

## Welcome to the RSA Fellowship newsletter - 7 June 2010

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## News and Events



### Updated version of the RSA Fellowship Charter – last chance to comment

In collaboration with Fellows - and in response to the questions, ideas and issues that you raised in response to the first draft - we have produced a second version of the [RSA Fellowship Charter](#).

We spoke to a [range of Fellows](#) to test the proposed changes, and redrafted the Fellowship Charter with members of the Fellowship Council working group. This version, along with an explanation of the changes we have made, is now on the website for final comment by **Friday 25 June 2010** before being taken back to the Fellowship Council for approval. [Read more...](#)



### Social Entrepreneurs Network: next steps

We are excited to report several developments with the RSA Social Entrepreneurs Network following the inspiring launch event at Camden Town Unlimited on Wednesday 28 April. Next steps include quarterly events; regular "Socials" aimed at fostering collaboration; and the profiling of different Fellows working in social enterprises. The next event will be held on **Wednesday 14 July** at a social enterprise run by a Fellow and will highlight inspiring stories and key challenges facing social enterprises and entrepreneurs. [Read more...](#)



### Audit & Risk Committee members required

The RSA's Audit & Risk Committee comprises two members of the Trustee Board plus two external members who are due to retire in 2010/2011 respectively. It is chaired by Lord Richard Best who is also a Treasurer of the RSA. The Board now invites applications from Fellows with proven skills and experience in the areas of audit and risk management. [Read more...](#)



### 21st century enlightenment - Live!

On **17 June at 6pm** (BST) the annual lecture of RSA chief executive, Matthew Taylor on **21st century enlightenment** will be broadcast [live online](#). This lecture is very important to Fellows as it will outline the key drive for the RSA over the coming years. Live broadcast events of Matthew's speech are being organised in various locations in the UK and US. [Attend one in your area](#) with the opportunity to debate and discuss with other Fellows following the lecture. [Read more...](#)



### RSA Animate goes viral!

Our [RSA Animate](#) series is proving to be exceptionally popular on [Youtube](#) – we've had over 1.5 million views and thousands of amazing comments, which makes us #1 most viewed non-profit channel this month. The YouTube team have also selected the [Dan Pink animate](#) as one of the 'best videos on YouTube' – no mean feat for a charity! Enjoy our animation series on [RSA Comment](#) and let us know what you think!



### Fellow's Profile - Philippa Read

Philippa Read FRSA, Chief Executive of [Community First](#) talks here of the challenges of rural communities, the Six Market Towns initiative in Wiltshire and what inspires her:

"I am Chief Executive of [Community First](#), a charitable company and of Wiltshire's Rural Community Council, one of a network of

## In brief


A selection of activities taking place worldwide...

### RSA Catalyst


Three more new or early-stage Fellow-led projects have been [awarded small grants](#). Thank you for the excellent applications we received this month – some had really innovative ways of mobilising the wealth of expertise in the Fellowship to achieve a tangible social impact. Alongside this, more Fellows have registered their expertise with RSA Support, where you can put forward your skills in small chunks to collaborate with such projects. [Register your skills now](#).

The next RSA Catalyst deadline is **18 June**, and we encourage you to [find out more about the Catalyst fund and apply](#).

### Herts & West

A new network is launching around Hertfordshire  (covering the west side of the East of England region) on **Tuesday 8 June** and Fellows and guests are encouraged to attend. This will take place at the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield at the de Havilland Campus. This is the first of 3 meetings being held, with further events in July and September. Please join us from 5.30pm. All are welcome. Email [Gladys Jones](#) to confirm your place.

### Sydney

Join us for an exciting event taking place in Sydney on **Saturday 12 June, 1pm** on *The Creative Sydney Debate- Is Sydney falling behind or leading the way?* The event is taking place at the Sydney Museum of Contemporary Art and features some inspirational speakers. [View further details and rsvp](#). 

charities that support rural communities across England. I joined the fellowship to share experiences and to learn from others. The role of a Chief Executive can be quite a lonely one and I welcome the opportunity to share the cut and thrust of debate with people from a wide range of disciplines on matters that affect our society."

"I have broad experience of the issues that challenge the sustainability of rural communities, my organisation works directly with local people to assess local need and seek local solutions. My aim is to reflect those needs and aspirations to influence policy and service delivery. I think this unique position gives me the opportunity to reflect this into the wider debate about the future sustainability of our society generally."

On what she would change given the chance: "The understanding that community action is not a sound-bite – getting real about what it takes to build society from the grass roots."

On a recent bit of inspiring news: "The launch of the public/private Mid Wiltshire Economic Partnership in association with the RSA was an inspiration for us. The partnership covers six market towns and the launch event lined up key speakers from the RSA, the Commission for Rural Communities and the Centre for Economic Strategies. In thought provoking presentations the speakers raised the sort of issues my organisation grapples with every day! How do we ensure the long term sustainability of smaller rural settlements? What does sustainability mean in this context? What is likely to be the shape of the rural economy in the years ahead? How do we protect services to rural communities?" *For information on the next event in the series please see the Bradford on Avon event in this issue's "news in brief" section.*

On another interesting Fellow she has spoken to: "One of my trustees, Lesley Andrews, is a former management consultant who specialised in social housing and related socio-economic policy work mainly for government, local government and third sector organisations. We often engage in lively discussions about how organisations like Community First can survive (and thrive!) in the context of a severely constrained government spending environment."

On connecting with other Fellows: "As part of our service portfolio Community First runs a business loans and grants fund to support micro businesses in rural settlements of less than 10,000 population. The mid Wiltshire Economic Partnership area stretches across a rural hinterland comprising many villages and hamlets. I would very much like us to contribute to the work of the partnership by linking village enterprises into their nearest market towns. We would very much like to tap into the expertise of RSA fellows in Wiltshire to develop such an initiative. This could include, helping businesses prepare a business plan in support of an application for support from us, providing mentoring to village based enterprises, or helping with raising capital for our business loans fund." Fellows interested in finding out more about how they could help can [email Philippa](#) or call on 01380 722475.

*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.*

#### 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 creating 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 contact us](#).

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.

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#### RSA

Join us on

**Wednesday 10**

**June, 1pm** for "Do we still need enlightenment values"? [Book your place now](#). The RSA has a new strapline: **21st century enlightenment**. Join Nigel Warburton, Robert Rowland Smith and Matthew Taylor as they argue for their ideal enlightenment values for the 21st century.



Alternatively you can [listen](#), or you can subscribe to our [podcast](#) for past events. Filmed events are available to watch on [RSA Vision](#).

#### Bradford on Avon

Don't miss the third in the series of the Six Towns/RSA debate on **Thursday 17 June**. Entitled 'Six towns and a vale in search of a sustainable economic future', the event is being held at St Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon, starting sharp at 6.30pm. [View more details and register](#). Please contact [Gerald Milward-Oliver FRSA](#) with any queries.



#### USA

Recent news on the [American Coffee House](#) includes a link to a free download of [Creatively Intelligent Companies and Leaders](#), the new special issue of the Journal of Business Strategy, guest edited by Harvey Seifter. Also announced, invitations for Chicago Fellows to attend the British Council's [TN2020 reception](#) on June 25 and for New York Fellows to attend the popular annual Manhattan [Summer Drinks Party](#) on June 16. All Fellows are invited to join in a discussion on [Improving the Fellowship experience](#). This is important feedback which helps us make necessary changes and helps us allocate staff time and resources. Contact [Lynn Broadbent](#) for more information on any of the above.



#### Nominate a Friend

Do you know someone who you think should be a Fellow? Do you have colleagues, friends or contacts who could benefit from the opportunities of Fellowship?

[Tell us who and why](#), and we'll send an invitation citing your recommendation. Please note, you will need to

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log-in and have your membership number handy to complete the form. If you have any questions, please contact [Laura Billings](#).

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