



# LUNAR SOCIETY NEWS

stimulating ideas broadening debate catalysing action

## Upcoming 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 (NB The drinks reception is from 1815)

### 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 at HIGHBURY

Professor Peter Marsh & members of the Chamberlain family

1900 on 9 December at Highbury, B13 8QG



## AND in 2009 . . .

### Should you leave your conscience at home?

Prof Deirdre Kelly & lawyer Tracey Lucas lead an interactive session on ethics on 13 January

### The new Library of Birmingham

City Librarian Brian Gambles telling us the state of play and asking for our help on 11th February.

### 6th ANNUAL LECTURE on 23rd March

Professor Ian Stewart: *After Darwin's Watch*

### Thinktank & the Planetarium

Dr Nick Winterbotham & Mario Dimaggio give a behind-the-scenes tour in April (date tbd).

### The Future World

Mario Minichiello, BIAD's Professor of Visual Communication on 4th May

### BOULTON & WATT COMMEMORATION

17 September at Aston University

Professor Julia King on technologies for sustainable transport

*also being planned:* Mike Hodder the City Archeologist & Sutton Park; the Assay Office; Rob Allan & Barrett Steel's Jumbo Laser; the BMAG Collection; Birmingham Post at Fort Dunlop; Tindal Street Press; scenarios follow-up, Soweto Kinch; a Lunar production at the Old Joint Stock Theatre . . .

### How to login to the website:

- ◆ Enter your email address in the box top RHS of any page
- ◆ Click on [forgotten your password?](#) (even though you haven't!)
- ◆ On the next screen, 'retrieve' your password by inputting your email address again
- ◆ Your password will be sent to you automatically via email
- ◆ Log in using it . . . & then you can change it to something more memorable

## Thinktank holds Lunar Society weekend

'The Lunar Society weekend' celebrates the history of the Society throughout Thinktank on 4-5 October. There will be tours, exhibits, experiments and demonstrations, all designed for youngsters to marvel at the brilliance of our illustrious predecessors. Do take your family along!

## Town Hall tickets: Should Birmingham be planning a radical response to climate change?

If you've booked via the Society for this event on 14th October, which has all the hallmarks of being a lively, well-attended affair, **your ticket/s** will be sent to you through the post, **not** collected on the door at Town Hall. ***If you haven't received yours in the post by 3rd October, do let me know.***

Environmentalists, academics, policy decision-makers, lawyers & students will all be in the audience. Invitations, too, have gone to community groups, every secondary school in the city and beyond, and to the Student Unions, so we hope for a good representation of youngsters there too.

Martineau, Birmingham City Council, Anglian Water, Midland Heart and Birmingham International Airport are sponsoring this important event, and we're very grateful for their support.

## Sir David Arculus at the Annual Dinner

The second of the three autumn events is our prestigious Annual Dinner on 18th November. Sir David Arculus, our Guest Speaker, is renown for his wit as well as corporate experience. Moreover, his subject is highly topical:

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

We've already taken some bookings and, as last year's Dinner was a sell-out, do make your reservations sooner rather than later, especially if you want to book a whole table.

## Winter Social at Highbury

On 9 December, we return to the Chamberlain family home for our Winter Social. The family biographer, Professor Peter Marsh will take us round, and several members of the Chamberlain family will be there too. As well as the great company, there'll be great food and wine on offer in the wonderful setting of Highbury.

Nearly all our Members are now on-line and have given the Society a working email address. Thank you!

*If you have an email address, but haven't given it to us, please do so asap!*

*If you're not yet on-line, please consider investing in the time to do so — and then start to understand and use this revolutionary & revolutionising technology . . .*

**PLUS** when everyone's on-line, the Society's admin & systems will be cheaper to run and dramatically more efficient!

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

WINTER SOCIAL  
9 DEC: HIGHBURY

## Exploiting new media . . .

With an eye to contributing to 'seeing' future scenarios for Birmingham, **Wayne Horkan, UK CTO of Sun Microsystems** is helping us think how new technologies can aid communication between citizens, social decision-makers and specialist experts. **Marc Reeves, Birmingham Post Editor** is joining us in very early stages of a discussion on whether/how to create some kind of 'wiki' system for and about the city — of which more later!

## . . . & the 2009 programme

Exploitation of new technologies is influencing the 2009 programme, including how you hear about it — now via the web, email and these newsletters. The events themselves, too, reflect the power of new media.

For example, both Maverick TV and Warwick University are involved in talks



on how digital media can help disseminate the ideas in **Professor Ian Stewart's 6th Annual Lecture *After Darwin's Watch*** on 23rd March. (Terry Pratchett, his co-author of the Science of Discworld with Jack Cohen, is likely to be in Oz in March alas, but if he is in the UK, he'll try and be with us.)

In February, **Brian Gambles** will lead a session on the 21st century role of the **new Library of Birmingham**. **Mario Dimaggio** will show us the digital Planetarium wow-factor in April before **Thinktank's CEO Nick Winterbotham** leads a Q&A about Thinktank and the Eastside development. We plan a visit to the **BMAG Collection Centre** in Nechells, too.

With energy security issues looming fast, **Julia King's *Sustainable technologies for transport*** for the **Boulton & Watt Commemoration Lecture** on 17th September will be an important and timely contribution to our thinking, a fitting tribute to Boulton in the bicentenary year of his death.

**Mario Minichiello, BIAD's new Professor of Visual Communication** promises us a lively evening in May, with his talk *The Future World*, exploring how design and communication could make or break the future of business, social cohesion and the shared vision of the future.

It's the 10th anniversary of **Tindal Street Press** & we will meet at least one their prize-winning authors . . . last but by no means least, our Winter Social at the **Old Joint Stock Theatre** looks to be a special Lunar gig by Brum's jazz saxophonist **Soweto Kinch & his band** who will play for us *and* discuss their ground-breaking work.



## Birmingham in Bloom

Part of Birmingham in Bloom City Centre Floral Trail this summer was this lovely 'Lunar' display by Joyce Briggs in Birmingham Cathedral. The Floral Trail comprised displays and events across the city centre, including the RSPB (who hosted our hugely enjoyable Summer Social) showing people a sight of the nesting peregrines on BT Tower.

## THE LUNAR SOCIETY NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to new Members: Philip Davis, former local authority and assembly leader, now a transport policy specialist; Tom Dent, retired GP and medical educator; William Liggins, a podiatric surgeon now starting a Birmingham MA in history, Qasim Majid, IAB Committee Member and CX of the software company Integrous; author and creative writing tutor, former Eng Lit lecturer Janet Rhys Davis, and to chartered scientist and designer Chris Ramsden who has rejoined the Society.

## THE LUNAR SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Since the July AGM, we now have two new Officers and other new Members of the Executive Committee.

**CHAIRMAN**  
**Deirdre Kelly**

**DEPUTY CHAIRMEN**  
**Alan Wenban-Smith**  
**John Charlton**

**HON SECRETARY**  
**Michael Overduin**

**HON TREASURER**  
**Richard Harris**

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**  
**Tracey Lucas**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

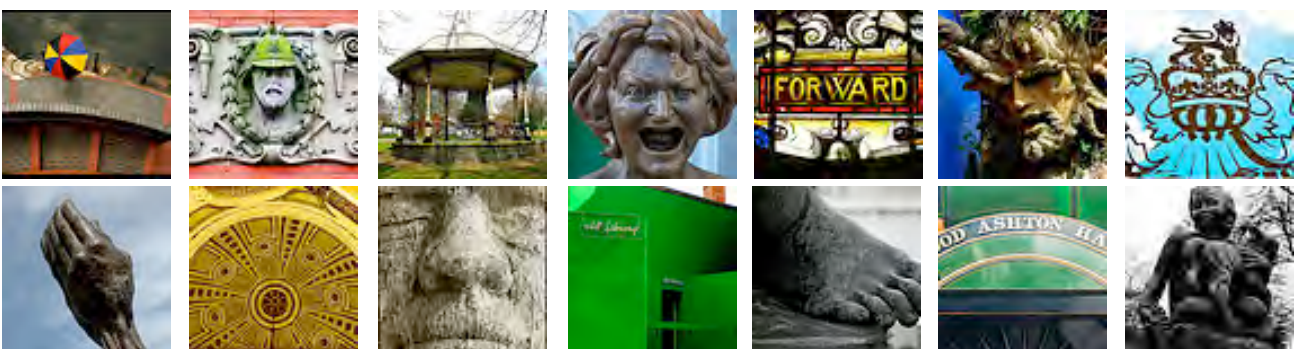
**Steve Bedser**  
**Guppy Dhariwall**  
**Anne Knowles**  
**Peter Mayer**  
**Mario Minichiello**  
**Estelle Rowe**  
**Judith Taylor**  
**Peter Ullathorne**

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## All photos taken in Birmingham . . . but do you know where . . . ?



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