

August 2019

### Curious at the RSE – August 2019

This year, the RSE is running its own varied programme of events during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, entitled **Curious**. Drawing on the input of Fellows, members of the Young Academy of Scotland and partners of the RSE, the programme will run from Friday 2 August until Monday 26 August (inclusive) and will comprise a range of performances, workshops, discussions, exhibitions, music, afternoon teas, and a *Tea and Just Talk* series of discussions. A café bar will also be open to the public during this period with outside seating available.

Full information is available here: [www.rse.org.uk/curious/](http://www.rse.org.uk/curious/)

Please do come along if you can and recommend the programme to friends and family.

During this time the Fellows' Room will be relocated to the Scott Room and Fellows and their guests are welcome to use it when the building is open (other than on Friday and Saturday afternoons). If doing so, for building security reasons, you must register at Reception on arrival.



### Fellows' Morning Discussion Meetings

Coffee is available in the Fellows' Room on Tuesdays at 10.30 am. Once a month, between October 2019 and March 2020, there will be a discussion meeting, normally in the Scott Room, introduced by an invited speaker.

Discussion meetings will take place as follows:

1 October 2019	<b>The Rt Hon Lord Hope of Craighead KT PC FRSE</b>	<i>Brexit – where are we now? – Reflections by a Crossbencher*</i>
5 November 2019	<b>Professor Neil Mabbott</b>	<i>Should we care any more about BSE and other prion diseases?</i>
3 December 2019	<b>General Robert Baxter CBE</b>	<i>Command, Information and War</i>
7 January 2020	<b>Professor Dame Anne Glover FRS PRSE</b>	<i>Could Scotland thrive without a national academy?*</i>
4 February 2020	<b>Dr Victoria Crowe OBE RSA FRSE</b>	<i>tbc</i>
3 March 2020	<i>tbc</i>	<i>tbc</i>

\*The talks on 1 October and 7 January will be live streamed to a venue in Glasgow. For more information or to register, please contact Ashleigh Thow – [athow@these.org.uk](mailto:athow@these.org.uk)

### Ordinary Meeting: The Royal Society of Edinburgh and Russia

Thursday 12 September, 5.45–8 pm at the RSE.

The RSE's links to Russia will be explored during this talk by Dr Dmitry Fedosov CorrFRSE, Senior Research Fellow, Russian Academy of Sciences. This will be followed by a Q&A session and the chance to discuss the topic further over drinks. Please book by logging into your online account and going to '[Book Future Events](#)'.

This event will be classed as an Ordinary Meeting, so may include a small amount of RSE business.

## Creative Genius and Mental Health in the Lives of Robert Burns and Robert Lowell

Wednesday 11 September, 5.30–8 pm at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG), 232–242 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5RJ. Professor Kay Jamison CorrFRSE, Professor of Psychiatry and the Dalio Professor in Mood Disorders at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA, will discuss the fascinating life and work of the poet, Robert Lowell, and how his bipolar disorder and the treatment he received influenced his creativity. Please book via RCPSG: <https://rcpsg.ac.uk/events/HeritageLecture>

## Policy Advice

In June, the RSE hosted a discussion on *Future Frameworks for International Collaboration on Research and Innovation*. This enabled a multidisciplinary group of RSE Fellows to meet with Sir Adrian Smith FRS and feed into his review of the design of UK funding schemes for international research collaboration, post-Brexit. The report of the discussion is available here:

[www.rse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/RSE-Discussion-Report-Adrian-Smith-Review.pdf](http://www.rse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/RSE-Discussion-Report-Adrian-Smith-Review.pdf)

## RSE Grants and Research Awards currently open:

**Arts & Humanities Small Grants; Workshops; Networks** – Closing date: Friday 27 September 2019.

For further details visit: [www.rse.org.uk/funding-awards/funding-search/](http://www.rse.org.uk/funding-awards/funding-search/) (click Arts & Humanities in filter list on left).

## RSE Events

### • Symposium Events at the RSE

To mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Charles Piazzi Smyth FRSE, a series of events are being held at the RSE in September.

**Film Screening** – *A Residence Above the Clouds*. Monday 2 September at 7.30 pm.

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion.

**Public Lecture** – *Piazzi Smyth: Royal Astronomer and Stereo Photographer*. Denis Pellerin.

Tuesday 3 September at 6 pm. The lecture will be followed by a wine reception for all ticket holders.

**Symposium** – *Stars, Pyramids and Photographs*. Tuesday 3 & Wednesday 4 September, 9 am–5 pm.

Symposium fee includes lunch, tea & coffee on both days.

To book and for full details, visit: <http://bit.ly/piazzismythsymposium>

- **Lecture** – *Power to the People*. Professor John Irvine FRSE, Professor of Chemistry, University of St Andrews (winner of the RSE/Lord Kelvin Medal 2019). Tuesday 24 September 2019 at the University of Aberdeen.

To book, visit: [www.rse.org.uk/events/](http://www.rse.org.uk/events/)

## International

- ALLEA and the Royal Society, London jointly published a Discussion Paper on *Flourishing in a data-enabled society* on 28 June – <https://allea.org/portfolio-item/flourishing-in-a-data-enabled-society/>  
SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies) published a new report on ageing on 27 June – *Transforming the future of ageing*. Further information and the report can be accessed here: <https://www.sapea.info/topics/ageing/>
- **China (Qingdao City, Shandong Province)**  
The RSE has been named as one of the top 50 Academies worldwide by the Qingdao International Academician Park (QIAP) which allows for RSE Fellows to participate in QIAP activity. Should you be interested in establishing a research or commercial presence, further information and contact details can be found here: <http://en.qdiap.com/>
- **Ireland (Dublin)**  
Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce is arranging a trade mission to Dublin, Ireland and has invited RSE Fellows to join their business delegation (6–7 November 2019) particularly in the areas of pharmaceuticals, medical technologies, financial services, beverage, IT and Engineering. Further information and contact details can be found here: <https://mailchi.mp/373097d9fd08/dublintrademission-1371873>

## Staff News

Returning after their time off on maternity leave are: Jennifer McCoull, Legacies & Individual Gifts Manager who returned in July; and Public Engagement Officers, Karen Sim and Hannah Bentley, who will return on 6 August and 23 August respectively. We are delighted to welcome them all back to the RSE.

We are also pleased to welcome Minante Duncan, who joins the RSE staff on 12 August as Business Manager.

Gordon Adam leaves the RSE on 22 August. Following the death of his wife last year, he has decided to take some time out to consider what he wants to do going forward. Gordon has worked for the RSE for almost eleven years and he leaves with our very best wishes and hope for a brighter future.

## 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](mailto:jliddell@theRSE.org.uk) – 0131 240 5019.