

Just some of the events coming your way soon....

1 Sept 6.30-9pm How to harness the skills of the local Fellowship, Isle of Wight. Contact Greg Slay (pg4). £10

9 Sept 7-9.30pm Panel debate on the challenges a rapidly expanding population and changes in eating habits give to food producers and society as a whole. Norrish Central Library, Portsmouth. £7.50

16 Sept 2-4.30pm Private guided tour of gabled manor house Dorney Court, Windsor, and chance to view items of historical importance. £14

Date tbc Rural regeneration in a fragile economy, University of Chichester (more on pg4).

27 Oct 1.30-4pm JET, Europe's flagship

Fusion research facility, Oxfordshire. The event is now sold out. You can add your details to an online waiting list. £7.50

8 Dec 2.45pm-5pm Transformation of the Ashmolean, Oxford into a world class museum. More on pg4. The event is now sold out, but you can add yourself to the waiting list on the online events booking system. £9.50

More events are featured on pages 2, 3 and 4.

As events are finalised, full details and booking forms together with links to the online booking system can be found at: www.thersa.org/fellowship/regions-and-worldwide/South-Central

Do you have an image depicting our region which could appear in the masthead of our next newsletter? The picture needs to be in a high resolution digital format, ideally 300 dpi and suitable to use when converted to black and white.

We are also looking for photographs from RSA events and meetings. If you would be interested in being a volunteer photographer for the region, contact the Editor Duncan Hanner.

Please send contributions to the Editor marked 'RSA SC Newsletter' (new email details on back page). Pictured: Needles, Isle of Wight ©G.Slay **Deadline for next edition: 12 Sept**

RSA Committee

WE launched our Social Innovation Support Fund, receiving the first batch of Fellows' applications, covering a variety of projects. We will report in the next newsletter about successful applications.

More local groups have been initiated with regular get-togethers across the region.



Thanks from our outgoing Chairman

Some are developing strongly, whilst some need reviewing. The challenge is to find the mode appealing to local Fellows. We have used a variety of formats – simple get together, discussions using a House lecture video, and guest speakers. Those attending appear to have valued local meetings.

In addition, we have a wide variety of more structured events, described elsewhere in more detail. These included our Region's annual dinner at the Leander Club in Henley (an event that appeared to have been widely appreciated), as well as a variety of discussions, talks and visits. These events

continue over the summer and autumn.

We also have a presentation on the Fellowship Council, and the development of the Fellowship Charter.

Local events have been popular with Fellows and these will continue to be developed

A presentation of the charter in Reading has been popular and we aim to hold a similar presentation in the south of the region in the future.

We wish to develop our Fellowship activities in the north of the region, and we will do this with the support of the House. Our Network Manager, Olivia Rainford, has been promoted within the House and I would like to thank her for her efforts and support.

I would like to thank my committee colleagues for all their efforts, without them we would not be able to deliver such a wide range of activities for you.

Tony Hoskins FRSA

At the July AGM, Tony became the Deputy Chairman of RSA South Central

Fellowship Profile

JULY 2010

What does being a Fellow of the RSA mean for me?

Mark de Grey FRSA has been a Fellow since 1997 and served on the South Central Committee since 2007.

Mark's main role on the committee to date has been to help one of the local event groups. At the July AGM, he was re-elected to serve a second three year term. He is organising an event for the region's 2011 programme on 'The Global Water Crisis: Our Future'.

Q: What brought you to the RSA?

A: The RSA invited me to join when I was a member of Association of MBAs (AMBAs). I accepted the invitation to broaden my network of friends and professionals and secondly, to take an active part in a community where thought leadership and positive change were key values. Thirdly, it was to help and support initiatives where possible.

My interests include a better understanding of the institutions that help drive and promote the UK; secondly, the reasons for low UK productivity compared to other developed economies (e.g. 'What Happened To Britain' by Lord Eatwell). Another interest is Will Hutton (Work Foundation), his books (e.g. 'The State We Are In') and commentaries.

Q: What have you found most interesting about being a Fellow?

A: Matthew Taylor's contribution and meeting other Fellows. Certain events have been very enjoyable, such as, the visit to Rutherford Laboratories.

TAKE ACTION: have you thought about participating in a regional South Central event or a national RSA project? More ideas on how you can do this on pg3



Professor Sean Street FRSA gave the AGM lecture

RSA Events

Annual General Meeting, Bournemouth

Promoting the work of the Fellowship in south central

HOW does your regional committee help promote the work of the RSA? Fellows had a chance to find out at the AGM in July held at the University of Bournemouth.

Committee membership is diverse and members come from a variety of fields from social enterprises and academics to healthcare professionals and journalists. They all share one focus: to spread the message of the RSA Fellowship and to help Fellows and the local community make a difference.

RSA Fellowship is all about making a difference

Committee member, Professor Sean Street, gave a lecture following the AGM 'A Witness to History' which explored the value and developments which had been involved in digitising the Independent Radio News audio archive. The archive is a resource for education, and includes for example, material from the Thatcher years, the Falklands War and the end of Apartheid.

Independent local radio in the UK has only been going since 1973 and it is all too easy to forget that a vast amount of output has been broadcast since that time. Most of that output has however been lost to history

as tapes were recorded over time and again, or as was planned to happen with the Independent Radio News archive, consigned to the dustbin or skip.

The Independent Radio News archive consists of 32,000 individual items of news between 1973-96, all of which were originally recorded on 1,000 reel tapes, and were then carefully listened to by a group of 12 listeners employed for the purpose, in order that the contents could be properly accessioned and catalogued. But before it got to this stage the tapes had to be rescued from the skip. The rescue operation involved Bournemouth University staff bringing together a rescue operation with only 24 hours notice.

All the tapes have now been digitised and the task was completed in 2009: the material can be accessed online through the University's website. There is a catch however and that is that the intellectual property rights remain with LBC Radio and the deal is that this digital archive is only to be accessed for educational and non-commercial purposes.

Nearly all the 1,000 tapes have been put into safe storage for conservation and preservation purposes with the British Library.

Tribute to retiring regional treasurer

STEUART Thompson FRSA was given a special thank you at the RSA South Central AGM for his dedication to the region over a number of years.

Steuart has served as Treasurer for the region as well as playing an active part in the development of events both in the local groups and across the region. Tony Hoskins said: "Having a Treasurer like Steuart is one of the best things a Chairman can ask for. He has ensured the regional's finances are in a healthy state and assisted in the evaluation and development of a number of areas of work. I would like to thank him for his dedication and the time he has put into serving Fellows in this region."

An engraved plaque was presented to Steuart at the AGM.

The new regional treasurer, Dave Edmunds, was welcomed at the AGM.

Connecting people and ideas

THE RSA runs major national projects to realise untapped human potential. It currently has projects in the arts, design, citizen power, communities, education, enterprise, and the 2010 Public Services Trust.

In this issue we put the spotlight on its 'Connected Communities' project:

The RSA is working with communities to map existing social connections between individuals, third sector organisations, businesses and public sector institutions. It is examining their impact and from this will create tailored 'social capital strategies' aimed at increasing social connectivity in order to address local issues.

FIND OUT MORE about these projects at www.thersa.org/projects/our-projects or by email from: networks@rsa.org.uk

If you are a Fellow in the Region who is already involved in one of these projects, the Newsletter Editor Duncan Hanner would like to hear from you at: rsasouthnews@btinternet.com



Greg Slay (left) is presented with the chain of office from outgoing chairman Tony Hoskins

RSA SC Chair

Greg Slay

New Chairman sets out his stall for the year ahead

GREG Slay, the newly appointed Chairman of the RSA South Central Region for 2010-12, took office at the July AGM. He is a senior policy manager in Adult Social Services at West Sussex County Council and his interests include promoting health and social care practice, social history and the theatre.

Greg advised that the new regional committee will continue to provide the strategic governance and scrutiny for Fellowship events within the region, including encouraging new initiatives and local Fellowship networks.

The committee also oversees the regional Social Innovations Support Fund - a fund wholly established

within the Region - and more applications to the Fund would be encouraged.

The committee works on behalf of all Fellows in the Region and looks forward to a stronger partnership with the RSA House over the coming year and, in particular, Greg welcomed the appointment of Andy Kirk, the RSA Networks Manager for South Central and South East Regions, who replaces Olivia Rainford at the House.

Greg invited all present to join with him in raising the profile of the RSA in their own professional and personal networks.

He can be contacted on 07843 034204.

RSA House

New Networks Manager to support Fellows

ANDY Kirk is the new Networks Manager to support the South Central and South East regions taking over from Olivia Rainford. He said: "I hope to build on the great progress made by yourselves and Olivia in promoting a diverse range of Fellowship activity in the region and helping to find and facilitate new, innovative projects and events than can be generated by Local Network activity."

A new website address for the social networking site, Ning will be sent out next week following the introduction of charges by the site.

LOCAL NETWORKS

Bournemouth

First Tuesdays. Events planned from September

Portsmouth & Chichester

First Mondays
Contact: Sally Davies
on 02392 661600

Reading

Third Mondays events. Hosted by the Thames Valley LEG

Salisbury

Event details at <http://sites.google.com/site/rsasouthwiltsfellows/>

Southampton

A new series of meetings is hoped to be launched from the autumn

Winchester

Third Wednesdays. Autumn programme planned

More details, as events are finalised, appear on the website.



Enjoy the library at the RSA House

RSA South

Central's New Committee

Chairman, Greg Slay
Deputy Chairman, Tony Hoskins
Hon Treasurer, David Edmonds
Hon Secretary, Caroline Short
Peter Barnwell
Colin Brough
David Butterworth
Rainbow Chang
Sally Davis
David Edmonds
Mark De Grey
Steve Breibart
Duncan Hanner
Cyril Levicki
Caroline Short
Abha Thakor
Judith Woodhead

Retiring members Tessy Britton, Sean Street and Steuart Thompson were formally thanked for their contributions to the work of the committee.

Fellows from anywhere in the Region are welcome to book on any of the regional or LEG events and can bring their guests. More details about forthcoming events together with booking details are sent out to Fellows by email and also appear on the Regional webpages at:

www.thersa.org/fellowship/regions-and-worldwide/South-Central

Online event booking

As part of the ongoing work to develop communications about events, RSA South Central is undertaking a trial online booking and payments system for regional events.

For those without access to the web, a phone number is provided per event where possible.

We would value your feedback on this RSA service.

Social innovations support fund

DO you have a project which would benefit from a new fund to support Fellows in the region who want to initiate social change? The Social Innovations Support Fund is intended to provide seed corn funding to help Fellows start their initiative. The grants are limited to £500 maximum per application for any purpose that helps the initiative to take off, such as holding start up meetings, producing publicity materials, etc.

The initiatives must be related to the RSA's current strategic objectives and should enable the combining of the power of RSA Fellows' thought leadership with social innovation to further human progress. The person submitting the application must be a current Fellow, but ideally, the participants in each initiative would come from a broad range of local organisations and do not themselves need to be Fellows.

Application forms will be available via the region's section on the RSA website or from either Sally Davis or Cyril Levicki (emails below), who are both members of the sub-committee of the South Central RSA region managing the Fund. Fellows receiving grants will be expected to provide feedback on the results of their initiatives so that these can be shared across the region.

For application forms email: sallyd@growingambitions.org or c.levicki@btinternet.com

Board member of world's first public museum to speak to RSA regional Fellowship

FELLOWS will hear Nicholas Barber FRSA CBE, Chairman of the Ashmolean Board of Visitors, speak on the challenges of creating probably the largest museum redevelopment outside London, followed by guided tours of the museum.

The talk in December will be a fascinating insight into the workings of the world's first ever public museum, opened in 1683.

Following a project costing £61 million, it reopened in November 2009. The redevelopment included a new building and expanded gallery spaces.

Nicholas will talk about the challenges of creating the new building and doubling the facilities of the museum to incorporate a new Education centre and state-of-the-art



conservation facility, together with developing an innovative display strategy for the new galleries to bring its world-class collections to life.

After the talk, Fellows and their guests will be taken by knowledgeable and enthusiastic guides on tours of the museum and its world renowned exhibits.

This event is fully booked, but Fellows can add themselves onto the waiting list on the website or if you are without web access, contact Tony on 07713 259 154.

Rural generation in a fragile economy

IN a new move for the RSA Chichester and Portsmouth Network, we will be organising a joint event in the autumn with staff from the University of Chichester and members of the local design community.

The meeting will be hosted at the University of Chichester. Peter Murray will talk on the subject of rural regeneration in a fragile econ-

omy. Peter is the force behind the London Architecture Biennale and is also chairman of the consultancy firm, Wordsearch. Well known for his boundless energy and ideas Peter has elevated himself to a position of key player in the promotion of architecture within both the private and public sectors.

Greg Slay, RSA South Central Chairman, said: "Join

us for what we anticipate will be a most stimulating evening of ideas and discussions."

Refreshments will be provided. Event booking will be through Eventbrite. Contact points for further information: Greg Slay FRSA at greg.slay@westsussex.gov.uk or 078 4303 4204, or Peter Spence FRSA at pspence@scdf.org.uk