
RACC

Richmond Adult Community College

Autumn Issue 2011



NEWS

A TERMLY NEWSLETTER FOR STAFF & STUDENTS OF RACC

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DEAR RACC MEMBER,

Please find details in this newsletter about up and coming events and activities which are being organised at RACC. Our aim is to get as many people in our community engaging with the college as possible. We are developing a range of public events and activities to increase involvement and encourage a return to learning. We would value your feedback and ideas on what other activities you would find valuable to ensure that we offer a vibrant community offer.

Please contact Abigail Couch, our Facilities and Events Officer, by email abigail.couch@racc.ac.uk or call ext. 8946.


Best wishes,
Christina Conroy OBE
Principal & Chief Executive

TWO FANTASTIC EVENTS

FREE *Help give your Social Enterprise ambitions a boost*

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE EVENT

THURSDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2011
@ RACC, Parkshot, Richmond TW9 2RE
4pm - 8pm (drop in or stay throughout)




Richmond
Social
Enterprise
Partnership

visit www.racc.ac.uk/events for more info

IDEAS WHICH TRANSFORMED OUR WORLD

with Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the Royal Society for Arts

Monday 10th Oct 2011
7pm - 9.30pm
@RACC, Parkshot TW9 2RE
£10.00 (includes glass of wine)



visit www.racc.ac.uk/transformed for more info

2011 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- 10th - 24th** **Visual Arts Display:** All day in the Queen Charlotte Hall (QCH) Foyer
- 17th** **Great River Race:** 11am - 4pm (Entertainment & live bands until 6pm)
Public event, stalls and entertainment on the river bank behind Ham House to support the annual Great River Race. If you would like to help on the RACC stall please contact abigail.couch@racc.ac.uk
- 22nd** **Social Enterprise Partnership Event:** 4pm - 8pm in RBS Foyer (seminars to be hosted in rooms in RBS).
Public event, registration required. Join us and Zac Goldsmith MP to get expert advice, guidance and ideas to help take your business ideas forward.
- 25th** **Walk4Life Day:** All Day
To celebrate this most accessible of activities, Change4Life are thrilled to announce their second Walk4Life Day, check the website www.walk4life.info for local events

OCTOBER

- 7th** **Jeans for Genes day** - All day (see page 8 for more info)
Staff and students are invited to wear their jeans to college and donate £2 to Jeans for Genes charity
- 10th** **Lecture by Matthew Taylor - 'Ideas that transformed our world':** 7pm - 9:30pm in the ALS
Public lecture, registration required. Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the Royal Society for Arts, will explore whether the ideas that transformed our world in the last two centuries can create solutions to the challenges we now face. A lively talk which will spark a spirited debate.
- 17th** **Business Enterprise Network (BEN) Event - Business Planning, 3 Vital steps:** 7pm - 9:30pm in the ALS
Public event, registration required. Local businessman Ian Churcher leads the first of several BEN events to discuss 3 Vital steps to Business Planning.
- 22nd** **SPEAR Sleep out:** 7:30pm - 6am at Ham Polo Club (see page 8 for more details)
Public event. SPEAR – the leading charity in South West London working with people experiencing every aspect of homelessness – is hosting this year's Big SPEAR Snooze at Ham Polo Club.

NOVEMBER

- 17th** **Portcullis Trust Lecture, Martin Davidson - 'Knowing China through educational and cultural links':** 7:30pm in the RACC Studio Theatre. A public lecture to raise funds for the Portcullis Trust.
- 21st** **Autumn Tea Dance:** 2pm - 4pm in the Queen Charlotte Hall
Public event. Practise your ballroom dancing skills in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere under the guidance of ballroom dancing tutor, Beryl Lywood.
- 28th - 3rd Dec** **Christmas Market/Parkshot shop launch:** Parkshot - Public event. An opportunity for students and staff to have their own stall in the market to sell to the public. Please speak to your course tutor if you are interested in taking part.
- 28th** **Business Enterprise Network (BEN) Event - Inclusive Impact:** 7pm - 9:30pm in the ALS
Public event, registration required - Hosted by local businessman Phil Lowe, the second of this year's BEN events looks at the impact of being all inclusive through your business practices.

DECEMBER

- 1st** **World AIDS day**
- 8th** **Richmond Drama School Performance:** 7pm in the Studio Theatre
Public event - students from the BTEC class put on a public performance of their first terms work
- 8th** **Dance Evening:** 6.30pm in the Queen Charlotte Hall
Public event - Students from a range of RACC dance classes put on a dance show for the public to demonstrate their first term's work lessons
- 9th** **Richmond Drama School Performance:** 7pm in the Studio Theatre
Public event - Students from the Richmond Drama School Certificate class put on a public performance of their first term's work
- 10th** **RACC Fun Run:** 10am from Clifden/Crane Valley (see page 8 for details)
Public event, registration required. RACC 5k Fun Run to raise funds for the college. Join the new 10 week 'Up and Running' course to get you in shape.
- 10th** **Twickenham Choral Society (Affiliated with RACC):** 7:30 - 9pm at Kingston Parish Church
Public event, SCHÖNBERG – Friede auf Erden, DVORÁK – Te Deum, BRAHMS – Ein Deutsches Requiem, Sophie Bevan – soprano, Lukas Kargl – baritone, Brandenburg Sinfonia, Christopher Herrick – conductor
- 13th** **ESOL Event & Festive Celebration:** 6pm - 8pm in the Queen Charlotte Hall
Public event, booking advised. Enjoy a glass of wine or soft drink with your friends and family and celebrate the cultural diversity of the college whilst watching seasonal student performances.

A ROUND-UP OF 2010/11

SEPTEMBER 2010

Graduate Trainee, Tom Charman, raised £2,500 for the Stroke Association – a charity with special importance to his family – by cycling 244 miles in two and a half days from Twickenham to Paris.

Tom said: 'It's probably the best thing I have ever done or been part of!'



OCTOBER 2010

In partnership with Richmond Borough MIND, basic guitar courses were held for the local community.

NOVEMBER 2010

Equality and Diversity week hosted talks by Stonewall, provided Deaf Awareness training and All Faiths and None provided information about different faiths for staff.

DECEMBER 2010

Student and staff performances, mince pies and wine raised £280 at the annual Christmas Concert. The funds were donated to REACT (Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with Terminal illness).

JANUARY 2011

Drama student, Emma Johnstone, secures a part in Mary Broome at the Orange Tree Theatre

FEBRUARY 2011

Over 50 local entrepreneurs attended the first Business Enterprise Network event which looked at topics such as the importance of long term vision in starting and developing enterprise, removing practical and psychological barriers to the growth of enterprise and why 'local' businesses are important to Richmond.

MARCH 2011

Best selling authors of "Beating Stress, Anxiety & Depression", Professor Jane Plant and Janet Stephenson, teach staff and students about ground breaking ways to feel better.

Learner forums focussed on capturing feedback from learners and identifying their views regarding the ease of obtaining information and their preferred method of communication with the College.

APRIL 2011

During the last week of term the first Tea Dance, led by Beryl Lywood, was held with members of the local community enjoying light refreshments and practising their ballroom dancing skills.

A very successful Easter Jazz School was held during the Easter holidays. Following this success, both Easter and Summer Jazz Schools are proposed for 2011/12.



A ROUND-UP OF 2010/11

MAY 2011

Adult Learners Week here at RACC was celebrated with celebrity judges, top learner awards, a visit from the 'old girls', Business Enterprise events and jazz and classical music concerts.

Adult Learners Week ran from 14 – 20 May and started on a high when Bamber Gascoigne – TV Presenter and author – visited to judge the inaugural St. Helena Trust Ceramics Competition where student Colin Forno (pictured bottom left) scooped the top prize.

The highs continued throughout the week when:

- Walter Dean (pictured bottom right) received his Best Learner Award at the House of Lords;
- A group of 'old girls' – pupils from the 50's and 60's – shared their schoolgirl memories when they paid a visit to their old school;
- Jazz legends Eddie Harvey and Dave Gelly compared notes on jazz recordings, people, places and personalities;
- The week was concluded by a sell-out Classical music concert. "A Celebration of British Music", which was held in memory of former student Happy Silva Diaz, who left a legacy to fund a classical music concert, which raised over £400 for the RACC Young Persons' Hardship Fund.



JUNE 2011

RACC Tutor, Dewi Hughes, performed with his theatre company 'Barefoot in the Grass Theatre' at the St. Enoder Arts Festival.

Richmond Drama School (RDS) students from the Access and RDS Certificate courses put on public performances of John Godber's comedy Teachers and Alastair Cording's version of Charles Dickens' David Copperfield.

The end of year art exhibition showcased students' work from the BTEC Foundation in Art and Design, Access to Art and Design, Photography and Digital Imaging and Interior and Spatial Design courses.

The work on display included fine art, interior and spatial design, photography, glass, jewellery, ceramics, textiles and print.

JULY 2011

City and Guilds floristry students again celebrated success at the RHS Hampton Court Flower show. This year the students added a Silver Gilt Medal for their display entitled "Lucy in the sky with diamonds" (the theme this year being 60's song titles) to the Silver Medal they won last year.

Five students of Richmond Drama School (RDS) were awarded places at top drama schools – three are attending Drama Studio London in Ealing and one each at the Oxford School of Drama and the Poor School.

Local resident Tom Bradley won the first RACC Fun Run in a time of 41 minutes 11seconds. Over £400 was raised for new accessible gym equipment.



CINEMA AND FUND RAISING



INTERESTED IN WORLD CINEMA?

Then why not join Richmond Film Society for their new season of 15 films? Season 49 starts with 'The Headless Woman' on 20th September 2011. All films will be screened in the Studio Theatre at RACC (Parkshot site) starting at 7:30pm.

The Headless Woman (2008), 87 mins

Written and directed by Lucrecia Martel

Stars: María Onetto, Claudia Cantero and César Bordón

After running into something with her car, Vero experiences a particular psychological state. She realises she might have killed someone...or did she?

Why not join as a member or just go along as a guest?

The membership fee is £50 per person (£30 for full time students and ES40s) – that's just £3.33 per film!

Guest tickets are £5 on the door.

For the full programme, more information and a membership form please visit the Richmond Film Society website www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk or look out for the leaflets around college.

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Jeans for Genes Day

Changing the world for children with genetic disorders

Friday
7 Oct
2011

By wearing your jeans to college on Friday 7th October – national Jeans for Genes day – and donating £2 you can help raise vital funding for this important charity.

Jeans for Genes is a national charity that supports families of over 30,000 children suffering from genetic disorders born each year in the UK.

Your donation will help fund

- Much-needed research into devastating conditions like Rett Syndrome
- Family support days which bring affected children and their carers together and reduce feelings of isolation

Please spread the word and encourage all your colleagues to wear their jeans on Friday 7th October, national Jeans for Genes Day!

All tax-paying adults are able to make their donations worth 25% more by signing a Gift Aid declaration. Please contact Abigail Couch or visit the Jeans for Genes website to sign a Gift Aid declaration.

Thank you for your support.



To register please visit the SPEAR website
www.spearlondon.org

Sleep out so others don't have to!

For most of us, our bed is a safe and warm place. However, more than 75 people a year in our community are sleeping rough.

SPEAR is the leading charity in South West London that helps to get people off the streets and start turning their lives around.

The Big SPEAR Snooze is taking place at Ham Polo Club starting at 7:30pm on Saturday 22nd October and finishes at 6am on Sunday 23rd October.

It promises to be a great night of entertainment, silly games, good food and the chance to join others in improving the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

RACC EVENTS CALENDAR

The new events calendar for the 2011-12 Academic Year is now available!

How do I find out what's on?

Staff can view the calendar:

- through the shared calendar option in Outlook or
- by opening the Events Calendar folder on the shared (R) drive

Students – look out for the posters around the college.

You can also visit the 'News and Events' page on the college website.

How can I get involved?

The calendar has been designed to showcase a plethora of RACC courses throughout the year – there are individual course celebrations as well as whole college activities and events, such as:

- The Christmas market in November – open to the public, this is an opportunity for students and staff to have their own stall in the market to sell to the public
- Adult Learners Week in May – a national celebration of those in adult education
- Festival of Adult Learning in June – a three week long celebration including 'Keep Safe Keep Well' LLDD event, the annual art exhibition, drama performances and more!

If you have an idea for an activity or events that you would like to see on the calendar please contact your tutor or curriculum leader.

WELCOME TO BAR PIQUET!



After several weeks of painting, building, deliberation and negotiation, the bar area at Parkshot is now ready for use.

This summer facelift has left the old, tired looking, bar area clean, fresh, bright and ready for business.

Whether the name makes you think of card games, racing drivers or ancient forms of torture, Bar Piquet is a great addition to the services offered here at RACC and will primarily be used to provide refreshments for audiences attending events at Parkshot throughout the year.

If you would like to be a part of this vibrant area of the college why not volunteer to help out at events, email volunteering@racc.ac.uk.

If you have an event coming up and would like the bar to be available for your visitors, first make sure it's in the new events calendar and then contact Abigail Couch with the details.

CHOOSE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

WALKING IN THE BOROUGH

One quick, easy and affordable way for adults to work towards their 150 active minutes is walking. It needs no special equipment, can be sociable and built into even the busiest person's day.



Why not try out **Walk4Life Miles** to get started?

Walk4Life Miles are 1 mile long walking routes across London. The walking routes can be found in parks, along footpaths and along canals. They are easy to follow, and will be generally free of barriers such as gates or stiles.

Most Walk4Life Miles will be waymarked with distinctive yellow waymarkers showing where they start and end.

Why not try out one of these one mile walking routes during your lunch break?

It takes most people about 20 minutes to walk a mile and there are over 20 routes in the borough.

Take a look at the Walk4Life Mile website to find a local route www.walk4life.info/find-a-walk

To celebrate this most accessible of activities, Change4Life are thrilled to announce Walk4Life Day on Sunday 25th September. Check out the local activities on line www.walk4life.info.

RAMBLERS

The local Ramblers association run walks Sunday to Monday every week walks are between 40 and 70 minutes with the exception of Mondays. Monday walks are longer routes and are 1.5 hrs or more.

The Ramblers offer a variety of walks across the borough from Mortlake to Bushy Park.

Check the borough's website for more info www.richmond.go.uk/health_walks

RICHMOND HERITAGE GUIDES

Richmond Heritage Guides are an independent voluntary society who are focused principally on the history of Richmond in it's role as a place of royal residence. There are two regular historic walks in Richmond and a number of special walks throughout the year in Richmond, Twickenham and Kew. Whether you're interested in wartime, Tudor, Victorian or Medieval history, the royals or local celebrities there's a walk for you.

Walks run on a Thursday, Saturday or Sunday throughout the year; there is a small fee of £3 - £5 for each walk.

Check the website for walks, meeting times and dates www.richmondwalks.co.uk.

EXERCISE AND FITNESS COURSES

If walking is not your thing why not take part in one of our very own 10 week exercise and fitness classes.

With an extended range of courses this year, from circuit training to yoga, there's something for everyone.

Visit www.racc.ac.uk for more info by using the course search box.

IT'S FUN RUN TIME AGAIN!

RACC is hosting its second Fun Run on Saturday 10th December.

This will be a 5km run along the Crane Valley and we have a new course especially designed to prepare you.

The Up and Running course will run for 8 weeks from 4th October on a Tuesday morning at Parkshot and Thursday morning at Clifden to build you up to a 5km runner.

No matter what your level of fitness is, you can benefit from Up and Running both mentally and physically.

The aim of this 10 week course is to gradually build up your fitness level, strengthen & awaken your body and enjoy your exercise with progressive training tailored for you.

For more details on all course pick up a course guide or visit the website.



If you have any news, stories or pictures for the RACC newsletter you can contact Abigail Couch, ext 8946 or email abigail.couch@racc.ac.uk

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