James Clerk Maxwell Statue Unveiled
On 25 November, Alex Fergusson, MSP, The Scottish Parliament's Presiding Officer, unveiled the James Clerk Maxwell statue commissioned by the RSE and created by sculptor, Alexander Stoddart. The statue sits proudly at the east end of George Street, Edinburgh, and provides long overdue recognition of the achievement and legacy of a Scotsman who was both a genius and a man of modesty. The unveiling was the culmination of two years of endeavour, notably by Sir Michael Atiyah, and the centre-piece of a major international conference at the RSE, which celebrated Maxwell's work and his standing as Scotland's greatest physical scientist. The conference also involved the unveiling of a statue hologram, which has become a permanent feature and can be viewed in the Society's James Clerk Maxwell Room.

The statue and hologram would not have been possible without the donations of many who wished to recognise Maxwell's achievements and legacy. The RSE is extremely grateful to all those who have donated. The appeal fund will remain open until end December and any Fellows who still wish to contribute are most welcome to do so. A donors’ book recording the names of all who have contributed is being produced and will be kept in the James Clerk Maxwell Room. The RSE has also published a commemorative book of the conference proceedings and Fellows wishing to purchase a copy can either order this on line at www.royalsoced.org.uk/maxwell/index.htm or by contacting Jenny Liddell – 0131 240 5019 – jliddell@royalsoced.org.uk

Fellows’ Coffee Mornings
Coffee is available in the Fellows' Room on Tuesday mornings at 10.30 am. Once a month, between October 2008 and March 2009, this takes the form of a discussion in the East Wellcome Room. Forthcoming discussions are:
- 2 December 2008  Democracy Ancient and Modern  Professor John Richardson
- 6 January 2009  Forgotten pioneers, the case of Robert Chambers  Professor Bruce Proudfoot

Fellows Deceased
It is with much regret that we report the deaths of Professor (Walter) Douglas Munn, Professor Peter Berners Fellgett and Sir James Baddiley. The Fellowship Office is grateful for offers of Obituary Writers in response to previous notifications of deceased Fellows; if you can assist with these or suggest an obituary writer for Professor Fellgett, please contact Dr Lesley Campbell – 0131 240 5012 – fellowship@royalsoced.org.uk

Sir Lewis Robertson CBE FRSE
The Society is also very sorry to report the death of Sir Lewis Robertson (1922 – 2008). He served on the RSE Council from 1992 until 2000, including a full term as Treasurer from 1994 until 1999, during the important stage of the acquisition and development of the premises at 26 George Street, and contributed greatly to the success of this major project. He was awarded the Bicentenary Medal in 2001. Sir Lewis was the first Chief Executive of the Scottish Development Agency and was Chairman of various companies, including Borthwicks plc, Lilley plc, Havelock Europa plc, Stakis plc, Scottish Financial Enterprise and Postern, as well as holding many non-executive directorships. He was also involved in many government advisory, cultural and charitable bodies, including serving as Chairman of the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and of the Eastern Regional Hospitals Board.

The date of his funeral is still to be announced.

RSE Hills and Islands Inquiry dissemination events
The RSE has been disseminating the findings of its Report into the future of Scotland's hill and island areas across Scotland, and held successful events in Tomintoul and Selkirk in November. The next event will be held in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, on 10 December, to discuss how the Report's recommendations could be applied in the Western Isles. If you would like to attend this meeting, which will be held within the Council Chambers at 7 pm, please contact Marc Rands – 0131 240 5033 – mrands@royalsoced.org.uk

International Exchange Programme for Fellows and non-Fellows
The next deadline for applications is 31 January. Bilateral applications only are invited for this deadline, to support research collaborations between Scotland and countries with which the RSE has a formal agreement. A full list of countries covered by this programme is available on the RSE website. Please ensure your colleagues are made aware of this funding opportunity, and encourage them to apply. For further information, contact Morven Chisholm, – 0131 240 5018 – international@royalsoced.org.uk or see www.royalsoced.org.uk/international/exchanges/
Science Framework for Scotland
The Scottish Government launched a new Science Framework for Scotland on Thursday 27 November. There was a Ministerial Statement in the Parliament, and an associated press launch. Responding to the Framework, Professor Geoffrey Boulton, General Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh said, “The Royal Society of Edinburgh believes that science is vital for Scotland's future. It has a rich heritage of achievement in science, medicine and engineering, and the quality of research that is conducted in many of our universities is highly regarded the world over. In face of the current global economic challenges, it is more important than ever to maintain and enhance Scotland's science base as a means of preparing ourselves for the future.” For your information, a conference to discuss the Government's Science Framework has been organised by Holyrood Magazine at Glasgow Science Centre on 12 December. There is a fee to attend. Those wishing further information should contact www.holyrood.com/science – 0131 272 2133 – science@holyrood.com

Research Awards
Applications are invited for the following:

- **Arts and Humanities Small Research Grants** (six grants of up to £2,500 each available)
- **Arts and Humanities Research Workshops** (two workshops of £10,000 available) – Closing date for Arts and Humanities awards 23 January 2009
- **Auber Awards** – closing date 23 January 2009
- **BP Fellowships** – closing date 30 January 2009
- **Nominations are also sought for Royal Medals** – closing date 2 February 2009.

For further information and application/nomination forms, please contact Anne Fraser – resman@royalsoced.org.uk – 0131 240 5013 or see www.royalsoced.org.uk/research_fellowships/index.htm

RSE Events
For tickets and information about RSE events, please visit the Society's website, www.royalsoced.org.uk/events, or contact mailto:events@royalsoced.org.uk, or the events ticketline – 0131 240 2780. Unless stated otherwise, events are held at the RSE and start at 6 pm. Registration is required for all RSE events.

**Online payment is now available**, also at www.royalsoced.org.uk/events. Tickets are available as follows:

- **Bruce Preller Prize Lecture** – *Our genetic inheritance – for better or for worse, in sickness and in health.* Professor David Porteous FRSE, Director of Genetics Core, University of Edinburgh. Monday 1 December 2008 at 6 pm. This lecture forms part of an RSE Ordinary Meeting and so shall be preceded by Society business, such as new Fellows signing the Roll.

- **The Edinburgh Lectures** – *Taxation without Representation! – The Rise of China’s Middle Class.* James Kynge, Journalist and Author. Wednesday 3 December 2008 at 6 pm. Edinburgh Lectures are free but a £3 per ticket non-refundable booking fee applies. A limited number of tickets are available for Fellows from the RSE.

- **RSE@Arbroath Christmas Lecture** – *Science and Arbroath in the 21st Century.* Professor Anne Glover FRSE, Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland. Wednesday 10 December 2008 at 7 pm at Arbroath High School, Keptie Road, Arbroath.


- **Robert Burns in Global Culture Burns Supper**. Thursday 22 January 2009 at 7 pm (timings may be subject to change) at The New Club. Tables of eight are available. A Dining fee of £85 per person will apply.


- **Robert Burns in Global Culture Concert** – Friday 23 January 2009 at 7.30 pm at St Cecilia’s Hall, Niddry Street, Edinburgh. Featuring the Haydn Trio Eisenstadt, Lorna Anderson (soprano) and Jamie MacDougall (tenor) and introducing a new Burns-inspired composition by James MacMillan. Full rate; £12; Concession £6. Early bird rate £10 until 19 December.

Staff News
Rebecca Mann joined us earlier this month on a permanent basis as an Admin Receptionist.

Stuart Brown, PR and Communications Manager, left the Society earlier this month. Until his position is filled, Bristow Muldoon – bmuldoon@royalsoced.org.uk – is your contact point for Press related matters and Graeme Herbert – gherbert@royalsoced.org.uk – the initial contact point for other general public relations issues. Jenny Liddell continues to be your contact point for this Bulletin, the RSE Newsletter, and reports of RSE activities.

Future Bulletins
We periodically review the way that we communicate with our Fellows, and would be very grateful if you could take the time to complete the online form at www.royalsoced.org.uk/fellowship/mailing_items.htm. The next e-bulletin will be sent by a different method and it would be particularly useful if you could let us know by **12 December** which email address you would prefer us to use when contacting you. If you have any other comments about the bulletin or do not wish to receive future editions, please contact Jenny Liddell – bulletin@royalsoced.org.uk – phone 0131 240 5019