

# THE BULLDOG TRUST'S ENGAGING EXPERIENCE PHILANTHROPY NETWORK

*“My business mentor asked me not to thank him because he gets so much pleasure from supporting and advising us – he said the feeling he gets from our conversations is like electricity.”*

Sharla Duncan, Founder of Team Up

The Engaging Experience Philanthropy Network (EEPN) was set up by The Bulldog Trust in 2009. It has inspired over 1,300 professionals to engage with charities and social enterprises and has successfully connected 815 charitable projects with specific pro bono expertise.

The network is designed to connect working professionals with dynamic, small charities and social impact projects in need of business expertise, mentoring, or non-executive governance support. Current membership comprises a select group of hedge funders, bankers, lawyers, top civil servants, entrepreneurs, technology and media leaders, and other industry experts. EEPN's popularity has helped hundreds of people realise that using skills for charity is both personally and professionally rewarding and can easily be achieved alongside a full-time career.

Members are invited to events at Two Temple Place, giving them the opportunity to meet other network members, charities and social enterprises face-to-face. Regular emails are also circulated with opportunities to connect with charities and projects. The network also hosts free or subsidised skills development workshops for affiliated charities throughout the year.

All business professionals are invited to join and membership is free. There is no charge for charities to use the service.

For more information please contact Phoebe Gallagher [phoebe@bulldogtrust.org](mailto:phoebe@bulldogtrust.org) or 020 7240 6044.

## KEY STATISTICS

- 325 charities provided with strategic support
- 180 charities provided with trustees and governance support
- 153 charities provided with branding, marketing and social media training or support
- 106 charities provided with media and communications expertise
- 51 charities connected with digital and IT advice



*Damon Buffini, philanthropist and former Chairman of private equity group Permira with Mary Rose Gunn, CEO of the Bulldog Trust*



## CASE STUDY: SHIVIA

*“As Treasurer and voluntary CFO, Christopher has enabled us to take Shivia to the next phase at a crucial point in the organisation’s development.”*

Olly Donnelly, CEO of Shivia, “Women of the Future, Community Spirits” award winner and one of Management Today’s “35 women under 35”

Christopher Langridge worked at Board Level in financial services and manufacturing in Asia, Europe and the USA for 30 years. In 2013 Christopher was introduced to Olly Donnelly, founder and CEO of Shivia, a successful UK charity that has provided over 6000 training and poultry business toolkits to home-farmers in the poorest states in India. Christopher’s involvement professionalising and overseeing the financial aspects has enabled the charity to expand and gather new supporting partners.

## CASE STUDY: THE BIG HOUSE THEATRE COMPANY



Tim Wright joined the Big House Theatre Company as a Trustee in 2013. He worked at the London Stock Exchange Group for 18 years before becoming an independent consultant. *"The Bulldog Trusts' EEPN worked fantastically for me. At our initial meeting my twin interests in the arts and young people were soon identified and I was quickly matched with The Big House Theatre Company, a new and wonderful charity that uses drama to help disadvantaged care leavers realise their full potential. This has been a perfect and rewarding match, I can't recommend it too highly."*

The Big House works with care leavers who are at a high risk of social exclusion. It nurtures relationships of trust with members to use theatre and therapy to address emotional problems and develop life skills. By tackling these fundamental needs it unleashes the creative potential of members' and builds their core skills to help them manage the stressful complexities of taking up a positive role in the community.

## CASE STUDY: READ EASY UK

Ann Humphries began mentoring Ginny Williams-Ellis, Founder and Chief Executive of Read Easy UK in 2011. Ginny had founded the first Read Easy group in Dorset in 2010 to help adults learn to read through individual tutoring. As word of the success of her approach spread, Ginny was approached to set up similar groups across the country and Read Easy UK was born in 2011. With Ann's guidance, Ginny has created a successful, impact driven adult literacy charity with a scalable structure that is already reaching people in multiple locations across the southwest and the midlands.



*"I have been so rewarded watching Ginny develop and grow in confidence in her ability to lead Read Easy. It's been wonderful to realise how my experience and common sense approach has benefitted an organisation in an area completely new to me."* -Ann Humphries, EEPN Member and former Executive Board Member of John Lewis