

## New Technology Brings People Together

*Adrian and Elysia describe their meeting story and the role ChangeXChange played in their relationship.*

“It all started at the airport, right before check-in” says Adrian, a twenty-two-year-old bioengineer from Imperial College London. As he takes his phone out to show us the app, he explains: “I was coming straight from my lab practical, without having even had time to change. I realised my trip to Prague would be a lot easier if I had some Czech crowns before arriving so I opened ChangeXChange”.

ChangeXChange is a simple service to connect travellers at the airport so they can exchange currencies. Outbound travellers can exchange the local money for foreign currencies. Inbound tourists can exchange the now useless foreign money they brought back into useful cash. “No one should arrive in a foreign location penniless, plus I hate amassing foreign coins on my shelves at home” justifies Remi Uzel, one of the developers on the project.

Adrian created an offer on the app, and Elysia – coincidentally, a Medicine student at the same college- answered it. Her flight had landed from Prague a few minutes before and she was waiting for luggage. She described her experience: “Through the intuitive UI, it only takes a few clicks to meet someone that wants the currency you have and trade”. Responding to safety worries, she assured us that the user rating system made her feel at ease since Adrian had a great rating and many trades under his belt.



*Adrian and Elysia, 3 months after their first encounter, brandishing ChangeXChange*

“We met, traded, and chatted about Prague. She gave a few recommendations and her phone number in case I wanted more information. It was a super positive interaction. I called her as soon as I was back in London to ask her out for a drink”. Adrian and Elysia have been together ever since.

What does this mean for technology in general? Blah blah blah, “ChangeXChange is a very humane way to interact with others”...