



News

Wellness Hackday

A [Wellness Hack](#) on Sept 15th in Birmingham, organised by RnR Organisation, and hosted by The Active Wellbeing Society was a chance for members of Facebook group [Dying to Know about Cancer and Wellness](#) to get together with some data analysts and others with clinical experience to share stories and look for insight in some available datasets.

Voluntary sector trends: checking the data

Karl Wilding from NCVO and Pauline Broomhead from the Foundation for Social Improvement spoke at [this voluntary sector data event](#) at the Impact Hub on Sept 17th, organised by RnR Organisation, and attended by about 20 delegates from various sectors in the West Midlands region.

Also speaking were James Bowles, PhD student, Third Sector Research Centre about How charities/voluntary sector organisations use geospatial data, and the map he has produced of charities across the West Midlands followed by Austin Rodriguez, Commissioner, from Birmingham City Council on Investing in neighbourhoods and communities using the 360 Giving standard

Digital WM: Project 2020

RnR Organisation's new plan should make a qualitative and quantitative difference to the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector in the Midlands so that they know how to use the internet and digital technology more efficiently in order to help their beneficiaries. Read [all about the plan](#)

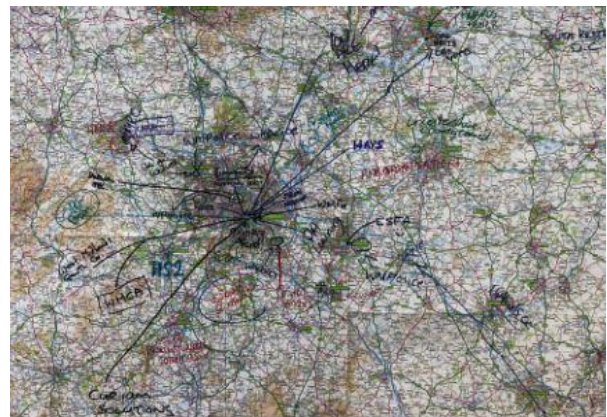
Young People's Cultural Journeys across the West Midlands

[This study](#) by [Arts Connect](#) gives a rich and insightful snapshot into the lives of digitally native young people in the West Midlands, and their attitudes to culture – as they define it.



Impact Hub Birmingham: a #50Radicals winner
Wonderful, but not surprising that the Birmingham social changemaking network, [Impact Hub Birmingham](#), features in Nesta's latest #50Radicals lineup

Read [more about the Hub](#) and why it won this attention, and the [Guardian article](#) about the Hub.



Broad spread of organisations and suppliers working across the Midlands working together to deliver great public services
[@psdmidlands](#) [#psdmidlands](#) [#map](#) [#publicsector](#) via [@PJMoran](#)

Public Sector Digital in the Midlands

Two equally important public sector digital events happened this month in Birmingham. The annual unconference for local government [LocalGovCamp](#) ([session titles](#)) was in the studio in the city centre on Sept 21st-22nd with a new event [PSDMidlands](#) following hot on its heels on Sept 27th in the new co-working venue Spaces.

Some of the tweets from the latter event which showcased and celebrated the Midlands' public sector digital community were gathered [here](#). RnR Organisation was one of the smaller organisations in attendance, but we managed to put ourselves on the map (see photo above)!



Events, Deadlines & Training

Events

Oct 3rd

[Digital Communities Network - Birmingham](#)

Disability Resource Centre, Unit 18, Ace Business Park, Mackadown Lane, Kitts Green

Birmingham B33 0LD

Dudley CVS Volunteer Centre

[Tools and techniques to manage volunteers effectively](#)

Dudley CVS, 7 Albion Street, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3EE

Oct 6th

Kate Gordon & Rickie Josen

[Strictly Trustees](#)

John Lewis, Grand Central, 2 Station St Birmingham B2 4AU

Oct 10th

Beatfrees

[Brum Youth Trends: Summit 2018](#)

Birmingham Town Hall, Victoria Sq., B3 3DQ

Oct 11th

[Fusion](#)

[October meetup](#)

the studio venues, 7 Cannon Street, Birmingham B2 5EP

Oct 17th

[Big Lottery Fund's Reaching Communities](#)

[Workshop](#)

SCVO, 1st Floor, Landchard House, Victoria Street, West Bromwich B70 8ER

Oct 23rd

[Could Birmingham's tech sector rival London?](#)

iCentrum building, Innovation Birmingham Campus, Birmingham B7 4BP

Oct 25th

One Walsall

[Funding Strategy & Fundraising Plan](#)

The Crossing at St Pauls, Darwall Street

Walsall WS1 1DA

Oct 30th

[SITR 1:1 Support Surgeries for Charities and Social Enterprises](#)

Birmingham or by phone/Skype

Nov 1st

[Net Squared Midlands: tech for social good Nov meetup](#)

Innovation Birmingham, Holt St, Birmingham B7 4BB

Nov 9th

[Digital, Sales, Marketing & Technology Expo 2018](#)

Birmingham City Council House, Victoria Sq., Birmingham B1 1BB

Nov 14th

[Data4Good conference 2018](#)

Unique Venues, Centenary Sq., Birmingham B1 2EP

Weekly/Monthly Meetups

[Birmingham Open Code](#)

- weekly (Tues) open study session for folks who program (in any language) or those who want to get started learning to code

[Brum SMC](#) – last Fri monthly social media meetup

[Digital Evenings](#) (Fircroft College) – weekly (Tues) – improve your digital skills. No previous experience required.

[fizzPOP](#) – 2nd Wednesday of month Lock picking

[Net Squared Midlands](#) – bi-monthly #techforgood meetup

[Tech Wednesday](#) – monthly meet up for like-minded individuals in tech industry in Birmingham area

Training

Oct 30th

[Coding for Beginners Workshop](#) (scholarships available) London

Ongoing

[Digital & IT](#)

Various courses to Apr 2019

Fircroft College, 1018 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6LH



Offers, Tips & Requests

RNR ORGANISATION BROKERAGE:

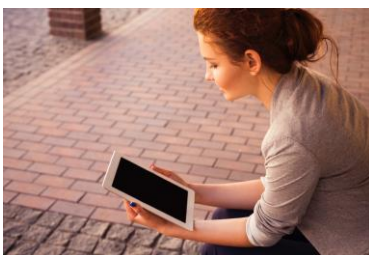
- One of the roles for this newsletter is to bring together practitioners in our core activities of digital skills development and voluntary sector (asset-based) development.
- We support and deliver this activity through a variety of programmes and networks including Net Squared Midlands, WM Funders Network, 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

Our friend [Kari Lawler](#) who we have featured before in this column, said on Twitter this month: "I love speaking at events. However, it amazes me how many invites I get to speak outside my home city, with never a mention or intention of covering the financial costs, like travel. So, am I being taken advantage of, possibly due to age? Or is this common in the event industry?"

Read the [thread](#) and add your comments



Reading, Listening & Resources

[Twitter has given us a voice in the cancer community – Frank Fletcher Ellen Macarthur Cancer Trust](#)

by Will Cardy, Sept 27th 2018

"...Being part of the extremely active teenage and young adult cancer (#TYAC #teenagecancer #TYACancer) Twitter community has helped us to reach people we never could have otherwise.

We're a small national charity that works with young people aged 8-24 to rebuild confidence after cancer through sailing.

When we launched in 2003, Twitter wasn't a thing. That year we worked with 10 young people in recovery, this year we will work with over 660. Being part of the online #TYAC community has absolutely played a part in our growth, both in terms of the numbers we now take sailing, but also the funding partners we work with and the voice we have in much wider post-cancer care conversations..."

[Keeping up with Universal Credit: Challenges and changes](#)

by Harriet Brown, Good Things Foundation, Sept 17th 2018

"...In February, we updated our [Universal Credit: a how to guide](#), a Learn My Way guide to support people who are applying for Universal Credit. We've had some really

good feedback from Online Centres so far, who've also been using it as a tool for raising staff awareness. But at a recent Universal Credit focussed workshop, only **50%** of Online Centres were aware of it at all. One of the reasons could be that Universal Credit is being rolled out area by area, meaning that not every Online Centre that we work with has been affected by the changes yet (if you're reading this wondering when your area will be affected universalcredit.info is a useful tool to find out). So it's really important for us that we continue talking about the Universal Credit guide, so that Online Centres in new Universal Credit service areas know that it's something freely available to them..."

From Smart Cities to IoT: Realising Opportunity in a Digital Future

In it's 6th Year, the [Digital Leaders](#) 2018 Annual Lecture came to Innovation Birmingham, and was built on a year dominated by AI and IoT to ask "[how can we realise the opportunity offered to us by digital innovations coming online, and do we all have a role to play in making this a reality?](#)" [audio with slides]

This year, the lecture was given by [Scot Gardner](#), Chief Executive, Cisco UK & Ireland, and an alumnus of the University of Birmingham.

[Google Dataset search](#)

Dataset Search enables users to find datasets stored across thousands of repositories on the Web, making these datasets universally accessible and useful.

Want to learn more?

Read our [launch announcement](#) to better understand what Dataset Search is, and our [earlier blog post](#) for motivation and discussion of our approach.



Vacancies in West Midlands or flexible locations (listed by Closing date)

1st October

[Communications Executive](#)

Institution of Chemical Engineers

5th October

[Data Analyst](#)

Citizens Advice

[Digital Literacy Unpacked](#) [Book]

Digital literacy is a powerful subject, which supports inclusivity, social mobility and digital citizenship.

Digital Literacy Unpacked, edited by Katharine Reedy and Jo Parker not only offers a snapshot of innovative approaches to digital literacy, but also intends to provoke discussion, encourage collaboration and inspire – whatever the role or context. The editors open up the whole area of digital literacy in all its kaleidoscopic richness, and provide diverse perspectives, content and ideas to inform thinking and practice

Content covered includes:

- a discussion of terminology, institutional approaches, and existing frameworks
- digital literacy in learning and teaching
- copyright literacy
- teaching the use of digital tools and curriculum design
- critical approaches to literacy
- combatting social exclusion using digital skills.

Birmingham Community Homes

[Birmingham Community Homes](#) is the latest enabling hub to *launch*. This is an important moment for the movement, and for Birmingham itself - we know that enabling hubs spark community led housing development in the surrounding area.

8th October

[Marketing and Communications Managers - North, South, Central](#)

Prince's Trust

10th October

[Associate Director – Creative & Digital](#)

Ambition School Leadership

11th October

[ICT Service Desk Analyst](#)

NACRO

12th October

[PR & Campaigns Officer](#)

Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

15th October

[Communication Officer](#)

Witton Lodge Community Association

19th October

[Creative & Digital Associate](#)

Ambition School Leadership

[Publications Officer](#)

The Fostering Network

[Head of Marketing & Communications](#)

The Operational Research Society

27th October

[Senior Marketing Manager](#)

Leading UK Charity

Ninth Issue of Digital WM News Vol 2... complete with ongoing changes

This is the ninth issue of **Volume 2** of our monthly newsletter. We love helping people in the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sectors around the West Midlands (and wider through our regular tech for good Meetup [Net Squared Midlands](#) and the annual national infrastructure unconference [VCSSCamp](#)) to get more out of technology and the web, including via this publication.

Welcome to our new subscribers since last month. We now have 100+ subscribers.

Input from subscribers and guests

We love having your news, events/training, offers/tips, people, reading and vacancies for consideration and hope to hear from more readers in 2018.

Deadline 21st of each month

Pauline Roche, RnR Organisation

WANT YOUR OWN COPY OF DIGITAL WM NEWS?

Digital WM News is a monthly compilation/curation of (mainly) #techforgood news, events, training, offers, tips, people, reading, listening, resources and vacancies of interest to people in the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sectors from around the West Midlands – circulated via email

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