

## Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 3 May 2011

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## News and Events



### The Big Jump - next steps

On **Thursday 31 March**, The Big Jump event took place at the Sage, Gateshead, exploring the role of social enterprises in the Big Society. Supported by RSA Catalyst and led by Dr Jim TerKeurst FRSA, this innovative event brought together social entrepreneurs, decision makers and community activists from across the North East. [Read more...](#)



### Hume and 21st century enlightenment

Who was Hume and how did he contribute to Scotland and 21st century enlightenment? On **Saturday 21 May**, join us in exploring the legacy of Hume and other questions at an event to celebrate the tercentenary of Hume's birth. The event will be held in Berwick-upon-Tweed. [Read more...](#)



### RSA Ireland - looking ahead

Over the past year in Ireland we have seen the beginning of new activity, with Fellows starting to create ideas and events. We are now pleased to invite you to the 2011 RSA Ireland dinner and discussion, taking place in Belfast on **Thursday 12 May**. The key speaker will be Alex Hill, Chief Advisor at the Met Office who will speak on *Natural or Man-Made? Accounting for Variations in the Climatic Record*. [Read more...](#)



### Oxfordshire network launch - 19 May

Over the last six months, two new Fellows' networks have been launched in the South Central region – one in Milton Keynes and one in Bedford – giving even more Fellows the chance to meet, exchange ideas and get involved in innovative projects. We are pleased to announce that we are launching another new network, this time in Banbury, North Oxfordshire, on **Thursday 19 May**. [Read more...](#)



### Fellow's profile - Becky John

Becky John FRSA is Founder and MD of [whomadeyourpants?](#) a worker co-op based in Southampton. Find out why she started the business and what she would do to change society:

"[whomadeyourpants?](#) is a worker co-op empowering marginalised women by providing flexible employment, education and a social and community space. We aim to sustain this entirely through making and selling gorgeous pants from upcycled lingerie fabrics in the future. We've created 10 part time jobs for women so far. I do this because I was empowered through counselling with Rape Crisis and I wanted to share that feeling. And I wanted to use my ability in sales and business for good not evil!"

On joining the Fellowship: "I was delighted and proud to be asked to join such a brilliant organisation. I joined the Fellowship as I hope to meet like minded people to learn from, learn with and make real changes with. I'm a great believer in networks and small groups of committed people making great changes, so I hope to meet other people who feel the same."

On what she can contribute: "I've been asked to speak before on co-operatives, social enterprise and social media and would be happy to contribute what I can there. I'm sure there will be more as I settle in and learn more about the Fellowship. I can advocate for and on behalf of Fellowship and plan to get involved with the Winchester network "

## In brief

A selection of activities taking place worldwide...

### RSA Comment

RSA Comment is a space for you to contribute and consider live issues of the day. Visit [RSA Comment](#) to see the latest articles and RSAanimate.

### RSA Staff Civic Day 2011

You may have seen in our [last newsletter](#) that we are looking for a project for RSA staff to help out with on our annual civic day. Due to the Easter bank holidays, the deadline is now **Friday 6 May**. Please take a look at the [guidelines](#) to see if we could help you!

### Sydney

If you are in or passing through Sydney on **Saturday 14 May** please join us for the A&NZ AGM. This will take place from 1.30pm at The Grace Sydney. The AGM will be followed by a talk from John Corrigan, the Founder and Principal of Group 8 Education on *Are We Listening to Our Children?* Booking is essential so please contact [Leigh-anne Shannon](#) to register your place. Please visit the [A&NZ webpages](#) for further details.



### Sheffield

On **Tuesday 10 May, 5pm**, you are invited to a Sheffield network meeting to be held at [Sheffield Community Development Unit \(SCEDU\)](#). This is an excellent opportunity for people interested in social enterprise to explore ideas, network and set shared goals. Contact [Caroline Veal](#) for more information and to book your place.

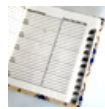


On what she would change given the chance: "Where do I start?! I'd make some real moves towards real gender equality and I'd abolish the No Recourse to Public Funds law. I'd fully fund Rape Crisis Centres. I'd make unfair or environmentally irresponsible trade prohibitively expensive. I'd make sure every restaurant knows that Parmesan is not vegetarian. And I'd make cycle lanes like in Holland."

On connecting with other Fellows: "I'd like to meet anyone who is actively doing something to make a change, to share experiences, to learn from them and just to feel I am among like minded folk. I'd specifically like to meet people who might be able to offer whomadeyourpants? help on our Committee, or at least, at that strategic level - so people who can come to a monthly meeting and help us get better, or advise us in industrial production/retail/fashion/buying. I love hearing from people who are interested in what we do, so I'm reluctant to limit myself! Some of the greatest things to have happened have come from other peoples' suggestions, which I'd never have dreamt of."

You can get in contact with Becky [by email](#).

*Know of an inspiring Fellow whom you'd like us to feature in the next newsletter? Please [contact us](#) and let us know their name and details.*



#### Connect to other Fellows today

**Are you making the most of the Fellowship directory?** This 'opt-in' search directory of our 27,000 strong Fellowship provides an opportunity to find other Fellows all round the world. [Register now!](#)

#### And finally...

We hope you enjoyed this issue of the newsletter. We want this to work for you so please let us know your thoughts about the content and format.

Trouble reading this email? [View the latest and previous newsletters online](#).

#### Any news?

Communicating the activities of the Fellowship is the first step to strengthening the Fellowship network. As an RSA Fellow if there is anything you are doing in your area which other Fellows should know about and can get involved in, [please let us know](#).

We will only include items which relate to the goals of the RSA, where Fellows can get actively involved. Any decisions will be at the editor's discretion.

#### You have received this email as a Fellow of the RSA.

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#### Salisbury

Fellows in and around Salisbury are invited to a networking meeting on **Thursday 12 May, 6.30pm**. This event provides an opportunity to find out more about the interests and activities of RSA Fellows in the area. To find out more and to book your place contact [John Potter FRSA](#).



#### RSA

On **Wednesday 11 May, 6pm**, we welcome

TimeBanking founder Edgar Cahn, for *Building the Core Economy*. Join him as he calls for a new economy of meaning – where communities and networks work together to advance the common good. [Book now](#).



Remember, you can [listen live](#) to our events, or you can subscribe to our [podcast](#) for past events. Filmed events are available to watch on [RSA Vision](#) or you can [download the RSA Vision app](#). Android and iPhone version now available!

#### USA

For details of May and June network meetings and Fellows' events around the US visit [The American Coffee House](#). Anyone travelling to the US is very welcome to attend any of the US meetings.



#### Nominate a Friend

Do you know someone who should be a Fellow? [Tell us who and why](#), and we'll send an invitation to apply citing your recommendation. Please note, you will need to log-in and have your membership number to complete the online form. Alternatively you can contact the [Fellowship team](#).