



The Royal Society
of Edinburgh

KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL



March 2017



RSE Newsletter ReSource Spring 2017

Our first newsletter for 2017 contains a full list of this year's new Fellows, which includes His Royal Highness Prince William, The Duke of Cambridge, and violinist, Nicola Benedetti. In addition, there are articles on: Brexit; Parliamentary Reform; STEM Education and Training Strategy; the David Hume Institute series on the Politicians and the Professionals; plus up-to-date news of RSE Events, International Relations, our Corporate Partners, the Young Academy of Scotland and of our Fellows. The publication is available online at: www.rse.org.uk/publications/newsletter/ and printed copies are being sent to those who requested them. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter in hard copy, please contact Jenny Liddell – jliddell@theRSE.org.uk – 0131 240 5019.

New Office-Bearers

We welcome the following new Council Members joining from 1 April: Professor **Maggie Cusack** (VP Physical Sciences); Dr **John Brown** (Treasurer); Professors **Jill Belch**, **Rebecca Lunn** and **Petra Wend** (Councillors). We also welcome Professor **Christopher Hall** as Curator and Professor **Mary Bownes** as Programme Convener. Our thanks go to those Office-Bearers standing down at this time. Full details are available at: www.rse.org.uk/about-us/our-governance/council/

Election of Fellows

Fellows are reminded that the deadline for submission of nominations for Fellowship is 31 May. Forms and guidance are available on the RSE website at: www.rse.org.uk/fellows/becoming-a-fellow/. We rely on our Fellows to bring forward high-quality nominations for consideration, and are very grateful to them for doing so. We are particularly keen to receive nominations of female and younger candidates, and those in business, the professions and the creative arts. But all high-quality nominations are most welcome.

Fellows Deceased

It is with much regret that we report the deaths of Rev Professor Duncan Baillie **Forrester**; Sir Roger William **Young**; and Professor Ronald William Prest **Drever**. If you have any suggestions of obituary writers for those Fellows for whom we have not managed to commission a writer or source an obituary, please email: obituaries@theRSE.org.uk. A list showing the current state is available at: www.rse.org.uk/fellows/past-fellows. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir Roger Young at St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh on Saturday 6 May 2017 at 10.30 am, to which all are welcome.

An Evening with the President

Last year, the RSE launched a five-year Strategic Plan – www.rse.org.uk/about-us/mission/ and this year the President will host a series of events around the country to find out what you see as the priorities as we implement this Plan in a rapidly changing environment. A similar event will be held in Edinburgh, likely to be in September. Further details will be available nearer the time. We would also like to find out what kind of activities you would wish to see developed and hear any other thoughts you have on how the RSE might better engage with its Fellowship. These topics are important for the development of the RSE, and your thoughts and ideas – however 'out there' – are most welcome.

Invitations based on your location will be sent in due course, but if you would like to attend a different event, please email Morven Chisholm – mchisholm@therse.org.uk or 0131 240 5018.

London: 11 May 2017 6–8pm The British Academy, Reading Rooms

Glasgow: 17 May 2017 6–8pm, University of Glasgow, BHF Glasgow Cardiovascular Research Centre

Dundee: 13 Sept 2017, 6–8pm, University of Dundee, University House

Aberdeen: 25 Sept 2017, 6–8pm, University of Aberdeen, Linklater Room

Grants for Fellows and Members of the Young Academy of Scotland

The next closing date for Grant applications is Wednesday 31 May 2017. These Grants are available to Fellows and Young Academy Members in support of research and scholarship. Joint applications (between Young Academy Members and Fellows) would be particularly welcome. Please visit the website for more information and application forms: www.rse.org.uk/awards/grants-for-fellows/

Young Academy of Scotland

The RSE Young Academy of Scotland (YAS) has a monthly newsletter, similar to the Fellows' bulletin, with regular updates on work, events and news from YAS members and emeritus members. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter and receive updates, please email Sarah Virgo at svirgo@therse.org.uk. YAS is currently working on a document on the impact of Brexit in Scotland, reviewing the current YAS At-Risk Academics and Refugees programme and preparing for their first 2017 Plenary Meeting in April. You can also follow the YAS on twitter, <https://twitter.com/YoungAcademySco> or on the website www.youngacademyofscotland.org.uk/.

RSE International Exchange Programme

The RSE is keen to support research collaboration in all areas between Scottish and overseas researchers. The International Exchange Programme, funded by the Scottish Government, is designed to enable postdoctoral scholars and researchers to come to Scotland, or for Scottish-based researchers to visit overseas, for a short period of time (one–four weeks) to develop new and ongoing collaborations. International Exchanges are available through links with sister Academies with which the RSE has a Bilateral Agreement. More information and application packs, can be found here: www.rse.org.uk/awards/international-exchange-programme-bilateral/
The next deadline is Wednesday 31 May 2017.

RSE Research Awards – Available Now:

Enterprise Fellowships – Closing date: Wednesday 26 April 2017.

For further details visit: www.rse.org.uk/awards/enterprise-fellowships/

Lessells Travel Scholarships – Closing date: Friday 28 April 2017 at 5 pm.

For further details visit: www.rse.org.uk/awards/john-moyes-lessells-travel-scholarships/

D S MacLagan Travel Grant – Closing date: Wednesday 31 May 2017.

For further details visit: www.rse.org.uk/awards/d-s-maclagan-travel-grant/

RSE Events

For tickets and information about RSE events, please visit the [Society's website](http://www.rse.org.uk), email the Events Team – events@theRSE.org.uk or phone the events ticketline – 0131 240 2780. Unless stated otherwise, events are held at the RSE. Registration is required for all RSE events. Tickets are available as follows:

Half-day Workshop – *Modelling Beyond Standard Model Physics*. Philosopher of science, Michela Massimi, with a team of physicists from CERN. Thursday 13 April 2017, 10 am–1 pm. This event is part of a project that has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.

Lord Kelvin Prize Lecture – *From the Infinite to the Infinitesimal: Birth of a Higgs Boson*. Professor Anthony Doyle FRSE, Professor of Physics, University of Glasgow. Monday 24 April 2017 at 6 pm.

RSE Gifford Discussion Forum – *Religion Unbound: Ideals and Powers from Cicero to King*. Wednesday 10 May 2017 at 6 pm. Based around the themes of this year's University of Edinburgh Gifford Lecture Series; Professor Jeffrey Stout, Professor of Religion at Princeton University, who is delivering the series, will be a member of the panel, along with other eminent speakers. Full details at: <http://edin.ac/2jvYrYl>

Sir James Black Prize Lecture – *NEW Drugs from OLD Pathways – Teaching Nature New Tricks*. Professor Thomas Simpson FRS FRSE, Alfred Capper Pass Professor of Chemistry, University of Bristol. Monday 22 May 2017 at 6 pm.

Lecture – *Living an Ethical Life*. Professor Peter Singer, Ira W DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, US. Thursday 25 May 2017 at 6 pm. Organised in partnership with the Royal Institute of Philosophy. **This event is now full: a waiting list is in operation.**

Staff News

Our best wishes to Bob Hunter, who retired from the RSE as Venue Assistant (Evenings) in January 2017. Welcome to Heather Aitken who replaced Bob at the beginning of February.

Feedback

Feedback on how we could improve this bulletin for Fellows is always welcome. To comment, or if you do not wish to receive future editions, please contact: Jenny Liddell – jliddell@theRSE.org.uk – 0131 240 5019.