

Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 19 January 2010

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News and Events



RSA Comment: Your right to reply

RSA Comment is a dynamic new web space for you to engage in intelligent debate on topical issues relevant to the RSA's aims and activities. You will be able to keep up to date with leading opinion and watch animations and interviews with world class speakers. Crucially, it is a space where you can share your own views on issues at the heart of the RSA's mission to encourage human fulfilment and social progress. We encourage you to submit your own articles, add your comments and continue the debate.

This week's highlights include **Tom Chatfield** on virtual worlds as an environment for studying real-world behaviours, **Oliver Kamm** on the future of the economy as we enter 2010, and - in the first of our new animated lecture series - **'The economic consequences of Mr Brown'** brought to life.

[View latest content and share your thoughts.](#)



Your Fellowship Council at work

The new **Fellowship Council** is up and running! The Council met for the second time in December and I am pleased to announce that **Tessy Britton** and **Paul Buchanan** have been elected Chair and Deputy Chair.

The Council has set itself up to work as flexibly as possible, in partnership with RSA staff. Council members will be focused on creative but practical ways of supporting Fellows to be better connected and more active - they also know that the real work happens with Fellows, between meetings. **Working groups** have been established in a number of priority areas, including project development and Fellowship diversity. Experimental networks will work on issues including Youth projects.

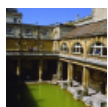
The Council have set themselves a challenging agenda, and I am excited to be working with them. They also need your support - I encourage you to join the **Council site** to find out more and to get involved if you can. You can also follow Council activities on **Twitter**.

Belinda Lester, Director of Fellowship



Regenerating Grimsby

Fellows and friends are invited to contribute to a workshop session addressing future plans for the Freeman Street regeneration project in Grimsby. Once the centre of a "fish boom town" in the 1850's the area has fallen into disrepair since the 70's. Richard Bellamy FRSA is taking the lead in a joint project with the local council to redesign and remodel the area. A workshop addressing plans for the regeneration project will take place on **Thursday 4 February**. To find out more about the Grimsby project and workshop please [read more](#).



RSA West in Bath

The Looking to the Future events: RSA West are continuing this month in Bath. The first event which took place in Bristol on the 10 December was a tremendous success. On 1 January, the old region of Wales and West was split into two new regions, RSA Cymru Wales and RSA West. These events present the opportunity for Fellows to contribute to the future shape and direction of the new region. To find out more and how to attend please [read more](#).

In brief

Please see a selection of activities taking place worldwide...

East of England

Come and join the online East of England site to be part of the growing amount of Fellow discussion. The site offers a chance to interact with other Fellows in the region and join area-specific groups. [Join FRSA East of England today](#).



For any other queries on the area please contact the local Network Manager **Clare Reilly**.

RSA

Why, despite dark days and gloomy news headlines, do we invariably start each New Year afresh with positive resolutions and belief in a better, brighter future? Join us for RSA Thursday, **Is the Bright Side the Right Side?** with speaker Laurence Shorter on **21 January, 1pm**.



We are pleased to announce that due to its popularity the lecture on **Wednesday 27 January, Drive: The surprising truth about what motivates us**, by Dan Pink will be live video streamed. Watch Daniel Pink as he provides concrete examples of how intrinsic motivation functions both at home and in the workplace.

To see this lecture, all you need to do is visit the [Watch Live](#) page 10 minutes before the event starts when the live video stream will begin.

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

Leicester

The first Network event of 2010 in Leicester is being held at Trinity House, De Montfort University on





Network building

From Singapore to Bristol, and from Sydney to Brussels, Fellows still say that the most valuable attribute of Fellowship is the opportunity to meet

other Fellows. Throughout 2009 the Fellowship Team, local leaders, and Regional Committees worked hard to generate regular FRSA **local networks** across the world, with a view to generating a more dynamic Fellowship, and we're not done yet!

Local networks have evolved in a variety of shapes and sizes. To find where the local networks are near you please [read more](#).



Fellow's Profile - Alison Berry

Alison Berry FRSA is one of the leaders of a Feasibility Study on the **Portico Library** in Manchester, a Fellows' initiative to regenerate the cultural potential of the Library within the Manchester region. Alison talks here about her motivation to become involved and her experiences as a former head teacher:

"I am working with Vivienne Long-Ferguson, in the Networks team and others on a **Feasibility Study** for the Portico Library in Manchester. This has involved conducting a number of interviews with key stakeholders, and research into independent libraries nationally along with Stephen Parry FRSA. I am a co-author of the report and will take part in the presentation of the results at the event at the Portico Library on **Wednesday 27 January**.

I became involved because the project coincided with some of my interests but also because it accorded with my feelings about Manchester. I am not from the city but I began my teaching career in Manchester, working for 20 years in the area. Although I later moved to Blackpool and spent 13 years as head of a secondary school there, I never lost my allegiance to Manchester. I was invited to renew my Fellowship after I moved back to Manchester, and I learnt about the regional network. My aim was to meet some interesting people and maybe, to become involved in some worthwhile activity. Being retired, my greatest asset is time. I have skills and experience commensurate with having been a secondary head in an area of considerable social deprivation and during a period of significant change.

Given the chance I would like to change the inequalities in our Society which, generation after generation, depress the feelings of self-worth, aspirations, opportunities and life chances of so many young people in our most deprived communities.

The emphasis in education in this country is on aspiration and attainment- and rightly so. As a friend of mine said recently, "the best route out of poverty is a GCSE in English and Maths". However, I have seen in my own career, and subsequently as a governor of a Wythenshawe High School, just how much work has to be done to support some children before they can even begin to be able to think about learning. I do not think that Society values sufficiently the teachers who work with them.

I would like to connect to Fellows on anything to do with furthering the vision for Manchester's continuing restructuring and regeneration for the benefit of its people. I would like to get an insight into Fellows' various worlds and enthusiasms- and opportunities to work collaboratively on projects that I feel are relevant and important."

You can find details of the Portico Feasibility Study and launch event on 27 January on the [Manchester online network](#).

Know of an inspiring Fellow whom you'd like us to feature in the next newsletter? 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.

Monday 1 February and will start at 6pm. Access to the Trinity House Gallery and Board Room has been allowed for this meeting where there is a photography display of work by former student, Andy Gotts. If you would like to attend the Leicester Network meeting please contact the **DMU events office**.

Save the date! 4-6 August 2010

The annual **Engineering, Social Justice, and Peace Conference 2010** will be held at the RSA this year. Any interested Fellows are invited to attend and book their place on the [ESJP website](#). A Fellows network exploring the issues around the conference will develop following the event and a Fellows networking evening is planned for **5 August**. More details to follow.



If you are interested in hearing more and getting involved in the network please contact [Sarah Tucker](#) for further details.

USA

Recent announcements include ways to help [children in India](#) and a welcome to the [new US Trustees](#). On January 25 Martin Chasin and Phil Schenck invite other Fellows to a [private preview](#) of the sporting and master art sales at Christie's and Sotheby's in New York.



The New Year is a good time to meet and greet new Fellows and to discuss new project ideas. Network meetings are being planned for February in a number of locations. Contact [Lynn Broadbent](#) to help coordinate in your region, or to nominate a Fellow. Visit the [American Coffee House](#) for all the latest details.

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](#)

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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