

FRIENDS

of the Commonwealth

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E-update June 2011

Dear friends,

Welcome to the June issue of the Friends e-newsletter which brings you exciting news and events from around the Commonwealth; information on the forthcoming Commonwealth People's Forum and reflections from this year's Commonwealth Week activities.

News and Events

£100,000 Special Grants Fund

For Civil Society Organisations and Commonwealth Associations to undertake strategic and innovative projects that will promote the Commonwealth theme for 2011, *'Women as Agents of Change'*. [Download an application form.](#)

Commonwealth Connections



Winners of the 2011 Commonwealth Connections International Arts Residencies have been announced.

The seven Commonwealth artists are set to embark on a cultural exchange programme. [View the winners.](#)

Commonwealth Summer School 2011

A unique opportunity for students from throughout the Commonwealth to engage with each other and a team of international academics, in an informal atmosphere. [Find out more.](#)

Zimbabwe: Prospects for Commonwealth Engagement

A lunchtime discussion on what is arguably the Commonwealth's most emotive issue, Zimbabwe. The event is free to attend and open to all.

Thursday 30th June 2011, 12noon - 1pm

[Attend the event.](#)

Commonwealth Photographic Awards

The deadline for 2011 submissions has been extended to 1st July.

[Submit an entry.](#)

Commonwealth People's Forum (CPF) 2011

Regional Consultations

Thoughts and opinions are welcome on all challenges faced by civil society in your region. Alongside the regional consultations you will also be able to submit your views online via the [Commonwealth Foundation website](#).



East and Southern Africa: 27-28 June, Johannesburg, South Africa

Asia: 27-28 June, New Delhi, India

Caribbean: 28-29 June, Georgetown, Guyana

West and Central Africa: date tbc

Registration

The three-day event will comprise a series of workshops and plenary sessions to discuss and debate key issues facing Commonwealth people, culminating in a dialogue with Foreign Ministers as part of the CHOGM programme. Visit the Commonwealth Foundation website to [register online](#).

Reflections on Commonwealth Week

Australia



Over 250 guests enjoyed the celebration of the Commonwealth of Nations at the Commonwealth Day lunch held on Monday 14 March at NSW Parliament House, Sydney.

Her Excellency, Prof Marie Bashir AC, CVO, Governor of NSW was the guest speaker. [Click here for the day's proceedings](#).

India



The India (Odisha) chapter of Friends awarded six women leaders with the Women as Agents of Change (WAtCH) Award 2011.

United Kingdom



Mrs Sonia Gandhi delivered the 2011 Commonwealth Lecture on "Women as Agents of Change"
[Read the text](#) or [watch the lecture](#).

Jubilee Time Capsule (JTC)

The JTC officially opened to entries on Commonwealth Day. It's an innovative, ambitious project to build a 'people's history' of the past 60 years. You are asked to **contribute written work, photographs or films** depicting what happened in your life, community or country on any given day within the past sixty years.



Friends of the Commonwealth, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5HY, UK.
Telephone +44 (0)20 7930 3783 | info@commonwealthfriends.org | commonwealthfriends.org
Reg. Charity: 112 11 88

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