



Social Enterprise Network Bulletin September 2015

Welcome to the Social Enterprise Network Bulletin – every month I will be producing a quick round up of news, resources, funding and other useful bits and pieces for social enterprises.

Feel free to send in any news about your organisations and/or local area to be added to the news round-up

Useful Information

A new guide for those involved in the management of Community Interest Companies aims to help CIC directors "to provide strong leadership, enhance their decision-making and make the most of their collective capabilities". You can download [here](#)

Labour has appointed a new Shadow Minister for Civil Society and the Voluntary Sector. Rachel at CAS has written about it [here](#)

There has been an ongoing review of fundraising regulations which made its recommendations this week. CAS has written about the main ones [here](#)

Both Social Enterprise Scotland and Social Enterprise UK have published the results of surveys of the sector - '[Social Enterprise in Scotland: Census 2015](#)' and '[State of Social Enterprise survey 2015](#)'

Not necessarily new but for those who need to know more about Social Enterprise or would like some help researching here are some interesting articles, pieces of research and more:

- [Social Enterprises in London: A review of London Annual Business Survey: \(LABS\) evidence \(2007\)](#)
- [Directory of certified social enterprises](#)

A new online platform invites change agents "working on solutions to the hard problems of the 21st century . . . to collaborate with your peers, learn what's working, innovate, and adapt". The Resilience Exchange being developed by Sphaera has backing from the Rockefeller Foundation, Oxfam America and the Skoll Foundation, amongst others. <https://resilience-exchange.sphaera.world/>

Acas has released [practical new guidance](#) to help employers and managers hire and settle in staff successfully. Guidance can be viewed online along with further details of how Acas can help: [Recruiting staff](#) and [Starting staff: induction](#)

The Lobbying Act did stop charities from campaigning and caused unnecessary cost and confusion, according to a report into its effect on this year's General Election. Read the full article in [Civil Society](#) (Sept 2015)

Five ways charity leaders can encourage innovation - an interesting article from the [Guardian Voluntary Sector Network](#) (Sept. 2015)

Confessions of a Charity Professional is an excellent blog and well worth a read each week: <http://www.theguardian.com/global/series/confessions-of-a-charity-professional>

Sector thinktank NPC has been asking the question 'What is the role of faith in the charity sector?' for a while. Following initial research, it is now exploring the influence of faith across six organisational characteristics, and is keen to engage with as many different charities, funders and faiths as possible. Find out more [here](#)

[Practical guidance for small organisations on how they can prepare for pensions auto-enrolment regulations](#) has been published by Charity Finance Group. The publication aims to support the estimated 20,000-plus charities due to be auto-enrolling their staff between 1st January 2016 and 1st April 2017, with advice on how to prepare, implement and build processes. It urges them to plan early and budget for additional costs created by auto-enrolment.

A [new book](#) about innovative audience-building strategies for arts organisations is a transatlantic production, commissioned by Paul Hamlyn Foundation and the Cleveland Foundation. It seeks to be a source of ideas and practical principles, not of rules, in developing new audiences. Case studies are of organisations funded by the 2 foundations - in the UK at least these are well-established bodies.

And perhaps the most important news of the month Scotland have both of their Rugby World Cup matches with impressive score lines! See all the important #RWC2015 news [here](#)

Events

[2015 Social Enterprise Conference](#), Monday 12th October 2015

An all-encompassing day programme for pre-start up and early stage social entrepreneurs. The conference consists of talks on understanding social finance, funding and investment, crowd funding, legal governance & frameworks, bid writing, measuring impact and reporting. Currently there are a number of Super Early Bird tickets, for full details and registration you can visit: www.socialenterpriseconference.info

[Online Marketing Masterclass](#), Friday 9th October, SSE London

This workshop is suitable for social entrepreneurs as well as the owners of small and medium-sized businesses, start-ups, entrepreneurs, freelancers, those who work in marketing, marketing students at university or anyone with an interest in SME marketing. To find out more and to book, visit: <https://www.the-sse.org/courses/online-marketing-masterclass>

[Southwark Forum](#) - Tuesday 13th October

Regular forum held to find out all the policy goings on! We'll be hearing from NHS Southwark CCG on their plans for new Innovation Challenge Grants, which could be a great new opportunity for the local VCS. We'll also hear an update from Southwark Council on upcoming commissioning intentions.

[Leadership Development](#), Wednesday 14th Oct + Mon 30th Oct, SSE London

SSE have partnered with industry leading business psychologists YSC to deliver an exciting (and great value!) two-day Leadership Development course for the staff of charities and social enterprises. To find out more and to book, visit: <https://www.the-sse.org/courses/leadership-development/>

Governance Made Easy, Saturday 17th October

This workshop is ideal for those new to trusteeship or simply looking for a refresher. Using games, exercises, peer learning and lectures, we provide the key information and space to think about the key governance issues affecting your organisation.

Unlocking Social Investment, Wednesday 21st October, SSE London

A panel of speakers from different areas of social investment and case studies from both investors and investees will shine a spotlight on specific types of social investment, allowing you to make informed decisions about how to finance your organisation. To find out more and to book, visit:

<https://www.the-sse.org/courses/unlocking-social-investment/>

Governance & Leadership (3 Day Training Module), Starts Thursday 12th November

This three day course will guide you through the roles and responsibilities of the governing body and senior management, whilst identifying the different contributions played by leadership and management

Support for Enterprise

[Business & IP Centre at the British Library](#): Advice, information, support, networking, training and events to help you start, run and grow your business.

[Business in the Community](#): Support, advice, networks and campaigning.

[ClearlySo](#): work exclusively with high-impact businesses, charities and funds. They support capital raising activity through financial advisory work, and introduce them to institutional and individual investors who share their objectives and values.

[COBRA at City Library](#): e-resources available for library members to access 24/7 from any device with internet access. To use our e-resources all you need is a membership card.

[Community Catalysts](#): a Community Interest Company that works through local partners to help enterprising people and community organisations to offer care and support to local people.

[Community Shares](#): Advice and support about, and investment of, community shares.

[Giving World Online](#) : A charity that encourages businesses to donate their surplus (mainly new) into deprived communities and to those most in need.

[In Kind Direct](#): Have you ever thought how much it would help if you could find a cheaper source of the goods you use in the course of your work? Try here for ideas.

[Know How Non Profit](#): online training and information for the non-profit sector – useful for social enterprises.

[School for Social Entrepreneurs](#): Courses, newsletters, fellowships and support setting up your social enterprise

[Small Good Stuff](#): an accessible web directory that is totally free of charge and gives the little guys a chance to show people the splendid things they can offer.

[Social Enterprise UK](#): The national body for social enterprise. We represent our members and help grow the social enterprise movement

[Technology Strategy Board - Innovation Vouchers](#): The Technology Strategy Board has launched a new national innovation voucher scheme to encourage smaller businesses to work with external experts, gaining new knowledge to help their business innovate, develop and grow.

[The Guardian Social Enterprise Network](#): a lively and growing community of 25,000 social entrepreneurs, offering news, commentary and best practice from across the sector. There is also a [blog](#).

Income and Funding

Have you got a bright idea to support adults living with disabilities in Southwark? Are you passionate about making a change to the lives of people in your area? Are you looking for funding and a way to develop your entrepreneurial skills? Then we are looking for you!

Care to Change is a new initiative that supports inspiring individuals who are starting out or in the early stages of running their venture aiming to improve the lives of adults living with physical, mental and learning disabilities in Southwark. We are looking to work with these inspiring social entrepreneurs over a twelve month period with a mixture of cash, networking and development support.

UnLtd is the UK foundation for Social Entrepreneurs – people with vision, drive, commitment and passion who want to change the world for the better. We provide a tailored package of funding and support to help individuals to make their ideas a reality. This includes support from Community Catalysts, the UK network organisation for small ventures and enterprises with a health and care focus, Community Action Southwark, the leading local voluntary sector support in the borough, and South Bermondsey Big Local, a grassroots regeneration initiative.

You should wish to develop an enterprise or venture designed to help, support or care for people in your local community:

- *Out and About*
Encourage local residents to feel less isolated by getting out of the house to do something meaningful with their day and keep fit
- *Stronger Relationships*
Bring people together to create stronger community connections in Southwark and enable people to help each other
- *Independent Living*
Make living independently easier and more enjoyable for residents who need care or support to live their lives
- *Learning New Skills*
Help residents who need care or support to live their lives to develop their practical skills

If you have an idea for a brand new venture then you should apply for the **Try It** (£500) award. If you have already piloted your idea and are looking to launch it properly then we suggest you apply for the **Do It** (c. £2,500) award.

In order to apply, please, check specific themes, criteria and deadlines [here](#). The deadline for the first stage of the application is the **16th October, 2015**.

If you want to find out more about Care to Change or need support completing the application form, then come and visit us at Cambridge House (1 Addington Square, London, SE5 0HF) on 7th, 16th or 23rd October at 5.30PM when we will be running drop-in sessions open to everyone.

For any additional information, please feel free to contact Luisa De Simone on 07889 706 173 or at luisadesimone@unltd.org.uk

Good luck!

And here are a few more useful bits of funding available:

- [Starbucks Youth Action](#) for young people aged 16-24. Deadline: February 2016
- [Children in Need Small Grants Programme](#) Deadline: 1st December.
- [Citybridge Trust Stepping Stones Fund](#) for organisations that have a presence in London. Deadline: Open to applications.
- [Worshipful Company of Information Technologists](#) Deadline: Open to applications
- [Near Neighbours Fund](#) Deadline: ongoing until 31 March 2016
- [London Marathon Charitable Trust - Small Capital Projects](#) Deadline: Open to applications

For more funding see this month's [CAS Income Generation e-bulletin](#)

Show Case



Your name: Dirk Bischof

Name of organisation: One Planet Ventures

What you do: One Planet Ventures runs South London's very own Enterprise Incubator Programme for startups and social businesses. Our incubator is called Hatch and our mission is to support and nurture entrepreneurs to realise their potential, from commercial companies to charities and social enterprises. We do this by providing an ecosystem of

support, including our dedicated 12-week programme of workshops, mentoring, one-to-one's, space provision and back office support.

Why you do this: I've always wanted to run my own business but what I didn't know was that I wanted to run a social business. Something that I can connect with on a personal level as well as something that I know will make the world a better place. Having started out in supporting many young people through my first social enterprise back in 2004 and helping them get professional work experience, I came in contact with many young people who wanted to start their own business. Many had great ideas and they seemed to be competent vocationally but all were lacking the expertise on how to run a business. Having been through this experience many times now myself, I can say that it gets easier over time. The inspiration to start and run an incubator programme was that we wanted to provide an outstanding support experience for anyone starting up. We modelled our incubator programme to our more commercial cousins (Tech Stars, YCombinator etc) but we didn't want to get a slice of people's companies - that's not why we started this. We want to be there in the early days and get a young venture off the ground with the right support, a good business mentor, access to space and funding. Being an entrepreneur is one of the toughest things out there and we believe that support in the early days is vital for a young business or social enterprise to succeed.

How you got started: I started my first social enterprise when I was 24 years old, supporting young people into work placements and then into jobs. I did this for 10 years before realising that many wanted to start a business. We applied for funding from the European Commission's Leonardo programme (now ERASMUS+), to find out what support is out there to get started. To our surprise, the project's results were that the UK is one of the best places in Europe to start a

business. We thought this is great but how can we directly support young entrepreneurs to start-up... I've always had a fascination with business incubators, whilst disagreeing with their overall capitalist drive. I wanted to build an organisation that would be there for an entrepreneur without introducing mission drift into our organisation by only supporting those where we could "make a return on our investment". I've taken part in the Young Foundation's Accelerator programme to incubate the idea of Hatch and having a personal experience of what it is like to actually be in an incubator. This knowledge and experience was essential. I got an amazing mentor who is now our chair of trustees. We also applied for further funding from Europe and applied to a corporate supporter, J.P. Morgan Philanthropy. Both projects got approved and One Planet Ventures and our beloved Hatch Incubator was born.

Where you are now: We have supported over 80 entrepreneurs in the last 18 months, about 50 were at idea stage and needed to test their ideas in the market place. Others had already tested them and were ready for Hatch. We've directly supported 37 start-ups and early stage ventures through Hatch, delivered 80 workshops, helped them with over 40 mentors and facilitated access to free space across Lambeth. We also helped them raise £100,000 in grant funding to support their projects. We're now working with a new sponsor, Deutsche Bank, who works with us to support especially those with social business ideas. A recent report by UnLtd called "From Seed To Impact" (<http://www.gsen.global/report-2015/>) is testimony that more needs to be done to support emerging social entrepreneurs. We want to be the #1 Incubator in local communities around the UK, where people can test their ideas and get the right help making their social business a reality.

Where you aim to be in the future: We continue to support entrepreneurs in Lambeth and Southwark and have already piloted Hatch in other European countries (France, Germany, Slovakia and Italy). We wanted to test if we can transfer the knowledge and expertise around running an incubator programme to other (charity) partners elsewhere. We are now working with partners to build more incubator programmes across Europe and will open a new programme in East London. In 2016 we want to support 100 start-ups through Hatch as well as licensing Hatch to organisations that want to support early stage ventures in their communities.

A good news story: Support for a young business is vital, say's Adrian who runs his own coffee shop in Loughborough Junction called The Blue Turtle: "The support Hatch offer is great, they administered a very helpful grant for my business to buy a better coffee machine and gave me access to computers at a time when I didn't have one. Knowing that there is free support and accounting services is very comforting. " Adrian has recently re-fitted his coffee shop in Loughborough Junction and it's become very popular with locals who appreciate his taste for good coffee, home-made brownies and good music. Adrian can now live off the money his coffee shop makes and continues to reinvest money into building a better business and improving his premises. You can see him working very hard decorating the outside of his coffee shop.

A piece of advice from your experience: It's never too late to start. If you're young you've got time on your side. Time to test things, time to make mistakes, time to learn, time to take risks. As you get older, people tend to be more confident about their abilities, have better networks and access to opportunities. It's never too late to try and never too late to start something new.

Be our next Social Enterprise Show Case! Simple email Deborah@casouthwark.org.uk with a brief description of your journey and/or your enterprise a with a picture (jpg)

If you would like to share anything through the newsletter, please contact Deborah@casouthwark.org.uk

If you would like any support for your group in developing your activities, applying for funding or strengthening your structure please feel free to contact the Development Team at CAS. development@casouthwark.org.uk