

It's cold out there but has the freeze frozen us out? International Connections. Hume Anniversary joint event.

Moving towards a more digitally engaged Fellowship. Bilingualism efforts thrive. Gaps to be filled on the Committee.

Tayside Network gets going New Fellows make their mark ... Ugandan beads via Glasgow ...

Digital Engagement

We are trying to move the RSA Scotland into the Digitally engaged world while at the same time respecting those of you who have taken the decision to remain without email. David Miller is taking this project forward for RSA Scotland.

If any of you have a skype name or other contact and want to share it with us please feel free to do so and then we can have personal communications. It is free!

Are we frozen?

That may seem a strange question but perhaps now is a good time to reflect on the impact of the recent cold winter weather. As we are now told, that affected the UK economy quite drastically. People could not get to work and things that were expected just didn't happen. For anyone who experienced the weather that shut the M8 for 24 hours it will bring back unpleasant memories.

However the impacts are felt wider. I know of at least one family that hasn't been able to get home to their property in Stirlingshire since November, albeit they live up a remote forest track which has been impassable to cars for over 10 weeks.

These sorts of disruptions bypass the majority who live relatively comfortable lives in our cities and just have to put up with disruption to the public transport networks for a few days here and there. On the other hand the psychological effect on everyone who has seen the weather first hand has been to adopt a form of siege mentality. This brings me back to the question.

Have we, as RSA Fellows, taken our eyes off the ball? Are we really doing all we can to make a social impact and spread 21st Century Enlightenment? Or are we mired in the idea that getting to work in the morning is the only important thing to worry about? We no longer spend our time organising grand lectures for the edification of the wider world. Instead we are supposed to be actively engaging as catalysts for change. But is this happening in your area?

Just as, during times of bad weather, we are exhorted to check on our neighbours, now is a good time to check up on the social entrepreneurial activity in your locale. Are your skills in need? Can you network with others from the RSA to give things a shove to get started? It really is up to us all to make that effort.

Where next?

We are just finalising our strategy for the next few years and we will communicate this to all Fellows in Scotland when it has been ratified by your committee. Views on issues that you think are important or key themes for us to pursue are always welcome. We cannot guarantee that everything will be covered but the more constructive the input, the better.



Standing L to R - Angus Millar's sons: Douglas, Charles and Roderick
Seated - Sir Simon Jenkins and Sir Kenneth Calman
before the Angus Millar Lecture

Recent Events

Doing Business in the Tower of Babel - 10 November

This was a very interesting presentation by Professor Antonella Sorace FRSA of the University of Edinburgh, backed up with a business perspective from Rob Wherrett FRSA Director of Consultancy at Zymolysis. The event was chaired by Malcolm Chisholm MSP and received great plaudits from the invited audience, many of whom represented language teaching and development in Scotland.

Subsequently the presentations were taken to an event at the Goethe Institut in Glasgow, attended by the German Ambassador to the UK; and a number of other bodies have also expressed an interest in learning more about why this is such an important area for development and how it can be taken forward.

Taking this even further, Rob Wherrett (who is a practising Management Consultant) has been invited to talk to senior school pupils at Glenalmond College in March on the impact of multicultural awareness (driven by bilingualism) on their future job prospects.

Antonella and Rob also anticipate doing further presentations to the City later in this year as part of the ongoing awareness campaign.

... great plaudits from the invited audience

Angus Millar Lecture - 22nd November

Former *Times* editor and current chairman of the National Trust Sir Simon Jenkins gave an interesting talk about aspects of managing the conflicting stakeholders and representing the aims of the Trust in its properties in England & Wales. Fellows were a little disappointed that more was not made of the serious issues around cultural heritage models which might support and strengthen physical communities but there was lively discussion, ably chaired by Sir Kenneth Calman.

RSA Scotland Venture Fund ...

continues to look to support the beginnings of social projects involving Fellows within Scotland. Our focus is to help you concentrate on what will have an impact rather than just talking about ideas. The Panel is looking at ways in which we can maximise some of the recent successes and extend and innovate in the area of seed capital and support. Fellows will know that one of the results of our development was the launch of the RSA Catalyst Fund and we are now looking at other opportunities to lead the way and spread best practice. If you have a project that seeks support, application forms are available from Dugdale Bradley jpdbradley-rsa@yahoo.co.uk

Don't forget that bidding for money from the RSASVF does not preclude Fellows bidding to the Catalyst Fund administered by the RSA at John Adam Street (or vice versa).

Trustee Elections ...

By now you should have received notification of the election process for a further 4 Trustees of the Society. Voting ends on 21 February and is being conducted online via the Electoral Reform Society. There are currently no trustees on the board who are Scottish Fellows.

The following candidates are standing (with their current "day-jobs" in brackets):

Kevin Cahill	(News Bureau Chief)
Ted Fowler	(Economic Development Officer)
Katz Kiely	(Director)
Carlos Miranda	(Managing Director, the Social Investment Consultancy)
James Parker	(Director)
Lopa Patel	(Entrepreneur)
Donald Pinchbeck	(Chair, Trustee and Director)
Jonathan Rollason	
Wiard Sterk	(Executive Director of SAFLE)
Yva Thadurkas	(Managing Director)
Dr Suzy Walton	(Board Director, Public Sector & Former Senior Civil Servant, Cabinet Office)
Bevis Watts	(Head of Business at Triodos Bank)
Rob Wherrett	(Director)

Coming Events

RSA Fellows' Media, Creative Industries, Culture and Heritage Network

Debate with Blair Jenkins re Scottish Digital Panel Final Report
Immediate registration is advised to ensure availability of space(s). Register by crossed cheque for £10 per head (i/f "RSA Fellows' MCICH Network) to Ann Packard, 81 Cumberland Street, Edinburgh EH3 6RD along with usual delegate information including e-mail for an e-ticket. Queries to 0131 556 2052 and please ensure you leave your landline number, or email annpackard_pppt@onetel.com. Priority will be given to those who have attended similar events including the SBC event with Blair Jenkins.

New Fellows Reception

There is to be a reception for New Fellows in Edinburgh in early March. Invitations will be sent to those concerned. If you feel you should be included then please let Frances Gallagher know.

Japanese design for V&A at Dundee

Goodison Group

Our Chair, Frances Gallagher has recently joined the Goodison Group and we look forward to a revived relationship.

More details of events at **the** RSA Scotland website (see link below)

Go to <http://www.thersa.org/fellowship/fellowship-activity/regions-and-worldwide/scotland> to find out more about what is going on with the RSA in Scotland.

Venture Fund seeks new horizons

Hume Anniversary in May ...

Jamie Cooke the Network Manager for Scotland, Wales and North East England is supporting our engagement with the North East in establishing an afternoon to celebrate the Tercentenary of Hume one of our Enlightenment leaders. More details to come. If you want to be more fully involved in this function which will be on May 21st 2011 please contact the Committee or Jamie jamie.cooke@rsa.org.uk

The RSA Fellows'

Media, Creative Industries, Culture & Heritage Network [MCICH]

For all events please supply title, forename, surname, job title and organisation/company, full postal address and contact information land and mobile telephones and e-mail for each attendee

10 February **Debate with Blair Jenkins re Scottish Digital Panel Final Report**

Venue: Anderson Strathern LLP, Rutland Court, Edinburgh 5.30pm for 6pm

RSA Fellows and guests are invited to register to attend on Thursday 10th February to debate, with its chairman Blair Jenkins, the Scottish Digital Panel Final Report (issued Monday 24 January). This may be found via the Scottish Government website as also the prior and relevant report of the Scottish Broadcasting Commission (SBC). Delegates may find it useful to consider the October 2010 RSE Digital Scotland Report (ISBN 978-0-902198-36-4, www.royalsoced.org.uk).

17 March **Twenty-First Century Libraries**

Venue: National Library for Scotland (note this is a rescheduled event)
Lecture is free but e-ticketed. Book on-line at www.nls.uk/events/booking

No charge to attend.

Coming up:

13 June **Economics, Internet & Society: Event Two**
Joint Event: "MCICH" with Scottish Economic Society & Scottish Society for Computers and Law

Half day afternoon event in Edinburgh

Fuller details of all events should now or shortly be on the RSA Scotland website under future events.

Beads from paper

Snippets

Kirstie MacLean - new Glasgow Fellow

Beads made from paper form the basis of an enterprising venture in Uganda.

Volunteering in Uganda in 2006, Angus MacLean, (Kirstie's brother), encountered 4 women making recycled paper bead jewellery, being trained to work for a now defunct organisation. He formed a new empowerment project, selling their finished jewellery in a local town market and encouraged them to keep up their skill. Kirstie later came to volunteer and Angus introduced her to the women. Under her direction she matured the cooperative into the ethical bead business it is today, **Mzuribeads**. <http://mzuribeads.blogspot.com>



Kirstie MacLean FRSA at a recent Glasgow Network meeting

More to the point Kirstie is hoping that Fellows will network with her to help extend and expand the business. Do you have connections that would be interested in ethnic (and ethical) jewellery? Get in touch!

Tim Allan FRSA is a St Andrews educated ex-Army Officer and a founding director of Unicorn Property Group, a Scotland-based property investment and development company.



Tim Allan FRSA

Outside his business, Tim has been a member of the Scotland Committee of the BIG Lottery Fund since 2007, and has recently retired as the Chair of Young Enterprise Scotland, the leading business and enterprise education charity in Scotland.

Whilst at YES, Tim oversaw a period of innovation and change as the charity evolved into a successful social enterprise, delivering its programmes into some of the hardest to reach areas of society. His passion is for enterprise and entrepreneurial business as a means of tackling some of the most intractable social issues of poverty and despair.

In April 2010, Tim was awarded The Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion, and has joined as a Fellow of the RSA to be part of an engaged, informed and vigorous civic society.

Stateside

Apparently Frances Gallagher recently gave a talk to Academics and Teachers studying for a Masters degree in New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, about taking Education out of the Silos. [Their choice of title] It was well received and we are developing closer relationships with our Colleagues in USA.

Want to connect?

If anyone wants to meet a colleague on your travels please get in touch with John Adam Street RSA HQ and speak to Michael Ambjorn Director of Fellowship and he will be able to support you in organising a meeting with Fellows.

Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion

Update on the Fellowship Council.

As you may have noted at the AGM due to some dispute about the nature and structure of the Governance of RSA UK there is going to be major Governance review starting soon. Frances Gallagher is hoping that there will be a Scottish representative on the review team. This team is still to be elected and we will keep you up to date about this.

The Fellowship Council is looking at the nature of its remit and the nature and structure of Nations and Regions. The next meeting of the Council is on February 2nd and further information is expected to follow.



Kengo Kuma's winning design for the V&A in Dundee

City Networks

If you are in an area not yet covered by one of the networks, want more information or - better still - are prepared to help, please contact the Committee.

The first discussion meeting of the **Tayside** network was held in Abertay University Library where Fellows were shown the six submissions for the V&A building to be the focus of tourism and the heritage on the waterfront of Dundee. It was an illuminating couple of hours viewing and discussing the models and plans. It came as no surprise that the selected architect is Japanese Kengo Kuma who has been appointed to lead the V&A design team. Funds have recently been guaranteed to allow the design work to start with an opening planned for 2014. It will be a fantastic venture for Scotland and certainly a huge challenge for the builders when selected. It is so encouraging to watch the concept with the V&A in Dundee evolve with a confidence that is infectious and surely inspirational. The visit to the exhibition was followed by good conversation over an excellent meal which focused on Italy! Funding for the £45 million project is expected to be a combination of public, private and charitable contributions.

The Spring meeting of Tayside Fellows will be in Fife.

Network contact is David MacLehose david@heritagesolutions.co.uk

The **Glasgow** Fellows Network meets upstairs at **Café Gandolfi** in Albion Street on the second Tuesday of each month. Next meeting is on 8 February from 5.30 - 7.00pm. We are expecting to move the venue after March - probably to *The Corinthian* on Ingram Street and will keep you informed.

Network contact is Rob Wherrett robw@zymolysis.biz

Edinburgh Fellows Network meets on the Last Thursday of the Month, from 5pm till 8pm, the venue is **Le Monde** in George Street. Email reminders are sent out to Fellows with an EH postcode.

Network contact is June Edoar iune17@fsmail.net

By the way - if you have interesting views that you feel might amuse or inform the Fellowship - then please do contact us. Ideally photos should be digital and at least 300 dpi quality. They can be emailed to David Miller.

Whither the Committee?

We have to report the resignation of Andrew Milligan FRSA of Standard Life Investments from the Committee shortly before Christmas, due to pressure of work. Following the changes at the last AGM due to retirements at ends of term, that has left us relatively short-handed and steps are being taken to co-opt able and willing Fellows to plug the gaps. On the basis that volunteers are worth 10 pressed men please heed this call if you feel you can contribute.

Our thanks go to Andrew for his sterling work behind the scenes over the last few years.

The Fellowship Council is looking at the nature of its remit

Matthew Taylor ahoy ...

It is expected that Matthew will once again be visiting to take part in the New Fellows event in Edinburgh in March and continue to spread the word on 21st Century Enlightenment.

RSA Scotland Committee 2010-2011

Chair: **Frances Gallagher** fcag2001@googlemail.com
Deputy Chair: **Jane Kille** jkfrsa@gmail.com
Secretary: **Sue Hunter** sue.hunter@morton-fraser.com
Treasurer: **Tom O'Connell** t.oconnell@frenchduncan.co.uk

Members: **William Cairns, June Edgar, David MacLehose, David Miller, Andrew Milligan, Rob Wherrett**

RSA Networks Manager: **Jamie Cooke**
jamie.cooke@rsa.org.uk

Fellowship Council

There are currently three Fellowship Councillors from Scotland: **Ann Packard, Charles Millar and Frances Gallagher**

Cover photo - **Winter sunshine at Greenbank Garden (National Trust for Scotland) near Newton Mearns**



The Magazine - Dumbarton Rock

It was from the Dumbarton fortress that Mary Queen of Scots escaped to France as a child, fleeing Henry VIII's soldiers



The Wedge - Millport, Great Cumbrae
reputedly the UK's narrowest house
Photo © Reroq Publishing

What ideas do **YOU** have to change society for the better? 21st Century Enlightenment needs thinkers and doers to make it happen.

Venture Fund

Panel Chair: **Dugdale Bradley** jpdbradley-rsa@yahoo.co.uk
Panel Deputy Chair: **Rob Wherrett** robw@zymolysis.biz
Panel Members: Neil Barlow, Ken Starbuck, Frances Gallagher

Dear Diary ...

February

- 8 Glasgow Network - Café Gandolfi 17:30-19:00
- 10 MCICH Network Debate with Blair Jenkins re Scottish Digital Panel Final Report - Anderson Strathern LLP, Rutland Court 17:30 onwards
- 21 Voting closes for Trustee Elections
- 24 Edinburgh Network - Le Monde 17:00-20:00

March

- 8 Glasgow Network - Café Gandolfi 17:30-19:00
- 17 MCICH Network - Twenty-First Century Libraries - NLS, Edinburgh
- 24 Edinburgh Network - Le Monde 17:00-20:00

April

- 12 Glasgow Network - venue to be confirmed 17:30-19:00
- 28 Edinburgh Network - Le Monde 17:00-20:00

Plus

Tayside Network in Fife - date/venue to be announced