



The Royal Society  
of Edinburgh

KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL



October 2017



### Regional Activities

Recognising that the majority of activities for Fellows take place within Edinburgh, Regional Champions are now organising activities around the country to which all Fellows are invited. Forthcoming events include:

**Thursday 9 November, Irvine:** Wellwood Burns Centre and Museum  
7–9 pm: *The Scottish Enlightenment: Rooted in Scotland, Influencing the World*. Lecture by Professor Sir Tom Devine FRSE, (pictured left), chaired by Professor Colin Suckling FRSE

**Friday 15 December, Oxford:** Shulman Auditorium, Queen's College  
2–7 pm: *The Scottish Enlightenment and the RSE: Genesis and Legacies* Symposium and Drinks Reception (tickets £10)

To attend either of these events, please register with Ashleigh Thow – [athow@therse.org.uk](mailto:athow@therse.org.uk) – 0131 240 2794

### UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) seeking applicants to fill Board-level vacancies

Fellows are encouraged to consider applying for one of the current Board-level vacancies on eight of UKRI's councils, namely: Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC); Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC); Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC); Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC); Innovate UK; Medical Research Council (MRC); Natural Environment Research Council (NERC); and Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC). Details of these vacancies and how to apply can be found at: [www.ukri.org/news/appointments-to-the-councils-of-uk-research-and-innovation/](http://www.ukri.org/news/appointments-to-the-councils-of-uk-research-and-innovation/). The closing date for receipt of applications is **midday on Monday 13 November 2017**.

### Fellows' Triennial Dinner

The Fellows' Triennial Dinner will be held at the Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 24 January 2018, 6.30 pm to 10.30 pm. This is a formal-dress occasion. Fellows are most welcome to bring a spouse/partner or a personal guest. Admission tickets cost £75 each and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. To book tickets, please visit 'my account' on the RSE website: [www.rse.org.uk/my-account/](http://www.rse.org.uk/my-account/) and go to 'Book Future Events' in the left-hand menu (the event will not show up until you have logged in). Please then choose the Triennial Dinner. Alternatively, contact the Events Team – [events@theRSE.org.uk](mailto:events@theRSE.org.uk) – 0131 240 2780.

### Fellows' Subscriptions

Subscriptions become due on 1 November and letters are being sent out this week, with further information regarding payment. Subscription rates for the 2017–2018 Session are as follows:

Under 65 UK – £222; 65–80 UK – £111; Under 65 overseas – £111; 65–80 overseas – £55.50;

Fellows aged 80 and over are not required to pay a subscription.

**Journals** – *Proceedings A* – £149.75; *Transactions* – £90.50.

### Fellows Deceased

It is with much regret that we report the deaths of Dr Michael Jessop **Smyth**; Dr Elspeth Bruce **Smith** and Professor David John **Manners**. 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](mailto:obituaries@theRSE.org.uk).

### Fellows' Morning Discussion Meetings

Coffee is available in the Fellows' Room on Tuesdays at 10.30 am. Once a month, between October 2017 and March 2018, there will be a Discussion meeting, normally in the Wellcome East Room, introduced by an invited speaker. Discussion meetings will take place as follows:

7 November 2017	Professor R Gavin McCrone	<i>The Scottish Economy and Brexit</i>
5 December 2017	Rt. Hon. Lord Kenneth Cameron of Lochbroom	<i>Enemies of the People – Justice post-Brexit</i>

### Scotland's Energy Future: Community Engagement – Dumfries

The first Evidence-Gathering Session for the RSE's Energy Inquiry will take place on Wednesday 8 November 2017, 6–8 pm at the Easterbrook Hall, The Crichton, Bankend Road, Dumfries DG1 4TA.

## Chinese Academy of Sciences – Research, Education and Strategic Advice

We would like to bring your attention to a Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) International Recruitment Program, namely the CAS President's International Fellowship Initiative (PIFI). PIFI supports highly-qualified international scientists and postgraduates to work or study at various CAS institutions. For full package of international fellowships, please visit: <http://bit.ly/CASInternationalFellowships>

## Science and the Parliament 2017

The annual Science and the Parliament event, organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry, takes place on Wednesday 15 November on the theme of *Science, Innovation and the Economy* at Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh. Speakers include Dame Carol Robinson, Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell PRSE, Keith Brown MSP (Cabinet Secretary for the Economy), Professor Iain Gray FRSE; and Professor Sheila Rowan FRSE. Registration is free and is available at <http://www.rsc.org/events/detail/28722/science-and-the-parliament-2017>.

## Young Academy of Scotland

The Young Academy is hosting a Dinner/Discussion event on the topic of *Sustainability* on Thursday 23 November at the RSE, for Fellows and Young Academy members. The aim of the event is to encourage collaboration and discussion between Fellows and YAS members on this key topic. To register, please login at <http://online.rse.org.uk/>

## Research the Headlines

Research the Headlines (RtH) – <https://researchtheheadlines.org/> – is a blog developed by the Young Academy of Scotland that discusses research and the media. All contributors are either current or former YAS members. RtH would like to extend an invitation to all RSE Fellows to write for them. Whether an experienced blogger or a novice in that medium, they would be delighted to hear from you. The common theme for blog pieces is that they have something to say on the interface of research and the media, but there is no prescriptive list for what is relevant. To find out more, please contact either Dr Sinead Rhodes – [Sinead.Rhodes@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Sinead.Rhodes@ed.ac.uk) or Dr Alan Gow – [A.J.Gow@hw.ac.uk](mailto:A.J.Gow@hw.ac.uk)

## RSE Research Awards – Available Now:

**Fulbright/RSE Scholar Award** – Closing date: Monday 6 November at 5 pm.

For further details visit: [www.rse.org.uk/awards/fulbrightrse-scholar-award/](http://www.rse.org.uk/awards/fulbrightrse-scholar-award/)

To apply visit: [www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/academic-and-professional/fulbright-scholar-awards](http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/academic-and-professional/fulbright-scholar-awards)

**International Exchange Programme Bilateral Grants** – Closing date: Thursday 30 November 2017 at 5 pm.

For further details visit: [www.rse.org.uk/awards/international-exchange-programme-bilateral/](http://www.rse.org.uk/awards/international-exchange-programme-bilateral/)

**RSE Fellows' Grants** – Closing date: Thursday 30 November 2017 at 5 pm.

For further details visit: [www.rse.org.uk/awards/grants-for-fellows/](http://www.rse.org.uk/awards/grants-for-fellows/)

## RSE Events

For tickets and information about RSE events, please visit the Society's website, email the Events Team: [events@theRSE.org.uk](mailto: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:

**SUPA Cormack Astronomy Meeting 2017** – Bringing together astronomers from throughout Scotland. Full-day meeting particularly relevant to research students and staff working in Scottish universities. Monday 13 November 2017 – 9 am–5 pm.

**Franco–Scottish Seminar** – Aimed at academics and practitioners working within the area of Robotics. Wednesday 15 November 2017, 9 am–5 pm.

**Franco–Scottish Lecture** – Shared Autonomy: The Future of Interactive Robotics. Professor Sethu Vijayakumar FRSE, Professor of Robotics, University of Edinburgh. Wednesday 15 November at 6 pm.

## RSE @ Inverness Events

The aim of the RSE@Programme is to enhance the understanding and appreciation that people, and in particular school children, have of their local community, by encouraging a sense of belonging to an area rich in cultural and human resources. The list of coming events can be viewed here: [www.rse.org.uk/events/rse-at/](http://www.rse.org.uk/events/rse-at/) . They include:

Scotland 2030 – Technology and Society; Join Chris van der Kuyl FRSE, developer of Minecraft video games;

Scotland's Parliament 2030; The Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP reflects on 20 years of devolution and looks ahead;

Finishing Unfinished Business – Former Commonwealth cyclist, Roddy Riddle, tells his story;

A Trillion Frames per Second: Imaging at the Speed of Light – Talk by winner of RSE Senior Prize for Public Engagement, Professor Daniele Faccio FRSE, Heriot-Watt University.

## Staff News

Welcome to Debbie Morris, who joined the RSE as Marketing and Communications Assistant on Thursday 19 October 2017.