and advice; support and advocacy."

"As an artist, I am interested in creative social networks and how these territories, physical or virtual are marked or decoded. As an active collaborator, I am also interested in how relationships and ideas develop from the ephemeral into tangible projects or agents for change. I am currently investigating ideas around architectural features within the landscape, their role and function, and their intrinsic beauty and line which marks the start of the creative process and the individual."

"I am co-director of **onec**, an independent arts organisation, which came into being in 2005. Originally focussed on the placing of contemporary arts practice in non traditional venues- and whose core activity ran from a domestic setting- onec has now developed into an independent record label, exploring the boundary between art and music."

On joining the Fellowship: "Accepting the nomination was more than simply joining a well established and recognised organisation. I wanted to connect with individuals whose experience I could learn from, to discuss and debate ideas and share best practice in implementing and bringing to life concepts of change. I wanted to be able to network, finding others who can help me explore my own ideas, to challenge my processes and practice, and develop methodologies and strategies for transformation."

"I hope to be an active Fellow, locally in Plymouth and the region, contributing as and when I can to enable ideas, encouraging and challenging debate and dialogue. I also hope to draw on the resources of the RSA, sharing the knowledge and best practice within my professional and artistic practice, encouraging and collaborating with other Fellows to inform, and if I could be so bold, drive through change within the City."

On talking to other Fellows: "Being relatively new to the RSA, I would have to say there are two Fellows who have been inspiring and have shown real enthusiasm for discussions, ideas and projects. This open approach is refreshing and exciting and has reinvigorated my thinking. I am working with Alan Boldon on a project to re-imagine Plymouth through a series of conversations. Our aim is to look at placemaking in a way which is interdisciplinary, responsive and adaptive. Alan is very skilled at encouraging new thinking and a new way of seeing across many approaches and disciplines, focussing diverse agendas to enable creative conversations. The second (RSA staff) Fellow is Chris Luffingham, Networks Manager: Cymru Wales, South West, West, who simply made me feel very welcome. Chris was open, friendly and also incredibly switched on! As a new Fellow with questions around exactly what it means, what does the RSA do, how can I get involved or even am I in a position to get involved? Chris enabled and supported me to invite Fellows to a meeting and open up our project."

On connecting with other Fellows: "I am interested in working with Fellows in Plymouth on agendas and strategies for the City. Plymouth is a city with real ambition and opportunity and I believe the RSA network can inform, stimulate and contribute in multiple ways."

"For my own practice, I would be interested to talk to Fellows whose work or interest is in Vinyl Records, Lathe Production as we have had to go to the States for our limited edition releases on the onec label. I am also in the very early stages of a photographic project to document Motorway Bridges, and am currently establishing partners to support the project."

"If anyone wanted to find out more about my work as an artist or my work in Plymouth, I would be happy to talk further." Contact Kath **by email** or via the **Fellowship directory**.

*Know of an inspiring Fellow whom you'd like us to feature in the*

## Yorkshire

RSA Yorkshire Initiative have been looking at ways to encourage greater participation and build community capacity across the Yorkshire region. As part of this research a short survey has been prepared, the objective of which is to understand how Fellows could contribute to RSA in Yorkshire.



Please **participate in the survey**. Feedback will be collected and presented at RSA Yorkshire AGM on 25 September 2010. For further comments please contact **Viv Long-Ferguson**.

## Changes to Ning networks

As you may have seen in our **last newsletter**, there will be changes to some of the RSA online social networks following a change in pricing structure by **Ning.com**. This will happen by 20 August so please keep any eye out. If you have any questions please contact **Viv Long-Ferguson**.

## RSA event at the Edinburgh Book Festival

Join us on **22 August, 3pm** for an event on **The RSA / Sky Sustainable Business Series - The Meaning of Money**. Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz gives the final keynote lecture in the Sustainable Business Series at the Edinburgh International Book Festival. Tickets costs £7/£9.



Visit the **Edinburgh Festival website** for more information and to book.

Remember, you can **listen live** to our events, or you can subscribe to our **podcast** for past events. Filmed events are available to watch on **RSA Vision**.

## USA

Fellows are taking advantage of slower summer schedules to meet informally around the northeast, in New York, New England, and Washington DC, while California and southeast Fellows are developing plans for fall events. The latest US newsletter, "**of Conflicts, Caffeine, Carbon and Camels**" sums up the range of network discussions, and the previous issue, "**a Corner of a Foreign Field**" details



next newsletter? Please [contact us](#) and let us know their name and details.



#### Connect to other Fellows today

**Are you making the most of the Fellowship directory?** This 'opt-in' search directory of our 27,000 strong Fellowship provides an opportunity to find other Fellows all round the world. **Register now** and don't miss out!

#### 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.

Trouble reading this email? [View the latest and previous newsletters online](#).

#### 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!

Or a Fellow? We have some interesting US-UK RSA history. Contact [Lynn Broadbent](#) to receive a copy or to set up a meeting or visit the [American Coffee House](#).

#### 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 the [Fellowship team](#).