

RSA Scotland Update

RSA Scotland



Welcome to the new RSA Scotland Update, a regular newsletter which will keep you up to date with events, projects, blogs and activities taking place in Scotland. It is your chance to share ideas you are working on, so please drop me a line if you would like to contribute!

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Key Priorities



As part of the global RSA of over 27,000 Fellows in more than 80 countries, RSA Scotland activity is rooted in the core RSA focus areas of:

- Public Services and Communities
- Economy, Enterprise and Manufacturing
- Creative Learning and Development

All underpinned by the role of design thinking, and the Power to Create. To find out more about Power to Create, take time to watch the [RSA Short](#) that we have produced.

Over coming months we will provide further information on the work RSA Scotland is developing in these areas, but key impact to date has included:

- Our work on the Circular Economy (PSC)
- The Heritage, Identity and Place project that we have undertaken with HLF support (PSC)
- Work with the Scottish Government on the Fairer Scotland and CAN DO Scotland agendas (EEM/PSC)

If you would like to find out more about any of this previous work, or have ideas for the future, then please contact [Jamie Cooke](#).

Upcoming Events

- 1st April - [The Future of Organ Donation](#) in Scotland, Glasgow
- 12th April – [Edinburgh Fellows' Network](#): Digital Participation
- 13th April – [Scottish Borders Fellows' Network](#), Melrose
- 10th May – [RSA Scotland: Shifting the Curve](#) with Naomi Eisenstadt and Martyn Evans, Edinburgh
- 16th May – [Journey to Justice](#), Edinburgh
- 17th May – [Angus Millar Lecture](#): Prof Guy Standing on Basic Income, Edinburgh
- SAVE THE DATE - 29th June – RSA Scotland Annual Conference, Edinburgh; and 14th June - Alberto Alessi at the ECA, Edinburgh

Follow the hyperlinks for further details and to book tickets

SCLD Cohort



An exciting new project has been launched in partnership between RSA Scotland and the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability (SCLD) to provide six new Fellowship opportunities for people with learning disabilities in Scotland.

Together, we want to recognise people's skills and talents and help them realise their unique creative ideas to achieve social change. We have a shared commitment to improve access to support and resources for people with learning disabilities.

These opportunities are open to anyone with a learning disability in Scotland who wants their creative idea to become a reality. So if you know someone who would be able to benefit from this opportunity, please check out the [SCLD website](#) for further information and an online nomination form. The deadline for applications is the 11th April, and we will introduce the new Fellows to you in a future Update.

Recent Activity



- Heritage Question Time, Dundee
 - A Question Time debate exploring the RSA's Heritage Index and its implications for Dundee (which finished top of the Index) was held in January. Details of the evening, captured through the numerous interactions which took place on Twitter, can be seen on the [Storify](#) which was created.
- Inclusive Growth in Scotland, Edinburgh
 - As part of the CAN DO Scotland programme being run by the Scottish Government, an event exploring the implications of the Inclusive Growth agenda for Scotland was organised by RSA Scotland. The panel of speakers included Tony Greenham, the RSA's Director of Economy, Enterprise and Manufacturing; Bart Houlahan, Co-Founder of B Corp; and Sandy Kennedy FRSA, CEO of Entrepreneurial Scotland.

Recent Activity

- South West Fellows at the CatStrand, Castle Douglas
 - Fellows gathered in Castle Douglas as part of the ongoing series of opportunities to meet with the RSA Scotland Chair and Fellowship Councillor, and as a chance to hear about a range of project ideas. It is hoped that this event will help kick start more activity in the South West.
- Edinburgh Engage
 - Following on from the success of the Engage events in Edinburgh and Glasgow last year, we met at the Grassmarket Café social enterprise for the 2016 event, one of over 50 across the UK and Ireland. A fantastic group of pitchers contributed, covering topics as varied as the new SCLD Cohort, the rights of cartoonists across the globe, student-led think tanks and social enterprises. A huge thanks to those who contributed, check out the [Storify](#) to read more.

Blogs



Blogging is one way for Fellows to contribute to the RSA's activity. If you would like to propose a blog for inclusion on the RSA website, please contact Jamie Cooke.

[David Bowie lived downstairs...](#) *Jamie Cooke*

[I love Dundee!](#) *Jamie Cooke*

[Designing for a Circular Economy](#) – Lessons from the Great Recovery Project
Sophie Thomas

[When young people tackle the world through design](#) *Kazz Morohashi (who contributed to the recent Edinburgh Engage)*

[Fellowship in Action: Diversity in RSA Scotland](#) *Chris Creegan*

Recent Reports

- Designing for a Circular Economy: Lessons from the Great Recovery 2012-16 ([read more](#))
- Creative Public Leadership: How School System Leaders can Create the Conditions for System-wide Innovation ([read more](#))
- Creative Gatherings Guide ([read more](#))
- Fair Share: Reclaiming power in the sharing economy ([read more](#))
- Whole Community Recovery: The value of person, place and community ([read more](#))
- Creative citizen, creative state: the principled and pragmatic case for a Universal Basic Income ([read more](#))

Fellowship Support



There are a number of ways that RSA Scotland Fellows can receive support for their project and event ideas, including:

- RSA Scotland Venture Fund
 - Fellows in Scotland are able to apply for funding support of up to £1,500 for projects. Contact [Tanya Hine](#) for further details.
- RSA Catalyst
 - The Catalyst Fund is open to Fellows across the globe, with initial support of £2,000 in most cases. Check out the [website](#) for further details.
- Crowdfunding
 - The RSA has a curated space on [Kickstarter](#) which is one form of support available through Catalyst – contact [Jade Jackson](#) for further information.
- RSA Scotland Event Support
 - The RSA Scotland team can provide support to Fellows creating events which are in line with core priorities. Please contact [Jamie Cooke](#) for further information.

Help Corner



RSA Scotland Fellows are involved in a broad range of projects, events and ideas. We are not able to promote or support all of these directly, however this will be a space for you to submit things which you would like other Fellows to know about or help with. This could be an event you are planning, something you have written or opportunities for collaboration.

Please submit anything you would like considered to [Jamie Cooke](#) – it will be reviewed by the RSA Scotland Core Team and barring any major clashes with RSA objectives posted here in future editions of the Update.

Nominate a Fellow



For over 260 years the RSA has been able to further its mission of finding practical solutions to social challenges thanks to the support of its Fellows. The Fellowship is what makes the RSA the unique organisation that it is, but we need more people like you to help us tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

If you know someone who would make a great Fellow then why not nominate them? As a Fellow, your nominees are able to take advantage of a fast-track application which means they don't need to provide details of additional referees.

For further details check out the [RSA website](#), where you can nominate someone online, or contact [Jamie Cooke](#).

Key Contacts

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