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Advisory Group news

New Chairs and new programmes

Gerry Docherty was the founding Managing Director of **Real Time Engineering** in 1988. Over the following 18 years, he helped to develop the company to become one of Scotland's largest and most successful indigenous IT organisations.

He is currently Chair of the Advisory Board at **ICS**, Scotland's most successful incubator organisation, supporting young companies in the media and wireless fields. He is also non-executive Chairman of **New Media Partners**, a strategic consultancy in the creative industries arena and recently took up the Chair of the Advisory Group for Common Purpose in Glasgow.

Adrian Wenn has recently been appointed Chair of the Advisory Group for the Kent programmes. He has spent the last two years with **Clydesdale Bank** as Managing Partner Kent. This has given Adrian a new and challenging role building a team which currently totals 30 staff members from Business Partners to Asset Finance Specialists, as Clydesdale Bank expands rapidly across the South East.

Prior to this Adrian has spent 27 years with **Lloyds TSB**, and the last 14 years in the Corporate sector servicing businesses with sales above £2m pa.

We have also recently appointed **Chris Mathias** as the new Chair of Trustees for Common Purpose UK. Chris Mathias is a successful entrepreneur, born and raised in India but now living in the UK.

Chris co-founded **CMG Partners** and **Arbor Ventures** – both are private investment management companies with a strong focus on early stage companies and turnaround/restructure situations. The second of these organizations has a strong interest in “social investments” – viable commercial businesses that also have a strong social agenda and impact from the outset.

Prior to this, Chris successfully founded several companies, most notably **Conduit Communications Ltd**, an IT consulting firm and service provider. Chris had previously been the CEO of the **Harpur Group**, the UK's second largest provider of fuel card services and has led a number of successful business turnarounds and buyouts.

Chris is actively involved with a number of charities and not-for-profit organizations – in particular organizations and projects that are sustainable beyond the lifetime of a funding commitment, build lasting capacity, develop local skills and are focused on the very poor.

Chris is a trustee or board member of several organizations including **Digital Links International**, **Impetus Trust** and **Charity Technology Trust**. He was a co-creator and seed funder of Digital Links which is having a significant impact on the use of technology in developing countries, in particular in East Africa and South Africa. He supported the start-up of **Basic Needs India** and he is also an Ambassador for **Action Aid** and supporter of and advisor to **Oxfam GB**. More recently he was a founder of the **British Asian Trust** and has joined the board of **Bioss** and the advisory board of **Barclays Private Bank**.

National Training Awards

The **What Next?** programme has recently won a National Training Award. This achievement is particularly remarkable as the programme has only been running for two years. The next programme is due to take place between 10 and 13 March 2008. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact your local programme office.

CP and Oxford University link-up

What Next? places available

What Next? is an exciting new programme designed for those who are within a few years of leaving, or have recently left, their senior roles and are wondering what they will do next. For anyone preferring to put their energy and leadership experience to work in society, rather than just retire from professional life, this programme offers both inspiration and practical first steps.

It is a five-day programme in two parts: a residential over four days in Oxford, 10-13 March 2008, followed by a one day follow-up meeting in the Autumn. As a joint initiative between Common Purpose and Oxford University, both offering respected leadership programmes, What Next? combines Oxford's reputation for academic rigour with the Common Purpose approach to diversity and challenging insight.

Here is a chance to rethink individual values, explore the risks and challenges of diverse opportunities, all in the company of a senior peer group who share a passion to somehow make our world a better place. See here for more details: www.commonpurpose.org.uk/home/programmes/whatnext.aspx.

We have had several members of Advisory Groups from around the country on What Next?:

- **Jacqui Taylor**, Director of PR, **HPM Ltd** - Tyne & Wear Advisory Group, attended June 2006
- **Cheryle Berry**, Trustee, **Lincolnshire Community Bank** - Lincolnshire Advisory Group, attended June 2006
- **John Crosse**, ACC, **Humberstone Police** - Hull and Humberstone Advisory Group, attended March 2007

"The What Next? programme superbly combined many relevant information areas with practical examples and insight from people whose passion and commitment were inspirational. It has given me the confidence to explore opportunities beyond my present experiences and knowledge. This was the kick start I needed to set me off in the next phase of my life. I feel invigorated and excited that I am still useful, wanted and can make a difference."

Cheryle Berry, former Corporate Director, Lincolnshire County Council

As members of Common Purpose Advisory Groups we would like to offer you (or a colleague) the fantastic opportunity to participate in What Next? 2008 for a concessionary rate. Please contact Alexandra Moodie for more information on +44(0)20 7608 8130 or alexandra.moodie@commonpurpose.org.uk.

20:20 success

At the end of October, the UK Business Development team successfully delivered the second 20:20 programme of 2007. A group of 28 senior leaders spent the week in several locations (including Brussels, London and Buckinghamshire) where they explored what may lie ahead for them as leaders in the future. The next 20:20 will be taking place from 16-20 June 2008. Again, if you are interested in finding out more, please contact your local programme office.

Common Purpose and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) - The Responsible Leadership Programme

The work that the UK Business Development team has been piloting with PwC has now been completed. Participants had been tasked with spending a month living and working in one of three challenging community projects; **St Petrocs** homeless charity in Cornwall, **Rhondda Housing Association** in Wales and **Barnardos** in Middlesbrough. There was a week-long programme to prepare the participants and a four-day review for them at the end to distil their learning and decide on their actions when they went back to PwC.

Common Purpose played a key role in sourcing the projects through our alumni network. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, both from the participants and from the Common Purpose graduates who hosted this very intensive "visit". The participants presented their learning to four of PwC's Board Partners, saying that their experiences have had a significant impact on their understanding of their roles as leaders in PwC. They were able to describe their many and often moving stories with newly discovered creativity, including using a human sculpture. The Board Partners said it was the best presentation they had ever seen, one said that the participants had condensed a lifetime of leadership learning into one and a half hours.

We have now had the go ahead to work with PwC on the second Responsible Leadership Programme which will run in 2008. The Programme will follow the same design as this year and will involve local projects from across the UK.

