

# DIGITAL WM NEWS

Compiled and collated by RnR Organisation

Vol 1 Issue 2, Feb 2017



*Digital WM News is a monthly compilation of #techforgood news, events/training, offers/tips, people, reading and vacancies of interest to people in the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sectors from around the West Midlands – circulated via email; subscription details on P.4*



## News

### Second Issue of Digital WM News & comments on First Issue

Welcome to the second issue of our new monthly newsletter. We love hearing what you in the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sectors from around the West Midlands think about it. Comments on Issue 1 included “Really good”, “looks good”, “looks interesting, lots of useful stuff in there!”.

We’d also love to have your news, events/training, offers/tips, people, reading and vacancies for consideration in future issues.

**Deadline 21<sup>st</sup> of each month**

- Pauline Roche, RnR Organisation

### Launch of #BrumCharityHour



On Feb 2nd, BVSC, the infrastructure charity Birmingham Voluntary Service Council, launched a charity Twitter hour for Birmingham-based charities, using the hashtag #BrumCharityHour. This follows several other geographic-based [Twitter hours](#) or chats which happen at a specific time each week including #BrumHour and

#MidlandsHour. These are real-time discussions, usually at a recurring day or time, which focus on a particular industry or interest, in this case, charities in Birmingham.

#BrumCharityHour will run every Thursday 12-1pm. Tell @BVSC about your charity in a tweet, including the hashtag #BrumCharityHour and they will retweet it.

### Open Data Communities—Engagement Review

Open Data Communities is the linked, open data platform for the [Department of Communities and Local Government \(DCLG\)](#). Over the next few weeks, colleagues of ours at [Swirrl](#) are working with DCLG and [AHA Digital](#) to see who’s using open data on the [Open Data Communities](#) site; how they’re using it, and how they can encourage even more use of the site as it evolves. They’ll also look at ways we can all work together to make more datasets available that might be of use to people. More [here](#)

### Building digital products in a small- to medium-sized charity

Duncan McLaggan, operations manager at [Quaker Social Action](#) (QSA) discusses the challenges small- to medium-sized charities have when building digital products – and how the charity overcame them. More [here](#)

### Creative Commons unveils a new photo search engine with filters, lists & social sharing

Finding free and legal images to accompany your web content has never been difficult, thanks to [Creative Commons](#). The nonprofit organisation

offers copyright licenses that creators can use to share their work more broadly, while putting them in control of where and how their work can be used, how it should be attributed and more. Now the organisation is making it easier to access this content with a new search engine, CC Search, launched into beta in early February. More [here](#)

### Coming Together As A Community

“Last week [Feb 14<sup>th</sup>] a group of organisations came together for a working session, which will be the first of many, we hope. [Tech For Good Global](#), [Bethnal Green Ventures](#), [CAST](#), [Nominet Trust](#), [Doteveryone](#), [Nesta](#), [Good Things Foundation](#), [Comic Relief](#) and the [British Council](#) are all doing work in the “tech for good” space. Some of these organisations call it Digital Social Innovation, some Social Tech, some Civic Tech, some Responsible Tech and others Tech For Social Good. What we each call it doesn’t matter, and we are not spending any time on trying to find one description that we all agree on. What we do agree though is that there is value in us all as a group starting to link up our efforts more”. More [here](#)



## Events/Training

Mar 1<sup>st</sup>

[fizzPOP - Birmingham's Makerspace](#)  
[Lock Picking Night \(Public,Free\)](#)

Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>

[Brum Tech Drinks](#)  
[Tech Drinks Meetup](#)

Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>

[West Midlands Open Data Forum](#)  
[Open Data Day 2017 event](#) #ODD17WM

Mar 7<sup>th</sup>

### Doteveryone handing Basic Digital Skills work to the Tech Partnership

Doteveryone has decided it’s time for them to hand over this work to an organisation that has a track record of bringing people together to address critical digital issues. As of 31 March, the [Tech Partnership](#) — the network of employers working to create skills for the UK’s digital economy — will lead the next phase of their Basic Digital Skills work.

More [here](#)

### Independent Cafes and Venues Directory – updated

We at RnR Organisation prefer to patronise independent cafes and venues in Birmingham with good coffee and (preferably) free wifi! So we keep a list on our website of Cafes and venues around Birmingham which we use for meetings and socialising with locations and opening hours – List available [here](#)

[Birmingham Digital Marketers Meetup](#)  
[Content marketing in 2017](#)

Mar 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

[Do-Fest Dudley](#)  
Incl. Learning Labs, Lightning Talks & A summit

Mar 13<sup>th</sup>

[NetSquared Midlands: Tech for social good](#)  
[E-Newsletters](#)

Mar 15<sup>th</sup>

**Tech Wednesday**

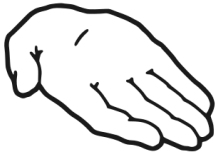
[Tech Wednesday - March](#)

Speakers TBC

Apr 5<sup>th</sup>

[PSIAMS](#)

[Transformation & Social Value powered by PSIAMS Systems](#)



## Offers/Tips

[How to Write a BlogPost](#) by Socially Good

[How to build a donor funnel that works for your charity](#) by Emelia, Technology Trust

[Twitter Strategy for Churches: 12 Super Smart Tips](#) by Heather Heuman, Social Quant

**RNR ORGANISATION BROKERAGE:** One of the roles we envisage for this newsletter is to bring together practitioners in our core activities of digital skills development and voluntary sector (asset-based) development.

We currently support and deliver this activity through a variety of programmes and networks including Net Squared Midlands, Charitable Trusts West Midlands, West Midlands Open Data Forum and general advice and training to VCSE organisations.

We therefore see the opportunity of using this 'Offers/Tips' section to broker connections between people with skills who want to support VCSE organisations and VCSE organisations who need this type of support.

**Interested?** Please email us at [RnR.Organisation@gmail.com](mailto:RnR.Organisation@gmail.com) about your interest and use the word 'Brokerage' in the subject line. Thanks.



## People

**Mark Rogers** – The CEO of Birmingham City Council will leave the authority on Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2017. The strategic director for change Angela Probert will be acting as chief executive until Mark's successor is appointed. More [here](#)



## Reading

[9 things I've learned since joining Coop Digital](#) by Andy Pipes, Coop Digital  
[Seven tell-tale signs that your digital strategy is falling short](#) by Paul Willmott, Digital McKinsey



## Vacancies (listed by Closing date)

Mar 6<sup>th</sup>

[Database Officer](#)  
Coventry

[Band 7 - Information Analyst](#)  
[Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust](#)

Mar 19<sup>th</sup>

[Data Services Manager](#)  
[The Air Ambulance Service](#)

Mar 20<sup>th</sup>

[Interim Database \(Donorflex\) Analyst \(Maternity Cover\)](#)  
[Acorns Childrens Hospice Trust](#)

Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>

[Data Protection Officer](#)  
[The Air Ambulance Service](#)

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