

● New Members' Room – Make the most of the new facilities

As featured in the Spring 2012 Bulletin

“Built in the 1930s and transformed for the 21st century, the new Members' Room creates a wonderful space in London for Fellows and members to come together, network, hold meetings, and relax. The room retains the charm of the original design and now performs a new role at the heart of the Society, as a first class facility for all our membership.” Michael Palin President

The renovation, designed by architects Studio Downie, has rejuvenated this historic space. Flooded with natural light from the high windows and reflected by the arched white ceilings, six large bays with comfortable chairs in different styles have been created for informal reading, relaxing and socialising. Six small, glazed meeting rooms sit between the open areas and can each accommodate up to four people around a table. Meeting rooms can be booked online for £10 for up to two hours through the Members' Only section of the Society's website. Free-to-use wireless internet access is available throughout.

“We're delighted with the finished room and with the responses from Fellows and members to this new space that combines the Society's tradition with its modern sense of creativity and openness.” Said Director Dr Rita Gardner.

The room is open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5pm throughout the year, with the exception of public holidays and the break between Christmas and New Year. Extended opening to 9pm operates on Society Monday lecture evenings. Fellows and members may be accompanied by up to three guests when using the room. Access is via the Ondaatje Theatre stairs unless assisted access is required, in which case the House staff will help, using the lift off the Main Hall.

To make sure everyone can enjoy this dynamic new space, the Society has created 'house rules'. These can be found in the Members' Only section of the website and on a notice board in the room.



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While tea, coffee and water will be available in the room, the Tea Room downstairs remains open for Fellows' and members' use in the day, as does the Foyle Reading Room for enquiry, reading, research, and use of the Collections.

Website: www.rgs.org/membersroom