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New RSAW newsletter

The RSAW is delighted to bring you their first newsletter which will be issued quarterly. This comes at an exciting time as we have recently moved offices to 4 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF11 9LJ (below).



... and new RSAW office

The new RSAW architecturally designed office consists of two rooms, both of which are on the ground floor. Within the main office space, is a small gallery space which we will use to highlight award winning buildings and show small exhibitions. The smaller room, will host meetings of the RSAW Council, shortlisting meetings and CPD events. This room is available for hire for a minimum fee.

The RSAW also sells all your JCT/RIBA/NEC/ICE needs plus any other architectural related publications. Contact Amy Smith to purchase publications: 029 20 228987, amy.smith@inst.riba.org

If you'd like to pop by and see the RSAW team in their new home, please do. We have two parking spaces available at the rear of the building (but these must be booked in advance via 029 20 228987).

RIBA Awards shortlist 2009

Penderyn Distillery Visitor Centre in Rhondda Cynon Taff (below) by David Archer Architects is one of six schemes shortlisted for the RIBA Awards 2009.



The full shortlist is:

1. Ruthin Craft Centre, Park Road, Ruthin, Denbighshire LL15 1BB by Sergison Bates Architects
2. Renal And Cardiac Building, West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen SA31 2AF by Nightingale Associates
3. Raglan Castle Visitor Centre, Raglan, Monmouthshire NP15 2BT by Davies Sutton Architects
4. Nant Fawr Court, Heol Esgyn, Cyncoed, Cardiff CF23 6JT by Loyn and Co Architects
5. Hoddinott Hall, Millenium Centre, Bute Place, Cardiff Bay CF10 5AL by Capita Architecture
6. Penderyn Distillery Visitor Centre, Penderyn, Rhondda Cynon Taff CF44 0SX by David Archer Architects

The schemes will be visited in early April, and the winning schemes formally announced on 21 May 2009.

The RSAW received 15 entries for the RIBA Awards 2009. This is an increase of 2/3 from the 2008 entries - proving that good architecture is increasing across Wales.

RIBA Council visit to Cardiff

March 2009

The RIBA Council held their Spring meeting in the Senedd building in Cardiff on 27 March 2009. This meeting was preceded by a tour around Cardiff Bay led by Steve Hill from Holder Mathias Architects, and a reception at the Senedd building on 26 March.

The reception was hosted by Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas who welcomed the RIBA Council to Wales with his opening speech in Welsh. The President of the RSAW, Gareth Scourfield, also spoke at the reception. The RSAW commissioned a poem from Gillian Clarke, the National Poet of Wales, for the occasion, and we are able to reproduce it here:

Slate, Oak, Glass

Mountains spent time on this:
the slow settlement of silts,
mudstones metamorphosed to slate,
prehistory pressed in its pages.

Rock blown from the quarry face
and slabbed for a plinth, a floor,
a flight of stairs rising
straight from the sea.

The forest dreamed it:
parable or parabola,
a roof like the silk gills of fungi,
the throat of a lily.

A man imagined it:
the oak roof's geometry
fluid and ribbed as the tides
in their flux and flow.

He cools us with roof-pools of rain
that flicker with light twice reflected,
a wind-tower of steel to swallow our words
and exchange them for airs off the Bay.

Inside this house of light
you can still hear the forest breathe,
feel the mountain shift underfoot,
hear the sands sift in the glass.

Gillian Clarke

The National Poet of Wales

Written on the occasion of the RIBA Council visit to Cardiff, Wales
25-26 March 2009

Gareth Scourfield also gave a presentation about the future work of the RSAW to members of the RIBA Nations & Regions Committee who met at the Senedd on Friday 28 March 2009. This committee comprises the Chairs of the 10 English regions, as well as the Presidents of the devolved nations of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and meets four times a year. One of these meetings is normally held outside London, to which all the Regional and National Directors are invited to attend.

RSAW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**will be held on Friday 27 November 2009
at St David's Hotel, Cardiff Bay**

Watch this space for details of speakers and workshops

Construction for Seduction

Vote for your favourite romantic building in Construction for Seduction. Hundreds of people have already voted for their favourite building for dating in the UK, as part of the RIBA's 175th anniversary celebrations.



The entry from Wales is Portmeirion, the enchanting village created by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, using a combination of beautiful and eclectic restored buildings and Italianate decorative features. Occupying a magical peninsular setting above miles of sandy beaches, lovers will be hard-pressed to find a more romantic location.

Don't miss the chance to choose your favourite romantic building at www.architecture.com/constructionforsesduction Voting closes on 6 April 2009.

Interested in regeneration?

The Regenerative Skills Collective Wales (RSCW) on which the RSAW is a player, is hoping to establish an informal RSCW Practitioner's Group comprising representatives from the six member professions.

The proposal is to set up perhaps two or three meetings a year where practitioners can meet to review the work of RSCW; discuss issues of mutual concern; and meet with leading regeneration figures in Wales and beyond.

The meetings are likely to be held in Cardiff but would NOT be held unless there was a specific purpose to discuss. If you are interested in participating, please contact Liz Walder at the RSAW, t: 029 20 228987, e: liz.walder@inst.riba.org

Architects Benevolent Society

Golf Day

Friday 17 September at Cottrell Park, St Nicholas, Cardiff CF5 6SJ

Come and play a round with architects, and raise money for the ABS in the process.

Ticket prices will be in the region of £40-45 pounds, which includes the round of golf, refreshments on arrival and a two course meal afterwards. There will be prizes for the winning team/ individual golfer.

Register your interest with Joshua Kubale at the ABS, 020 7580 2823, josh@absnet.org.uk

Meet the President



The RSAW Council consisting of 12 members from all across Wales who meet regularly to respond to RSAW policy and local matters.

The current RSAW President is Gareth Scourfield Dipl Arch (Hons)
RIBA MRICS ACI Arb FFBE MCIOB Director, Pembroke Design Limited.

The son of a Master Stonemason, Gareth Scourfield studied at the former Thames Polytechnic (now the University of Greenwich) before qualifying as an architect. He worked in private practice in Pimlico and at London Transport Architects in the Aldwych on a wide variety of public/private sector and transport projects in the capital, prior to returning to his native Pembrokeshire in 1981. With Keith Williams, Gareth formed Pembroke Design Limited which has grown to be a strong, well-respected regional practice of architects and surveyors in West Wales.

Since forming the practice, Gareth has been instrumental in setting up several Trusts relating to the built environment and our architectural/social heritage, being a founding Trustee and Board Member of the Pembrokeshire Historic Buildings Trust and the Pembroke Dock Museum Trust, and has for many years been a special advisor to the Board of the Pembroke Castle Trust. He has also had many articles published relating to architectural topics, especially building in National Parks, as well as having published a book on the Castles and Strongholds of Pembrokeshire, and making guest appearances on Radio Wales programmes.

As President of the RSAW, Gareth has travelled extensively, often acting as a judge in design competitions, and is an approved RIBA external examiner, and regularly examines at the Welsh School of Architecture in Cardiff. He is a long standing Member of the Centre of Alternative Technology and is also a Chartered Surveyor and Arbitrator, a Fellow of the Faculty of the Built Environment and Sustainability, together with being a Member of the Chartered Institute of Building.

Practice profile: Hyde + Hyde, Swansea

The architectural practice, Hyde + Hyde, was founded on an architecture that strives to achieve a sense of timelessness by avoiding stylistic mannerisms, and specialises in high quality contemporary architecture.

Hyde + Hyde's work is a search for silence through an understanding of space, proportion, light and the use of simple honest materials, developing an architecture that appeals to the senses whilst cultivating environmental sustainability.

Kristian Hyde studied at the Portsmouth School of Architecture, winning not only the RIBA South standard for all round excellence, but also the RIBA Skidmore Owings + Merrill travel fellowship. Kristian was also published in Building Design as one of the top 100 Students in the UK in 2002. Kristian went on to work with John Pardey Architects; and was project architect on several contemporary high quality houses. In 2006 he took the decision to establish his own practice with his wife Kay.

After graduating from the Portsmouth School of Architecture with distinction, **Kay Hyde** worked with Hampshire County Council as project architect on several large school projects, and John Pardey Architects. She won the Lyceum National competition in 2001 to design a peace institute in Washington DC. The award also included a travelling fellowship, which allowed her to visit some of the most important buildings of the modern architectural movement in Europe.

Both Kristian and Kay are visiting design tutors at the University of Portsmouth and the Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering, University of Bath and visiting critics at the Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff.



Killay House by Hyde + Hyde



Kristian and Kay Hyde at work

DIARY

Royal Society of Architects in Wales/ Cymdeithas Frenhinol Penseiri yng Nghymru

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To receive our fortnightly update of news and events, contact rsaw@inst.riba.org

APRIL

FRI 3, I-SPY: UNDERSTANDING BUILDINGS AND CREATING QUALITY LANDSCAPES SPRING SCHOOL at Portmeirion. How do you look at buildings in the landscape? How do you understand and equate with the atmosphere of architecture? Which one (or all) of your five senses do you use when engaging with the landscape? An architects' brief is to respond to the client, but how does this work in a rural context? And how does the role of architect and landscape architect differ in their response to the larger, and often more wild, open space. Speakers at the RSAW's 2009 Spring School will discuss and debate their response to the landscape, and explain how and what matters to them. Will it affect you in the same way?

Contact Sophie Gibbs at the RSAW to book: 029 2022 8987, sophie.gibbs@inst.riba.org

CPD WED 8, CDM REGULATIONS 2007: PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR DESIGNERS at University of Wales Institute Cardiff (UWIC),

Cyncoed, Cardiff, 2.00 - 5.00pm. This seminar is a detailed discussion on how to make the CDM Regulations work in practice, whilst achieving the finest quality design and maintaining cost control, especially in today's climate. CPD record: 3½ hours of formal CPD. Fee (including VAT at 15%) RIBA/RSAW Member = £55 + VAT = total £63.25/ Others = £65 + VAT = Total £74.75. For more information please contact Sophie Gibbs at the RSAW to book: 029 2022 8987, sophie.gibbs@inst.riba.org

CPD WED 22, DDA/ INCLUSIVE ACCESS: THE ROLE OF DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENTS IN ACHIEVING AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT at HLM Architects, Greyfriars House, Greyfriars Road,

Cardiff CF10 3AL, 2.00pm- 5.00pm. Design and Access Statements are now an important recommendation for applications seeking building regulations approval. Keith Bright leads the seminar with a talk by Terry Warren of jha innovation on issues related to accessibility and building regulations. CPD record: 3 hours of formal CPD. Fee (including VAT at 15%) RIBA/ RSAW Member = £55 + VAT (total: £63.25) Others = £65 + VAT (total: £74.75). For more information please contact Sophie Gibbs at the RSAW to book: 029 2022 8987, sophie.gibbs@inst.riba.org

TUE 28, SAWSA ECO BALL in Sophia Gardens, Bute Park, Cardiff.

SAWSA (the Student Association of the Welsh School of Architecture)'s annual ball will be entirely green: the live, and spectacular, eight piece jazz band 'Something Simple' will play powered by generator bound bicycles ridden by the audience – the DJ, sound, lights and all electricity will be run on locally produced bio-diesel – the gourmet three course meal will be prepared from seasonal and locally sourced food by Chef Ben Moss. Tickets are £45 per head. Group bookings of 8 or more at £40 per head. To book, please contact Tom Sykes & Alice Brownfield, President and Vice-President (Student Association of the Welsh School of Architecture 08/09), e: sawsa@hotmail.co.uk

THU 30, PRUE CHILES FROM PRUE CHILES ARCHITECTS at Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan, St Asaph, 7.30pm. Part of the NWSA (North Wales Society of Architects) 2009 Lecture Series sponsored by CPG Building Supplies Ltd. CPD certificates are available on request. Small charge of £3 per person made to help fund the lectures. Non-members are welcome and students are FREE. Refreshments are available from the venue before and after the lecture. For details, please contact Mark French t: 01244 537100 e: mfrench@ainsleygommonarchitects.co.uk or see www.pruechilesarchitects.co.uk for information on the speaker.

MAY

CPD WED 13, WHOLE LIFE COSTING at LC2, Oystermouth Road, Swansea SA1 3ST, 2.00pm- 5.00pm. Whole-life thinking is an essential component of sustainable design. The idea is very simple: when comparing alternative designs for a construction project, don't just focus on minimising the initial investment, but select the alternative that performs best over the building's life cycle. To assess whole-life value you have to balance capital costs against future benefits. Dr William Fawcett, Cambridge Architectural Research Ltd will lead the session to explain how architects should understand the method's fundamental principles and techniques, and also its limitations. CPD record: 3 hours of formal CPD. Fee (including VAT at 15%) RIBA/ RSAW Member = £55 + VAT (total: £63.25) Others = £65 + VAT (total: £74.75) For more information please contact Sophie Gibbs, t: 029 20 228987, sophie.gibbs@inst.riba.org

SAT 16, The Abbey Masonry workshop and the area around Cross Hands, 11am at the Abbey Masonry works on the Cross Hands Industrial Estate, Cross Hands [SN 568 128]. Part of the Stone Forum programme 2009, this workshop will be led by Tim Palmer and John Davies. For details, contact: tjp@aber.ac.uk or t: 01970 627107.

JUNE

THU 04, GAVIN ORTON FROM BRYANT PRIEST NEWMAN at Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan, St Asaph, 7.30pm. Part of the NWSA (North Wales Society of Architects) 2009 Lecture Series sponsored by CPG Building Supplies Ltd. CPD certificates are available on request. Small charge of £3 per person made to help fund the lectures. Non-members are welcome and students are FREE. Refreshments are available from the venue before and after the lecture. Contact Mark French t: 01244 537100, mfrench@ainsleygommonarchitects.co.uk or see www.bryantpriestnewman.com for information on the speaker.

CPD WED 10, CODE FOR SUSTAINABLE HOMES AND SUSTAINABLE DESIGN at the LC2, Oystermouth Road,

Swansea SA1 3ST, 2.00pm- 5.00pm. The Welsh Assembly Government has requested that all housing built on their land or with their finances must meet the Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 and Level 4 as soon as possible. This workshop explains how the Code works and is assessed, and how design affects the achievement of the standard. It primarily focuses on how architects can meet the requirement to improve the housing performance above Part L. Nick Tune of BRE leads the session. CPD record: 3 hours of formal CPD. Fee (including VAT at 15%) RIBA/ RSAW Member = £55 + VAT (total: £63.25) Others = £65 + VAT (total: £74.75). To book, please contact Sophie Gibbs at the RSAW: 029 2022 8987, sophie.gibbs@inst.riba.org

FRI 12, DESIGN CIRCLE BALL at the Marriot Hotel, Cardiff. RSAW Design Circle proudly present their 2nd Annual Ball and plan to make it bigger and better than last year! Celebration may not exactly be on everyone's mind in these economic times, but the excuse to dress up, get out, and party with like minded individuals is exactly what you should be doing! Tickets and details from the Design Circle website: www.designcirclesawsouth.co.uk

COPY DATE FOR NEXT PENSEIRI

01 JUNE 2009

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