

Interview with Glasnevin Cemetery

As part of my first iteration, I arranged an interview with an IT technician named Greg Pluymers in Glasnevin Cemetery. I then conducted the interview with Greg on the 22nd October 2014 at 10am to discuss the current system they have implemented in their cemetery.

Q. Greg, what would be your current system?

A. Currently we have an enterprise resource planning system set-up that stores the information given to us from the funeral homes. Our website and the other cemeteries we look after connect to it for the information.

Q. Have you ever considered making a mobile application for the cemetery?

A. We have recently considered making our own app.

Q. Have others tried to develop an application like this?

A. Other students from other colleges have tried and attempted to make an application for this situation.

Q. Have any big IT companies have interest in developing a system for the cemetery?

A. Microsoft and Google have been in touch and had a look around. They picked up on the devices we use. When Microsoft looked around they picked up on use iMac PCs for our customers to use when they want to look up information through our website and when Google were here they seen our employees were using iPhones and said would we not consider using android instead.

We are in partnership with Google so we could do a Street View of the cemetery through Google Maps on our website. We are able to pin-point the marked graves here but we would like to be able to use it to locate the unmarked graves.

Q. What information would you recommend on storing about the deceased person?

A. I would recommend on you storing the information on the famous people buried here for demonstration purposes instead of everyone as if you were looking to store information on the members of the public buried here you would have to go through legal issues and it could get messy. Data wise, I would recommend on storing the information given to us by the funeral homes instead of the information on the headstones, as that would be illegal and also not all the information on the headstones are accurate. This information would be name, last address, grave location, date of death, gender, status, date of issue and the registrars number/Sextons number.

Could you check with your lecturer to see if its ok for you to use the sample data just on famous people instead of everyone in the graves. If he agrees, could contact me through my email outlining what you intend to do with the sample data.