FIRST TUESDAY News Reviews from 2012

The First Tuesday discussions on *current affairs* aim to provide attendees with a way of developing and testing their understanding of a range of current affairs topics; improving their journalistic capabilities so that they can write opinion or comment style articles for the regional or national media or blogs, respond with a thoughtful angle on radio chat shows, TV talk shows or maybe just have an interesting angle to respond at work with.

The topics discussed in December 2012 were:

- Press Freedom and Leveson introduced by Denis Joe
- Israel, Palestine and the Middle East introduced by Simon Belt

The topics discussed in August 2012 were:

- The Olympic Dream introduced by Alexander Beaumont
- Zimbabwe: a problem for Britain to solve? introduced by Georgina Kirk

The topics discussed in July 2012 were:

- Rio+20 and Privatising Democracy introduced by Craig Thomas
- The Queen's Jubilee handshake introduced by Denis Joe

The topics discussed in June 2012 were:

- Conservation: reflecting a fear of the future? introduced by Mark Iddon
- The Welfare State: does it develop dependency? introduced by Dave Wenham

The topics discussed in May 2012 were:

- Gay Marriage introduced by Stephen Almond
- Jamie Oliver and the Food Police introduced by Simon Belt

The topics discussed in April 2012 were:

- Tweet Tweet and freedom of expression introduced by Mark Iddon
- Promoting sport and the Olympic legacy introduced by Emily Pitts

The topics discussed in March 2012 were:

- Workfare introduced by Mark Harrop
- Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement introduced by Emma Short

The topics discussed in February 2012 were:

- Leveson inquiry introduced by Denis Joe
- Low ambitions and pay restraint introduced by Simon Belt

The topics discussed in January 2012 were:

- Schools: What are they good for? introduced by Jane Turner
- New Year, New Optimism? introduced by Ian Betts