**Getting started with collaboration on GitHub: Crunching webinar attendance data with R and Shiny**

The popularity of webinars and similar online events has increased in the last few years, but for an analyst involved in hosting, the lack of quality and accurate data about participation in the event was infuriating. This project started life with frustration in a spreadsheet, moving to a simple script in R.

Conversations with colleagues showed there was interest in something more and before long ideas had formed of something in Shiny and an early prototype was underway. This led to a public repository on GitHub, a demonstration to colleagues, and involvement of others; contributing issues, suggesting ideas and developments. The project has served a dual purpose, as a useful tool, and as a vehicle from which to practice collaborating via GitHub.

Thus far we now have a Shiny app with functionality that allows selection of the attendee engagement report from a MS Teams Live Event, auto determines the date and timings of the event and generates statistics and chart presentations such as how many attended, how long they attended for, method of attending, promptness, and a survival analysis. It is also possible to export the cleaned up and organised attendance data, and to export presentations for use in project reports.

The GitHub issues still include a number of suggestions for additional functionality and code improvements. So, if this project is of use and interest to you and you’re looking to develop your GitHub collaboration skills then watch this talk, visit the repository on GitHub and join in the fun.