



# LUNAR SOCIETY NEWS

stimulating ideas broadening debate catalysing action

## Upcoming Summer Events

### SUMMER SOCIAL

1900 for 1930 (or 1800 for the energetic) on 10 July at the RSBP Centre, Sandwell Valley, B43 5AG

### AGM, REVIEW of the YEAR & the LORD MAYOR'S RECEPTION

1830 on 23 July in the Banqueting Suite at the Council House, B1 1BB



## Autumn Events

### TALK & Q&A

Professor Richard Clay

*Matthew Boulton & the art of making money*

1830 on 25 September at Mills & Reeve offices, 84 Colmore Row, B3 2AB

### CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE chaired by Sir Michael Lyons

*Should B'ham be planning a radical response?*

1900 on 14 October at Town Hall, B3 3DQ

### ANNUAL DINNER

Principal speaker: Sir David Arculus

*Lifting the burden of regulators — who regulates the regulators?*

1900 for 1930 on 18 November in the Banqueting Suite, Council House, B1 1BB

### WINTER SOCIAL

Professor Peter Marsh & members of the Chamberlain family

1900 on 9 December at Highbury, B13 8QG



## AND in 2009 . . .

Already lined up for the 2009 Programme:

### 2009 6th ANNUAL LECTURE

Professor Ian Stewart: *After Darwin's Watch*

### BOULTON & WATT COMMEMORATION

Professor Julia King on technologies for sustainable transport

**also planned:** scenarios follow-up, Prof Mario Minichiello on *The Future World*; Barrett Steel's Rob Allan & a Jumbo Laser; the Assay Office; an interactive workshop on ethics; Arun Bajaj and the IAB, Dr Nick Winterbotham & the new Planetarium; Brian Gambles & the Library of Birmingham; a visit to Birmingham Post at Fort Dunlop, Soweto Kinch, digital media . . . a Lunar production at the Old Joint Stock Theatre

10 JULY  
Summer Social

23 JULY: AGM  
new Exec Comms members needed

## AGM on 23 July — call for new Committee members

There are four vacancies on the Executive Committee, including the positions of Hon Treasurer and Membership Secretary. **Please do tell Kate Cooper asap if you want to put yourself or a co-Member forward for election, and/or if you want an item on the agenda.** We need YOU!

This AGM & Review of the Year is great opportunity to introduce potential members to the Society and for them to learn about us. You will also be able to meet our new Lord Mayor Councillor Chauhdry Rashid at the Lord Mayor's Reception afterwards.



## Annual Dinner on 18th November



The Dinner will be in the Banqueting Suite at the Council House, preceded by a reception with the Lord Mayor. This year we welcome Sir David Arculus as our Guest Speaker. Sir David is Chairman of O2, and recently Chairman of Severn Trent and of the Better Regulation Task Force. He is a lively and controversial speaker! Last year's Annual Dinner was a sell-out success, so please make your reservations early as places will be limited. If you'd like corporate representation at the reception and/or by booking a table, please get in touch soon.

## SCIENCE & MEDICINE GROUP: the BA Festival, Science City, two world-class speakers . . .

Led by Professor Michael Overduin, the Science and Medicine Group are planning for the BA Festival in 2010. With Birmingham & Midland Institute and ThinkTank, a Science City seminar series in the 2009 programme is being also organised to showcase rising scientific talent in emerging fields.

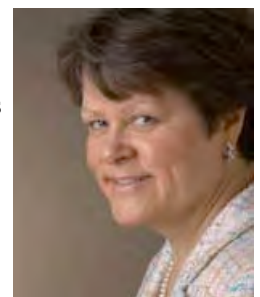
2009 is the bicentenary of Matthew Boulton's death and Charles Darwin's birth. We plan to mark the lives and work of these two eminent men connected to our illustrious predecessors. So during 2009 the Society will mark their lives and work in various ways.



Two such events are already in place. Warwick's world-renown mathematician and prolific author, Professor Ian Stewart, FRS will give our 2009 Annual Lecture *After Darwin's Watch* — with more than a nod to his co-authorship of the Science of Discworld! Ian has written

extensively on evolution, how the Darwinian processes are not the whole story. We've invited Terry Pratchett as our Guest of Honour, and await his response.

Aston's VC and author of HM Treasury King Review, Professor Julia King will be giving the Boulton & Watt Commemoration Lecture technologies for sustainable transport, a topic that surely would have exercised the original Lunaticks had today's issues been part of their world.



Summer Social  
10 JULY: RSPB CENTRE

Richard Clay  
25 SEPT: MILLS & REEVE  
Boulton & the art of making money

Lyons, Lawson et al  
14 OCT: TOWN HALL  
Climate Change Debate

Sir David Arculus  
18 NOV: COUNCIL HOUSE  
Annual Dinner

## Climate Change: How radical should Birmingham's response be?



The Society has drawn up an impressive line-up for the panel that Sir Michael Lyons will need keep in order when he chairs the Lunar Society public debate on climate change on 14th October in Town Hall.

As well as David Henderson, Nigel Lawson, Jacquie McGlade and Julian Morris as reported before, we've also recruited Kevin Anderson of the Tyndall Centre (left) and Michael Meacher MP.

Over this summer, as reported in the news section of the website, the city has hosted several events on climate change including the UK's first Climate Change Festival led by Lunarman Cllr Paul Tilsley, and a one-day UK-UNA Conference at the Council House on 7th June. All this provides ideas to feed into this public debate . . . we will be seeking input from you in due course, whether to ask a question on the night or help frame the shape of the debate itself. You are also invited to a private drinks reception for Members and guests at Town Hall before the main event of the evening — we hope to see you there!

## The Art of the Long View: Possible futures for Birmingham

At a lively workshop meeting on 22nd April, some forty members and guests were led through a taster session on scenario planning with Frances O'Brien from Warwick Business School (WBS) and Maureen Meadows from the OU Business School. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, and the WBS summary report on the workshop outputs (posted on-line in the Members' only section) indicated further work would be useful.

As well as WBS, Birmingham University through Lunarman Tahir Abbas is offering support. Both Birmingham City Council and Trevor Phillips' EHRC (who met Society representatives on 5th June in London) are keen to supply data and statistics to underpin any scenarios that are created. Also, a small group of Members involved in the arts scene and led by Clare Edwards, is seeking to involve young people in some kind of artistic interpretation of possible futures for the city. We're now thinking through who could do what, and to what effect . . . through 2009 there will be various activities, at least one event and feedback through the web and newsletters.

## Have we got your email address?

The first phases of the website development are now complete — even the most technophobe of on-line Members has discovered the ease of booking events through the website. **If you have recently gone on-line and have an email address or have changed it recently, please do let us know asap.** The next phase of development is to allow Members' comments, and to provide forums for subgroups within the membership and invited participants.

## & . . . are there photographers among you?

If you have taken interesting photos — anything with a Brum or Midlands theme, please email them to me for either the website or the newsletter . . .

## THE LUNAR SOCIETY NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to new Members: FE educator Helen Allsop, retired headteacher Vivienne Arnold, Sandwell Confederation of Indians Chair, Harmohinder Singh Bhatia, Professor Ian Booth the new Dean of Birmingham Medical School, BBC political editor Patrick Burns, consultants Neal and Helen Dempsey, Morag Jackson, Project Director of the new hospital, Ellen Jessett, CX of the Institution of Fire Engineers, & actor & translator Peter Sutton.

## THE LUNAR SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**At the AGM, there will be four vacancies as Julie Moore and David Lock's terms of office end and the offices of Treasurer and Membership Secretary are up for election.**

**Do you want to get more involved, to influence what the Society does through its Executive Committee? If so, please do contact Kate Cooper asap.**

### CHAIRMAN

**Deirdre Kelly**

### DEPUTY CHAIRMEN

**Alan Wenban-Smith  
John Charlton**

### HON SECRETARY

**Michael Overduin**

### HON TREASURER

**Richard Samuda**

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

**Peter Mayer**

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**David Lock  
Tracey Lucas  
Julie Moore  
Estelle Rowe  
Judith Taylor  
Peter Ullathorne**

### contact info

**Kate Cooper**

*landline* 0121 454 5666

*mobile* 07976 396 926

*email*

[kate.cooper@lunarsociety.org.uk](mailto:kate.cooper@lunarsociety.org.uk)

## Jazz in the city



From L-R: Andy Hamilton on his 90th birthday at Cork's, Ben Markland and Sara Colman, both shots taken at Birmingham Jazz (free!) Friday Rush Hour Blues at Symphony Hall. Reproduced with kind permission of Garry Corbett (see flickr.com for more of his work).