



RSE

*The Royal Society
of Edinburgh*

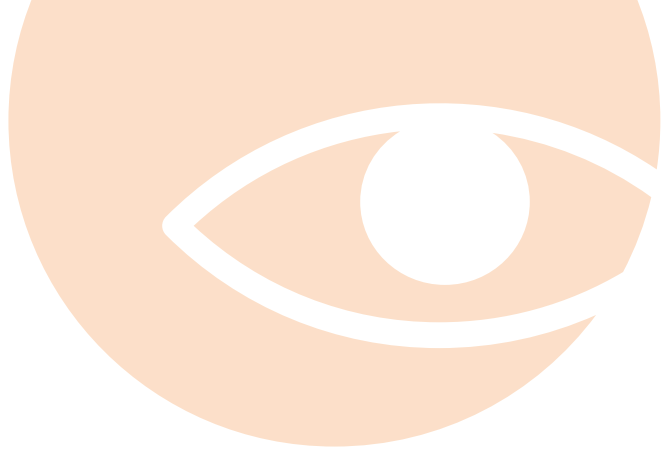
KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL

curious

The **RSE** Summer 2019 Events Programme
2nd–26th August

22–26 George Street
Bookings: rse.org.uk/curious

   #CuriousRSE



Welcome to **Curious**, the RSE's Summer Events Programme



As Scotland's National Academy, the RSE plays a leading role in challenging, developing and sharing current thinking and new ideas in pursuit of our mission 'knowledge made useful'.

We do this through harnessing the diverse knowledge and expertise of our Fellowship, drawn from the worlds of science, the arts, business and public service and representing some of the most talented leaders and thinkers living and working in Scotland today.

Thanks to their willingness to share their knowledge, we have programmed an eclectic mix of talks, demonstrations, workshops, exhibitions and performances during August. We have interactive shows on topics such as colour and creativity, learning a second language, responsible debate and the science of gin; exhibitions featuring portraits of some of the At Risk Academics and Refugees within the RSE Young Academy of Scotland and also some of the amazing women scientists within the Fellowship; and a *Tea and Just Talk* series, where you can enjoy a cup of tea whilst sitting

round the table and chatting with experts on a range of subjects covering everything from DNA and the legal system to cockpit voice recordings, menstruation and Scotland's energy future. And, because it's Edinburgh and the Festival is on, we're also throwing in a few musical surprises which are not part of our usual RSE offering!

Our aim with *Curious* is for everyone who steps through our door to gain a better understanding of who we are and what we do and come away having learnt something new or having been inspired. We believe knowledge is only useful when it's shared, and we're looking forward to meeting and talking with you and making sure that the RSE is a place where people come together to exchange views and ideas and leave a little more knowledgeable and a little more enlightened.

Dr Rebekah Widdowfield
Chief Executive

Daily Exhibitions: Friday 2nd–Monday 26th August

Mon–Fri 10am–7.30pm, Sat 11am–7.30pm, Sun 12 noon–7.30pm



Women in Science in Scotland

RSE

Free All Ages ⌚ During opening hours
Reception

Women scientists are changing the world. Learn more about some of the finest female scientists in Scotland today in this free photographic exhibition.

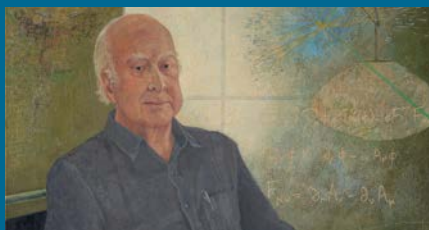


A Tale of Two Periodic Tables

University of St Andrews/
European Chemical Society

Free 12 + ⌚ During opening hours
2nd–8th August, Swann Room
9th–26th August, Reception

A tale of two periodic tables, separated by 134 years: one is the oldest-known classroom wall chart, discovered at St Andrews University; the other is a brand new chart, developed to highlight the scarcity and vulnerability of the elements, in the International Year of the Periodic Table.



From Maxwell to Higgs

RSE

Free All Ages ⌚ During opening hours
Upper Gallery

The discovery of the Higgs boson particle in 2013 was a monumental moment in science. So how did we get there? Find out how we made it this far; from James Clerk Maxwell's first examination of electricity and magnetism in 1861 to now.



At Risk Academic Refugees: A Portrait

I. D. Campbell

Free All Ages ⌚ During opening hours
James Clerk Maxwell Room

The At Risk Academic Refugees (ARAR) initiative was launched in 2016 to recognise young professionals of outstanding talent from Scotland's refugee and displaced migrant communities. The RSE's Young Academy of Scotland (YAS) has committed to reserving membership spaces for at-risk academics and refugees in its recruitment rounds until at least 2020. Three ARAR refugees sat for portraits with Glasgow-based portrait painter Iain Campbell, and the results are on display.



'I Am Just My Words' Installation Piece

Mark Maughan (Director) and Tim Cowbury (Writer), in association with James Quaife Productions

Free 15+ ⌚ During opening hours
James Clerk Maxwell Room

A mixed-media installation with accompanying theatre piece: the audience will meet Elif, Hasani, Jade and others through headphones, as they listen to their experiences of a Home Office interview.



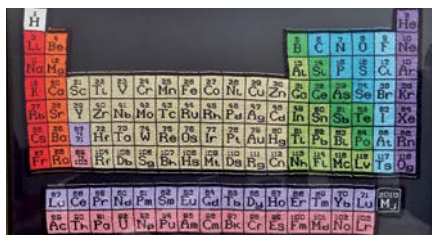
Café Bar

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE

⌚ During opening hours
Reception

Fancy some tea, coffee, or something stronger to keep you going during this busy Edinburgh month? Then come on in and treat yourself in our Café Bar. And because we're the RSE, we're making this a bit different by arranging for experts covering a range of topics – from dance to forensic science – to host our Talking Table, so you can quiz them about what they do.

Friday 2nd



Macramé Periodic Table

Jane Stewart

Free All ages 🕒 10am–7.30pm
Swann Room

What do you get when you mix 350 hours and 200,000 knots? A collision of science and art to create a truly unique macramé periodic table!

Live Demonstration at 10am today



Afternoon Teas

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE

£29.99 All ages 🕒 2.30pm
Scott Room

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of freshly-prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes and pastries, with a choice of teas, coffee or a glass of fizz, while discovering a little more about the RSE and its history, in the elegant surroundings of our Scott Room.



Fake News Workshop

Aleksandar Kocic

Edinburgh Napier University

Free 12+ 🕒 3pm (65 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

How can we fight back against Fake News? This workshop will share some steps we can take to stop Fake News in its fictional tracks.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Science and forensic science

Keith Inman

Leverhulme Research Centre
for Forensic Science
University of Dundee

Free All Ages 🕒 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

When the law dictates which aspects of science are permitted in front of a court of law, what does this mean for the scientist?



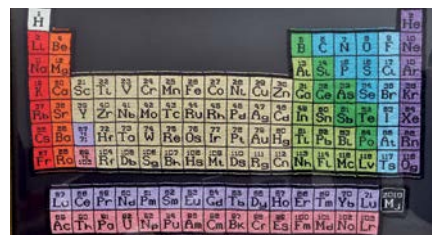
The Science of Gin

Porter's Gin

£15 18+ 🕒 6pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

An hour-long immersion into the science behind one of the UK's most innovative gin distillers, as the team from Porter's Gin guides you through modern distillation, botanicals and flavours. G&T and tastings included (of course).

Saturday 3rd



Macramé Periodic Table

Jane Stewart

Free All ages 🕒 11am–7.30pm
Swann Room

What do you get when you mix 350 hours and 200,000 knots? A collision of science and art to create a truly unique macramé periodic table!



Investigating the Impossible

Professor Richard Wiseman
Edinburgh Skeptics Society

Free 12+ 🕒 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Professor Richard Wiseman will cast a sceptical eye over the paranormal, questioning whether ghosts really exist, the tricks of the psychic trade, how to walk on fire and the real power of your dreams.

Saturday 3rd (cont.)



Public Debate: The Ethics of Borders and Migration Control

Young Academy of Scotland

Free 15+ 🕒 1pm (120 mins)
Wellcome East

Because border control is often used as a divisive political tool, some may hesitate to engage with this topic. However, there are legitimate questions to be asked around human migration. Hosted by the Young Academy of Scotland, this debate will examine the moral, political and social implications of borders and migration.



Afternoon Teas

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE

£29.99 All ages 🕒 2.30pm
Scott Room

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of freshly-prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes and pastries, with a choice of teas, coffee or a glass of fizz, while discovering a little more about the RSE and its history, in the elegant surroundings of our Scott Room.



Fake News Workshop

Aleksandar Kocic
Edinburgh Napier University

Free 12+ 🕒 3pm (65 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

How can we fight back against Fake News? This workshop will share some steps we can take to stop Fake News in its fictional tracks.



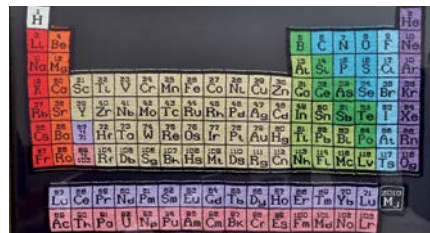
The Science of Gin

Porter's Gin

£15 18+ 🕒 4.30pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

An hour-long immersion into the science behind one of the UK's most innovative gin distillers, as the team from Porter's Gin guides you through modern distillation, botanicals and flavours. G&T and tastings included (of course).

Sunday 4th



Macramé Periodic Table

Jane Stewart

Free All ages 🕒 12noon–7.30pm
Swann Room

What do you get when you mix 350 hours and 200,000 knots? A collision of science and art to create a truly unique macramé periodic table!



Is a 'bilingual' just two 'monolinguals' in one brain?

Professor Antonella Sorace FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free 12+ 🕒 3pm (60 mins)
Wellcome East

Did you know that learning a second language changes your first language and changes how you think too? Discover why this is important in our increasingly multi-lingual society.

Sunday 4th continues overleaf

Sunday 4th (cont.)



Murder, Maggots and MR Imaging: a journey through forensic science, hosted by Val McDermid

Val McDermid FRSE (chair)

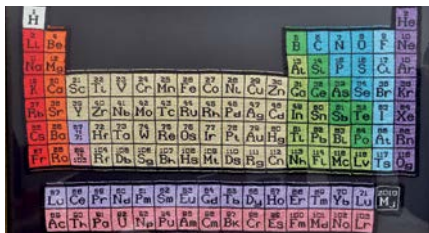
Tom Wood

Dr Lucina Hackman

Free 15+ ⌚ 5pm (90 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

In 1935, ground-breaking evidence from Scottish forensic scientists helped find Buck Ruxton guilty of the murder of his wife and maid and in doing so, shaped the future of criminal investigations. In this discussion, hosted by RSE Fellow and crime writer Val McDermid, Tom Wood, one of Scotland's most senior and experienced operational police officers and author of *Ruxton: The First Modern Murder* will discuss the case with Dr Lucina Hackman, Principal Investigator and Forensic Anthropologist from Dundee University's Leverhulme Institute, and consider the developments in forensic science today.

Monday 5th



Macramé Periodic Table

Jane Stewart

Free All ages ⌚ 10am–7.30pm
Swann Room

What do you get when you mix 350 hours and 200,000 knots? A collision of science and art to create a truly unique macramé periodic table!

Live Demonstration at 10am today

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Conversations That Changed The World

Tom Pow

A Year of Conversation 2019

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What conversations do you believe changed the world? Bring your suggestions to the Talking Table.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Breath

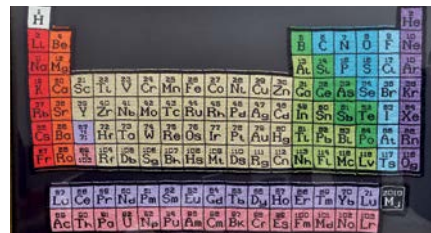
Professor Laura Gonzalez

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What are the meanings and feelings of breathing – a source of energy for actions, emotions, words and thoughts?

Tuesday 6th



Macramé Periodic Table

Jane Stewart

Free All ages ⌚ 10am–7.30pm
Swann Room

What do you get when you mix 350 hours and 200,000 knots? A collision of science and art to create a truly unique macramé periodic table!



Live Demonstration: At Risk Academic Refugees

I. D. Campbell

Free All ages ⌚ 10am–4pm
Reception

Artist, Iain Campbell will complete a portrait using photos taken of academic refugees from a previous sitting, to form part of the *At Risk Academics: A Portrait* exhibition.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

A Tale of Two Cities

Tom Pow

A Year of Conversation 2019

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

People make Glasgow.
What makes Edinburgh?

Tuesday 6th (cont.)

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

The Rise and Fall of Phrenology

Professor David Price FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Why did 19th-Century Edinburgh become preoccupied with the idea that a person's personality can be deduced from the shape of their skull?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

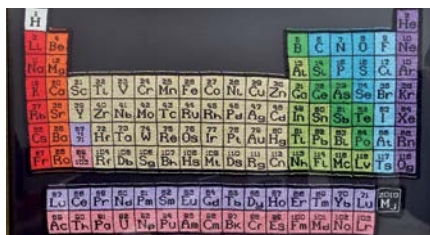
Enhancing the Individual Capabilities of Young Women

Dr Liita Cairney
Kalitasha Limited

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How can we use the menstrual cycle as a framework to teach self-confidence?

Wednesday 7th



Macramé Periodic Table

Jane Stewart

Free All ages ⌚ 10am–7.30pm
Swann Room

What do you get when you mix 350 hours and 200,000 knots? A collision of science and art to create a truly unique macramé periodic table!

Live Demonstration at 10am today

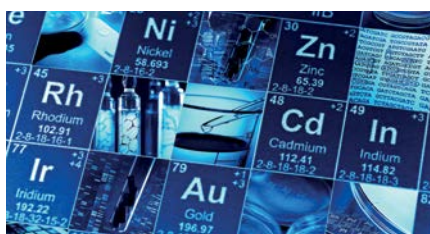
TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Scotland's Energy Future

Professor Rebecca Lunn MBE FRSE
University of Strathclyde

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am + 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How can we use the menstrual cycle as a framework to teach self-confidence?



A Tale of Two Periodic Tables: In Discussion

University of St Andrews/
European Chemical Society

Free 12+ ⌚ 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A discussion about two periodic tables, 134 years apart: one, the oldest-known classroom wall chart, discovered at St Andrews University; the other, a brand new table developed to highlight the scarcity and vulnerability of the elements, to mark this International Year of the Periodic Table (2019).



Intersection of Poetics and Science – Energy Futures

Professor Patrick Corbett FRSE
and Professor Ruth Aylett
Heriot-Watt University

Free 18+ ⌚ 3pm (75 mins)
Wellcome West

Science meets poetics – the art of writing poetry – in this highly creative event which will capture feelings and issues on Scotland's energy future in the form of a group poem.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

The Rise and Fall of Phrenology

Professor David Price FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Why did 19th-Century Edinburgh become preoccupied with the idea that a person's personality can be deduced from the shape of their skull?

Thursday 8th

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

What is Nature-inspired Engineering?

Professor Marc Desmulliez FRSE
Heriot-Watt University

Free All Ages 🕒 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What can we learn from nature when it comes to tackling big societal challenges? Come and learn about nature-inspired engineering.



Is a 'bilingual' just two 'monolinguals' in one brain?

Professor Antonella Sorace FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free 12+ 🕒 12noon (60 mins)
Wellcome East

Did you know that learning a second language changes your first language and changes how you think too? Discover why this is important in our increasingly multi-lingual society.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Watson, Crick & DNA

Professor Ian Jackson FRSE
MRC Human Genetics Unit, IGMM,
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages 🕒 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

When James Watson and Francis Crick discovered the structure of DNA in 1952, they did so without doing any experiments themselves. Does fortune favour the brave in science and innovation?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Sequencing the Human Genome

Professor Ian Jackson FRSE
MRC Human Genetics Unit, IGMM,
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages 🕒 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How was the human DNA code determined and will this revolutionise biology and medicine?

Friday 9th

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Dance Health

Dr Bethany Whiteside
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Catherine Cassidy
Scottish Ballet

Free All Ages 🕒 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What impact can dance have for people with neurological conditions such as dementia, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

DNA at a crime scene – not always the big reveal to 'whodunit'

Dr Alexander Gray
Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science, University of Dundee

Free All Ages 🕒 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What does the presence or lack of DNA at a crime scene mean for the legal system in the future?



Afternoon Teas

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE
£29.99 All ages 🕒 2.30pm
Scott Room

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of freshly-prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes and pastries, with a choice of teas, coffee or a glass of fizz, while discovering a little more about the RSE and its history, in the elegant surroundings of our Scott Room.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Tackling taboo: menstrual misery

Professor Hilary Critchley FRSE
and Dr Varsha Jain
MRC Centre for Reproductive Health;
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages 🕒 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Can we have an open discussion about menstruation and bleeding problems?

Saturday 10th



Science and the Paranormal

Caroline Watt
Edinburgh Skeptics Society

Free 12+ 🕒 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Professor of Parapsychology, Caroline Watt, examines lab experiments into extra-sensory perception (aka your sixth sense), and how this research has been surprisingly beneficial for mainstream science.



Afternoon Teas

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE
£29.99 All ages 🕒 2.30pm
Scott Room

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of freshly-prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes and pastries, with a choice of teas, coffee or a glass of fizz, while discovering a little more about the RSE and its history, in the elegant surroundings of our Scott Room.



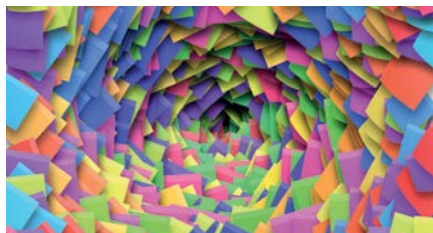
Fake News Workshop

Aleksandar Kocic
Edinburgh Napier University

Free 12+ 🕒 3pm (65 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

How can we fight back against Fake News? This workshop will share some steps we can take to stop Fake News in its fictional tracks.

Saturday 10th (cont.)



Memory Illusions and How to Avoid Them

Professor Robert Logie FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free 12+ ⌚ 3pm (50 mins)
Wellcome West

Can we improve our memory? Do smartphones make us smarter? Take part in interactive demonstrations on human memory, including when it works, when it doesn't and how to make it work better.



Thistlehurt: Almost Unplugged

Thistlehurt
Original Rock & Blues Band

£7 18+ ⌚ 6pm (75 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A local band performing their own original songs of a rock and blues nature, only this time they are almost unplugged.

Sunday 11th



Fake News Workshop

Aleksandar Kocic
Edinburgh Napier University

Free 12+ ⌚ 3pm (65 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

How can we fight back against Fake News? This workshop will share some steps we can take to stop Fake News in its fictional tracks.



Memory Illusions and How to Avoid Them

Professor Robert Logie FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free 12+ ⌚ 3pm (50 mins)
Wellcome West

Can we improve our memory? Do smartphones make us smarter? Take part in interactive demonstrations on human memory, including when it works, when it doesn't and how to make it work better.

Monday 12th



RCS @ Home

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 10am–5pm
MacRobert Room

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) makes its home at the RSE during the Festival. If you are a graduate or still studying, pop by for a chat.

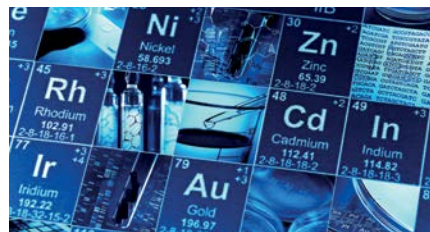
TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

New Opera

Dr Stuart MacRae
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Should opera be respite from the real world or should it reflect it?



A Tale of Two Periodic Tables: In Discussion

University of St Andrews/
European Chemical Society

Free 12+ ⌚ 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A discussion about two periodic tables, 134 years apart: one, the oldest-known classroom wall chart, discovered at St Andrews University; the other, a brand new table developed to highlight the scarcity and vulnerability of the elements, to mark this International Year of the Periodic Table (2019).

Monday 12th continues overleaf

Monday 12th (cont.)

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

What is Nature – inspired Engineering?

Professor Marc Desmulliez FRSE
Heriot-Watt University

Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What can we learn from nature when it comes to tackling big societal challenges? Come and learn about nature-inspired engineering.

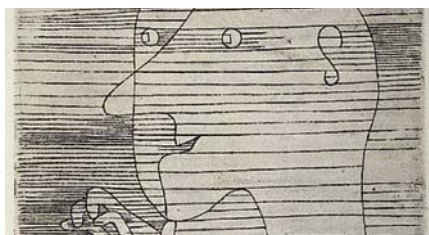


Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Open House Event

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 3pm (90 mins)
Wellcome East/Wellcome West

A wonderful programme of short performances from guest artists (including graduate and BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year 2018, Hannah Rarity), as well as opportunities to meet and share the experiences of current staff and students from across the Conservatoire.



Where is your mind?

Miranda Anderson
Member of YAS

Free 12+ ⌚ 3.30pm (50 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Does your mind extend across your brain, body and beyond? Are our phones already part of our minds? Find out how literature, art and technology are just some of the ways we've always been 'out of our heads'.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

What is so tricky about young people's mental health?

Dr Stella Chan
University of Edinburgh

Free All ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Young people's mental health is a challenge being faced globally. What makes us so vulnerable and what can we do to help?

Tuesday 13th



Live Demonstration: At Risk Academic Refugees

I. D. Campbell

Free All ages ⌚ 10am–4pm
Reception

Artist, Iain Campbell will complete a portrait using photos taken of academic refugees from a previous sitting, to form part of the *At Risk Academics: A Portrait* exhibition.



RCS @ Home

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 10am–5pm
MacRobert Room

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) makes its home at the RSE during the Festival. If you are a graduate or still studying, pop by for a chat.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Parenthood & Creativity

Dr Emily Doolittle

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free All ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What are the practical and emotional aspects of being a parent and an artist?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Enhancing the Individual Capabilities of Young Women

Dr Liita Cairney

Kalitasha Limited

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How can we use the menstrual cycle as a framework to teach self-confidence?

Tuesday 13th (cont.)



In discussion – At Risk Academic Refugees: A Portrait

Muriel Gray FRSE, I. D. Campbell
and Debora Kayembe

Free 12+ ⌚ 5.30pm (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Author, broadcaster, journalist and
RSE Fellow Muriel Gray sits down with
portrait artist Iain Campbell and YAS
member Debora Kayembe to discuss the
At Risk Academics: A Portrait exhibition.

Wednesday 14th



RCS @ Home

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 10am–5pm
MacRobert Room

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS)
makes its home at the RSE during the
Festival. If you are a graduate or still
studying, pop by for a chat.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

A Conversation On... Conversation

Tom Pow
A Year of Conversation 2019

Free All ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What is the value of conversation?
How can it be nurtured in every aspect
of our lives?

Thursday 15th



RCS @ Home

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 10am–5pm
MacRobert Room

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS)
makes its home at the RSE during the
Festival. If you are a graduate or still
studying, pop by for a chat.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

How is Composition Research?

Dr John de Simone
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free All ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How and why is composition
considered research at Universities and
Conservatoires?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Blackbox: Conversations from the flight deck

Professor Rhona Flin FRSE
Robert Gordon University

Free All ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How much information has been gained
from aviation safety from the analysis of
the cockpit voice records?

Friday 16th



RCS @ Home

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 10am–5pm
MacRobert Room

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS)
makes its home at the RSE during the
Festival. If you are a graduate or still
studying, pop by for a chat.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Steeped In History

Tom Pow
A Year of Conversation 2019

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

What is the value of remembering and/
or forgetting historical events such as the
end of WW1 and D-Day?



Afternoon Teas

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE

£29.99 All ages ⌚ 2.30pm
Scott Room

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of
freshly-prepared sandwiches, scones,
cakes and pastries, with a choice of teas,
coffee or a glass of fizz, while discovering
a little more about the RSE and its
history, in the elegant surroundings of
our Scott Room.

Friday 16th continues overleaf

Friday 16th (cont.)

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Tackling taboo: menstrual misery

Professor Hilary Critchley FRSE
and Dr Varsha Jain
MRC Centre for Reproductive Health,
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Can we have an open discussion about
menstruation and bleeding problems?



The Songs of Lennon and McCartney + other Fab Tunes

Kenny Herbert and Rab Howat

£12 18+ ⌚ 6.30pm (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Kenny Herbert, Rob Howat, Lawrie Ball
and Martin Wykes bring the best of The
Beatles' beloved classics and their own
catchy tunes to the stage.

Saturday 17th



RCS @ Home

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 12+ ⌚ 10am–5pm
MacRobert Room

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS)
makes its home at the RSE during the
Festival. If you are a graduate or still
studying, pop by for a chat.



Why Skepticism Matters: how alternative medicine tried to kill me

Sean Slater and Heather Pentler
Edinburgh Skeptics Society

Free 12+ ⌚ 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Fake news; slippery politicians; bad
ideas – Sean Slater will explore tools
such as Scientific Skepticism that we
can use to help cut through the junk;
before Heather Pentler examines
alternative medicine and chronic illness:
what treatments are being offered by
CAM (complementary and alternative
medicine) practitioners? Do they
actually work? And, most importantly,
can they be harmful?



Afternoon Teas

Saltire Hospitality at the RSE

£29.99 All ages ⌚ 2.30pm
Scott Room

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of
freshly-prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes
and pastries, with a choice of teas, coffee
or a glass of fizz, while discovering a little
more about the RSE and its history, in the
elegant surroundings of our Scott Room.



Fake News Workshop

Aleksandar Kocic
Edinburgh Napier University

Free 12+ ⌚ 3pm (65 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

How can we fight back against Fake
News? This workshop will share some
steps we can take to stop Fake News in its
fictional tracks.



The Songs of Lennon and McCartney + other Fab Tunes

Kenny Herbert and Rab Howat

£12 18+ ⌚ 6.30pm (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Kenny Herbert, Rob Howat, Lawrie Ball
and Martin Wykes bring the best of The
Beatles' beloved classics and their own
catchy tunes to the stage.

Sunday 18th



The Dimlight Hours

Professor Fiona Stafford FRSE,
Rachael Sparkes, Edward Cherrie
and Martin Pacey
University of Oxford

Free 12+ ⌚ 5pm (75 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A story of suffering, resilience and heroism – a recently-discovered WWII diary brings to life the day-to-day experiences of a woman and her family caught in air raids, rationing and destruction.

Monday 19th



New Ways with Words

Nutshell Theatre/
Queen Margaret University

Free 12+ ⌚ 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

Academic and award-winning director Kate Nelson offers new ways of applying analysis and interpretation to dramatic texts to open new perspectives on performance.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Psychiatry: 'perpetually in crisis'?

Professor Stephen Lawrie FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Given that the medical specialty of psychiatry has been described as 'in crisis' ever since its inception, will it ever be able to escape its history?



The Dimlight Hours

Professor Fiona Stafford FRSE,
Rachael Sparkes, Edward Cherrie
and Martin Pacey
University of Oxford

Free 12+ ⌚ 5pm (75 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A story of suffering, resilience and heroism – a recently-discovered WWII diary brings to life the day-to-day experiences of a woman and her family caught in air raids, rationing and destruction.

Tuesday 20th



Live Demonstration: At Risk Academic Refugees

I. D. Campbell

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am–4pm
Reception

Artist, Iain Campbell will complete a portrait using photos taken of academic refugees from a previous sitting, to form part of the *At Risk Academics: A Portrait* exhibition.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

When are you grown up?

Tom Pow
A Year of Conversation 2019

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

At a time when children are saying 'the issue of climate change is up to us', when exactly is 'grown up'?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Psychiatry: 'perpetually in crisis'?

Professor Stephen Lawrie FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Given that the medical specialty of psychiatry has been described as 'in crisis' ever since its inception, will it ever be able to escape its history?

Tuesday 20th continues overleaf

Tuesday 20th (cont.)



The Dimlight Hours

Professor Fiona Stafford FRSE,
Rachael Sparkes, Edward Cherrie
and Martin Pacey
University of Oxford

Free 12+ ⌚ 5pm (75 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A story of suffering, resilience and heroism – a recently-discovered WWII diary brings to life the day-to-day experiences of a woman and her family caught in air raids, rationing and destruction.



Curioscillations

St David's Brass Band

£10, £5 conc. 12+ ⌚ 6pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

Take a sonic exploration through the dark and light corners of music; plus, hear your favourite tunes performed with a brassy twist.

Wednesday 21st

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Our Future In Renewable Energy

Professor Lesley Yellowlees CBE FRSE
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

If we want to meet global demand for energy for the ever-increasing population - while minimising impact on the climate - it is necessary to use renewable energy sources. What does our energy future look like?



The Dimlight Hours

Professor Fiona Stafford FRSE,
Rachael Sparkes, Edward Cherrie
and Martin Pacey
University of Oxford

Free 12+ ⌚ 5pm (75 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

A story of suffering, resilience and heroism – a recently-discovered WWII diary brings to life the day-to-day experiences of a woman and her family caught in air raids, rationing and destruction.

Thursday 22nd

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Sequencing the Human Genome

Professor Ian Jackson FRSE
MRC Human Genetics Unit, IGMM,
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How was the human DNA code determined and will this revolutionise biology and medicine?

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Watson, Crick & DNA

Professor Ian Jackson FRSE
MRC Human Genetics Unit, IGMM,
University of Edinburgh

Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

When James Watson and Francis Crick discovered the structure of DNA in 1952, they did so without doing any experiments themselves. Does fortune favour the brave in science and innovation?



Arts and Culture: the best solutions to the 21st Century's biggest problems? The Creative Conversation

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Free 18+ ⌚ 1.30pm (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

This panel discussion, chaired by Professor Jeffrey Sharkey, Principal of RCS, will explore the need for innovative and creative thinkers and doers in a world that is increasingly fragmented and complex.

Thursday 22nd (cont.)



'I don't feel freedom': problems in the asylum interview and how to prepare for them

Right To Remain

Free 18+ ⌚ 1.30pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

A joint interactive workshop with practical advice, run by migrant organisation Right to Remain, for those going through, or with an interest in, the Home Office process.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Adam Smith: Moral Economist

Professor Christopher Berry FRSE
University of Glasgow

Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

Can we synthesise the principles of Adam Smith, 18th-Century economist and moral philosopher?

Friday 23rd



Embodied Thinkers (in early science)

Move2Learn

Free All Ages ⌚ 10am + 12.30pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

Join us on a journey through time and mime to see how research into children's science learning challenges the way we think about mind and body. Warning – contains charades.



The Invention of Colour

Professor Roy Burdon FRSE
University of Strathclyde

Free 12+ ⌚ 12noon + 3pm (50 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

What is colour, how do we see it and where does it come from? This interactive event will look at colour, light, the creation of pigment and its influence on artists' creativity.

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Unleashing self-potential for health and wellbeing

Dr Ayse Cinar
Member of YAS
University of Dundee

Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How do we unleash our potential for a healthier and happier life and overcome stress?



To be the One You Want to be

Dr Ayse Cinar
Member of YAS
University of Dundee

Free 18+ ⌚ 2.30pm (70 mins)
Wellcome West

How can we unlock and maximise potential for creative solutions to challenges? We will explore "how" in this participatory workshop.



The UK Asylum System: what's to be done?

Mark Maughan (Director) and Tim Cowbury (Writer), in association with James Quaife Productions

Free 12+ ⌚ 5.30pm (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

As the migration 'crisis' shows no signs of disappearing, the way in which the UK makes decisions on who should be granted asylum has never been more relevant. This panel discussion will bring together a range of voices – local to Edinburgh and from elsewhere – to discuss the current system and what might be done to improve it.

Saturday 24th



To be the One You Want to be

Dr Ayse Cinar
Member of YAS
University of Dundee

Free 18+ ⌚ 11am + 3pm (70 mins)
Wellcome West

How can we unlock and maximise potential for creative solutions to challenges? We will explore "how" in this participatory workshop.



Chemophobia: should we all be running scared?

Maria Gauci
Edinburgh Skeptics Society

Free 12+ ⌚ 12noon (60 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

With the rising popularity of 'natural', 'organic' and 'chemical-free' goods, Maria Gauci asks: Are they really all that they're hyped up to be? Are chemicals so bad? Does 'natural' also mean safe? Can we truly live in a 'chemical-free' world?

Sunday 25th



Responsible Debate: what does it mean to you?

Young Academy of Scotland

Free 18+ ⌚ 2pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

Are there better and worse ways to disagree with one another? This workshop considers what underpins and threatens responsible debate.



Fake News Workshop

Aleksandar Kocic
Edinburgh Napier University

Free 12+ ⌚ 3pm (65 mins)
Wolfson Lecture Theatre

How can we fight back against Fake News? This workshop will share some steps we can take to stop Fake News in its fictional tracks.



The Science of Gin

Porter's Gin

£15 18+ ⌚ 5pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

An hour-long immersion into the science behind one of the UK's most innovative gin distillers, as the team from Porter's Gin guides you through modern distillation, botanicals and flavours. G&T and tastings included (of course).

Monday 26th

TEA AND JUST TALK SERIES

Unleashing self-potential for health and wellbeing

Dr Ayse Cinar
Member of YAS
University of Dundee

Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)
Fellows' Room

How do we unleash our potential for a healthier and happier life and overcome stress?



To be the One You Want to be

Dr Ayse Cinar
Member of YAS
University of Dundee

Free 18+ ⌚ 3pm (70 mins)
Wellcome West

How can we unlock and maximise potential for creative solutions to challenges? We will explore "how" in this participatory workshop.



The Science of Gin

Porter's Gin

£15 18+ ⌚ 6pm (60 mins)
Wellcome West

An hour-long immersion into the science behind one of the UK's most innovative gin distillers, as the team from Porter's Gin guides you through modern distillation, botanicals and flavours. G&T and tastings included (of course).

Tea and Just Talk series

The Tea and Just Talk series invites visitors to enjoy a cup of tea while engaging with experts in a friendly café environment. There won't be any powerpoints, notes or formality here – just the chance to ask questions and to listen to some of Scotland's leading authorities on diverse subjects. These will include Scotland's energy future, problems around menstruation, the need for opera and the role it plays in modern society, the impact of dance on neurological conditions such as dementia, forensic science and the role of law in determining which aspects of science are permitted before the court and, in the light of the recent D-Day remembrance ceremonies, the importance of remembering history.

Walk-ins are welcome, but we recommend you register to guarantee your space. Please note that there are limited spaces available for each session. Spaces will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Friday 2nd **Science and Forensic Science**

Keith Inman, Leverhulme Research
Centre for Forensic Science
University of Dundee
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Monday 5th **Breath**

Professor Laura Gonzalez
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Monday 5th **Conversations That Changed The World**

Tom Pow, A Year of Conversation 2019
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Tuesday 6th + Tuesday 13th **Enhancing the Individual Capabilities of Young Women**

Dr Liita Cairney, Kalitasha Limited
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Tuesday 6th + Wednesday 7th **The Rise and Fall of Phrenology**

Professor David Price FRSE
University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm + 4pm (45 mins)

Tuesday 6th **A Tale of Two Cities**

Tom Pow, A Year of Conversation 2019
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Wednesday 7th **Scotland's Energy Future**

Professor Rebecca Lunn MBE FRSE
University of Strathclyde
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am + 1pm (45 mins)

Thursday 8th + Monday 12th **What is Nature-inspired Engineering?**

Professor Marc Desmulliez FRSE
Heriot-Watt University
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am + 1pm (45 mins)

Thursday 8th + Thursday 22nd **Sequencing the Human Genome**

Professor Ian Jackson FRSE
MRC Human Genetics Unit, IGMM,
University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm + 10am (45 mins)

Thursday 8th + Thursday 22nd **Watson, Crick & DNA**

Professor Ian Jackson FRSE
MRC Human Genetics Unit, IGMM,
University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)

Friday 9th + Friday 16th **Tackling taboo: menstrual misery**

Professor Hilary Critchley FRSE
and Dr Varsha Jain
MRC Centre for Reproductive Health,
University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Friday 9th **DNA at a crime scene – not always the big reveal to 'whodunit'**

Dr Alexander Gray, Leverhulme
Research Centre for Forensic Science,
University of Dundee
Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)

Friday 9th **Dance Health**

Dr Bethany Whiteside
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Catherine Cassidy
Scottish Ballet
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Monday 12th **'What is so tricky about young people's mental health?**

Dr Stella Chan, University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Monday 12th **New Opera**

Dr Stuart MacRae
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Tuesday 13th **Parenthood and Creativity**

Dr Emily Doolittle
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Wednesday 14th **A Conversation On... Conversation**

Tom Pow, A Year of Conversation 2019
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Thursday 15th **Blackbox: Conversations from the flight deck**

Professor Rhona Flin FRSE
Robert Gordon University
Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)

Thursday 15th **How is Composition Research?**

Dr John de Simone
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Friday 16th **Steeped In History**

Tom Pow, A Year of Conversation 2019
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Monday 19th + Tuesday 20th **Psychiatry: 'perpetually in crisis'?**

Professor Stephen Lawrie FRSE
University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Tuesday 20th **When are you grown up?**

Tom Pow, A Year of Conversation 2019
Free All Ages ⌚ 10am (45 mins)

Wednesday 21st **Our Future In Renewable Energy**

Professor Lesley Yellowlees CBE FRSE
University of Edinburgh
Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)

Thursday 22nd **Adam Smith: Moral Economist**

Professor Christopher Berry FRSE
University of Glasgow
Free All Ages ⌚ 4pm (45 mins)

Friday 23rd + Monday 26th **Unleashing self-potential for health and wellbeing**

Dr Ayse Cinar, Member of YAS,
University of Dundee
Free All Ages ⌚ 1pm (45 mins)



Afternoon Tea

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of freshly-prepared sandwiches, warm scones, miniature cakes and pastries, and a choice of teas, coffee or a glass of fizz, while learning a little more about the RSE and its history in the elegant surroundings of our Scott Room.

- Friday 2nd August 2.30pm
- Saturday 3rd August 2.30pm
- Friday 9th August 2.30pm
- Saturday 10th August 2.30pm
- Friday 16th August 2.30pm
- Saturday 17th August 2.30pm



Café Bar

Fancy some tea, coffee, or something stronger to keep you going during this busy Edinburgh month? Then come on in and treat yourself in our Café Bar. And because we're the RSE, we're making this a bit different by arranging for experts covering a range of topics - from forensics to dance - at our Talking Table, so you can quiz them about what they do.

Opening hours:

- Mon–Fri, 10am–7.30pm
- Sat, 11am–7.30pm
- Sun, 12pm–7.30pm

Royal Conservatoire

During August, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) will have a cosy home-away-from-home at the RSE. If you're a graduate, or want to know more about studying at or supporting Scotland's national conservatoire, they'll be available for a chat and welcome all to pop in for a tea or coffee in our MacRobert Room.

- Monday 12th August–Saturday 17th August, 10am–5pm

Associated events:

Arts & Culture: The Best Solutions to the 21st Century's Biggest Problems? The Creative Conversation
Thursday 22nd August, 3pm.

Wolfson Lecture Theatre

This panel discussion, chaired by Professor Jeffrey Sharkey, Principal of The RCS, will explore the need for innovative and creative thinkers and doers in a world that is increasingly fragmented and complex.

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Open House Event
Monday 12th August, from 3pm

Wellcome East/Wellcome West

A programme of short performances from guest artists (including graduate and BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year 2018, Hannah Rarity), as well as opportunities to meet and share the experiences of current staff and students from the Conservatoire.

Filming and photography

Please note that photographs and footage may be taken throughout the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Summer Events Programme. These will be used by the RSE for marketing and publicity in our publications, on our website and social media platforms, or in any third-party publications. Please speak with a member of staff if you have any concerns, or if you wish to be exempted from this activity.

Booking

Event bookings can be made online at rse.org.uk/curious. Nearly all events are free, unless stated otherwise.

Babes in arms

Children under three years old do not require a ticket for events. However, not all events will be suitable for children. Please check individual events for content warnings.

Concessions

Unless otherwise stated, concession tickets are not available.

Refunds

All tickets are non-refundable, except in the case of an event cancellation.

Getting here

The Royal Society of Edinburgh is located in the city centre and easily accessible on foot or by public transport. Please be aware of the environment when planning your travel to and from events.

By bus and tram

+44 (0)131 555 6363 lothianbuses.co.uk

By rail

scotrail.co.uk or nationalrail.co.uk

By bike

Plan routes through the city at edinburgh.cyclestreets.net

By car

We advise use of public transport wherever possible. Edinburgh is very busy during August and parking options are limited. There are multi-storey car parks and metered parking throughout the city centre.



Accessibility

The RSE has the following facilities available for visitors with disabilities:

Wheelchair Access with or without assistance

A ramped access for wheelchair users is located at 26 George Street. Please ring the bell to alert Reception to your presence or, alternatively, ring 0131 240 5000 for access.

If you have mobility impairment difficulties but are able to go up some steps, the building's main entrance is via 22 George Street. Rails are available on both sides of the staircase (five steps).

Lift: The main passenger lift accommodates a powered wheelchair, which will enable access to most Society Rooms. Visitors using smaller wheelchairs can also gain access to the Kelvin and Wellcome West rooms via the smaller lift.

If your wheelchair is wider than 76cm, please contact the Venue Manager for further guidance on access and dimensions in the building.

The RSE has its own wheelchair, which visitors can use when appropriate. For example, in the case that a person's wheelchair is too wide, we can offer the choice to be transferred to the RSE wheelchair. This wheelchair is available to book in advance.

Should you wish to transfer from your wheelchair into a standard seat, please do let us know.

All rooms in the building are wheelchair accessible, except for the Lower Gallery.

Accessible toilet

A unisex disabled toilet is available on the Ground Floor, beside the main lift.

Parking

There is no disabled parking space available on George Street, but taxis and cars may pull and park for a short period of time in front of the entrance of the building.

Facilities for people with visual impairment

Assistance dogs welcome. Guide dogs are welcome throughout the building.

Seats are normally not allocated, but if you attend an event in the Lecture Theatre and wish to seat at the aisle, please contact us for provisions to be made.

Facilities for people with hearing impairment

Hearing loop – an induction loop is fitted in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre. Please remember to use the “T” switch on hearing aids. A mobile system is available at Reception for one-on-one activities.

Low lighting

There is dim lighting available in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre, the Wellcome Rooms, the Scott Room and the Kelvin Room.

The RSE will also take all reasonable steps to provide additional facilities and assistance. If required, please do not hesitate to contact RSE staff through RSE Reception.



*The Royal Society
of Edinburgh*

KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL

Stay connected with the RSE

The RSE offers a year-round programme of public engagement activity from our Fellowship and Friendship communities



@news_RSE



@newsRSE



@royalsocietyedinburgh

rse.org.uk

22–26 George Street Edinburgh EH2 2PQ 0131 240 5000

The Royal Society of Edinburgh, Scotland's National Academy, is Scottish Charity No. SC000470