

DIGITAL WM NEWS™

Compiled and collated by RnR Organisation

Vol 1 Issue 4 Apr 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

FOURTH ISSUE OF DIGITAL WM NEWS & COMMENTS ON THIRD ISSUE

Welcome to the fourth issue of our new monthly newsletter which we hope will help people in the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sectors around the West Midlands to get more out of technology and the web. We love hearing what our readers think about it. Comments on Issue 3 included “Thanks for sharing - looking good!”.

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

Deadline 21st of each month

- Pauline Roche, RnR Organisation

#BCD17HACK – A FIRST FOR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IN BIRMINGHAM

In Nov 2015 we at RnR Organisation wrote in a [blogpost](#) about how the VCSE sector needed “Exploration events or hack days” so we were delighted to organise and run a hack as part of the recent week-long Brum City Drive. Read the event storify [here](#)

CREATING GREAT DIGITAL CONTENT ON A BUDGET

“If you work with social media you’ll have a process along the lines of Source > Create > Plan > Publish > Promote. This is a list of tools I’ve used that are free or cheap and make life easier / improve the content you’re putting out. It’s not a definitive list – if there are platforms you think should be on here please let me know and I’ll add them in” – Peter Jacobs, Head of Digital Engagement at the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry .

Full slideshow [here](#)

GDPR: YOU MAY NEED TO COMPENSATE YOUR SUPPORTERS IF YOU INFRINGE THEIR DATA PROTECTION RIGHTS

“There has been a lot of talk recently about the potential new and rather dramatic increase in monetary penalties under [General Data Protection Regulation] ([GDPR](#)).

Many legal firms are attempting to paralyse the charity sector with the terrifying notion that they might get a £20m fine for sending their donors unlawful communications...” – Mark Burnett, UK Fundraising

Read the full post [here](#)

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DO WE NEED LIBRARIES IN THE AGE OF GOOGLE?

“Libraries are the original “core” or “shared” facility, bringing together vast amounts of information in a well-organized, integrated framework. But in the Internet era, with humanity’s collective knowledge seemingly just a few keystrokes away, do libraries still perform their traditional functions — and have they adapted and evolved to meet the needs of modern audiences?”. Sarah Pritchard, Dean of Libraries and Charles Deering McCormick Librarian, offers her insights with Northwestern Research Magazine

Full article by by Matt Golosinski [here](#)

10 STEPS PUBLIC SECTOR CEOS CAN TAKE TO MAKE SMARTER USE OF DATA

How should we in the voluntary sector respond to Martin Reeves (Chief Executive of the [West Midlands Combined Authority](#)) challenge to the public sector? He is concerned that the public may lose faith in the power of data to make positive change if they don’t see results that improve their lives.

[Blogpost](#) about this by [Hilary Simpson](#) of [Nesta](#), previously technology and information change specialist for 20 years in the public and charity sectors.

CHARITIES AND TECH

Following last month’s publication of the Charity Digital Skills report by Zoe Amar Communications



Events/Training

May 2nd

[Microsoft](#)

[WEBINAR: CRM Insights - How it can enable your charity to achieve more](#)

and Skills Platform, they have now launched the complementary [free toolkit](#).

“This guide is for everyone, from frontline staff at small charities to experienced digital managers and leaders wondering how to take their charity’s use of digital up to the next level. Your trustees might also benefit from the section on digital governance, which is one of the most critical areas in helping your charity unlock the potential of digital” – Zoe Amar & David Evans.

NEW TECHNOLOGY DOESN’T HAVE TO BE HARD

Good to read about Citizen Advice adopting a new digital case management system Casebook which they’ve tested with users before rolling out, but as they observe, it’s important to say that such systems should not be seen to be just about funding, it’s also about advisers offering a better service to beneficiaries by spotting patterns, along with wider research, to seek out and fix issues that are systemic.

Full article by Charlotte Armstrong of Citizens Advice [here](#)

WHY CHARITIES MUST PUT USERS FIRST

“User research, once considered nice to have, must now be an integral part of any digital change project that claims to be serious. As part of its work with CAST’s Fuse accelerator, [Action for Children](#) has put the user firmly centre stage”.

Their digital services manager Rachael Townley explains more [here](#).

May 9th

[CoLab Dudley](#)

[Inspiration Shots](#)

Inspiration Lab
gather
65 High Street
Dudley

May (various dates)

[West Midlands Code Club](#)

[Meetups across the West Midlands](#)

May 12th

[IoF Technology Conference 2017](#)

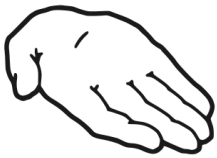
America Square Conference Centre
1 America Square, London EC3N 2LB

May 15th

[NetSquared Midlands: Tech for social good
Customer Relationship Management systems
\(CRMs\) for non-profits](#)

May 20th – 21st

[Office for National Statistics DataDive](#) with
[DataKindUK](#) and charities [SafeLives](#) and [Llamau](#)
Government Buildings, Cardiff Rd
Duffryn NP10 8XG



Offers/Tips

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 about your interest and use the word 'Brokerage' in the subject line. Thanks.



People

On May 4th 2017 the West Midlands will elect its first metro mayor. The metro mayor will have control over the whole West Midlands combined authority area. They will work with existing city leaders to take forward their strategic plan.

The six candidates for the role, James Burn (Green Party), Peter Durnell (UKIP), Beverley Nielsen (Liberal Democrats), Sion Simon (Labour Party), Graham Stevenson (Communist Party) and Andy Street (Conservative Party) here [debate the issues and answer questions from a studio audience](#), presented by Patrick Burns, BBC Political Editor in the Midlands.

The views of 5 of the candidates on open data are on the West Midlands Open Data Forum site [here](#)

More details about the political outlook for the West Midlands Metro Mayor from Centre for Cities [here](#)



Reading

[Digital transformation for the charity sector: 2017 update](#) by Gemma Reeve, [Manifesto](#)



VCSE Digital Vacancies (listed by Closing date)

May 2nd

[Information Worker](#)

Alzheimer's Society

May 11th

[Head of CRM System](#)

UnLtd

May 3rd

[Social Researcher](#)

The Workers' Educational Association

May 22nd

[Community Matters Database Support Officer](#)

Heart of England Community Foundation

May 4th

[Charity Database Project Manager](#)

Lamplight Database Systems Ltd

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