Building Effective Community Ventures

'Community' is one of the buzzwords of the decade and the government is talking about building the 'big society'. Regardless of this, community building is always happening and this book is written with a simple desire to help local groups.

But how on earth do you go about it? Could you do with more help in creating your own community venture?

A new e-book offers all the help, with the advice of three very experienced practitioners in the field of community development. It can be applied in any kind of project building situation.

"The overriding background aim of this publication is to assist the building and fostering of caring

communities," explains main author, Ronald Ram from Wrestlingworth in Bedfordshire. "Its specific contribution, as a practical workbook, is to provide a solid base for taking individual ventures ahead."

In the book, attention is focussed on the overall requirements of projects rather than planning each part separately. It combines three elements; making a project plan (a planning guide is included), reflection and storytelling (which, in the experience of the authors, is most valuable), and using an outside facilitator or accompanier.

What is more, readers can be supported by a linked website. "Dialogue can be developed with other users of the workbook. You can learn about what they are doing, discuss problems in common, and raise concerns of your own," adds Dr Ram.

"You cannot build community in a week or a month. It usually takes years. It is always ongoing, changing, and challenging. Writing this book has been a shared journey for the authors. It is one that we invite others into; you!"

The book is accompanied by a website: www.serving-communities.org.uk

Building Effective Community Ventures: A Practical Project Workbook (e-book: Mobi version - £TBC, ISBN 9781780358673; ePub version £TBC, ISBN 9781780358680) is available to order directly from the publisher at http://www.fast-print.net/bookshop or from any good e-book retailer.

