

Global Noticeboard Snippets

Team update: July, 2014

Hello and Welcome from Dianna Moylan – Editor



A Pound

What can you get for a pound? It's a question, isn't it? When I was little you could get one hundred penny chews.

You could 'spend a penny' a hundred times, go to the theatre and sit in the 'gods' forty times. If there were three or more kids on your family it would cover five school meals for the third and subsequent kids.

Things have changed. Now a loaf of bread costs more than a pound and a bog-standard pint of beer costs around £3.00. I smiled as I bought ice-cream for my granddaughter this week and it 'only' cost me £2.70. Cigarettes now cost around £8.50 for twenty – you work out how much each that is. You are seen as being really mean if you won't stump up a minimum of £40.00 for a theatre ticket, and people think nothing of taking their kids to Disneyland Paris for their **second** holiday of the year.

And why, you may ask, am I banging on about this? Well, it's because of our Pound-a-Month Campaign.

To people living in many 'developing' countries a pound makes a big difference. Here we spend two pounds on a coffee several times a week, but, in Kenya, those harvesting the beans coffee is made from live on less than \$994 a year (about £11.00 a week). That's three coffees and a couple of beers. No wonder education takes a back seat; the grinding day-to-day business of feeding your family must take precedence.

In the UK now there are still poor people, homeless, unemployable, too ill to work, hopeless people. But the worst of them is better off than many people throughout the developing world. After all, many people are still immigrating to the UK because they believe they can find a better life here. And compared to those countries they are leaving, it is better.

“Get to the point, Dianna”, I hear you say. All right, then I will. Nobody I know, nobody you know, would miss one pound every month. It’s less than a bus fare. So when you ask people to join our Pound-a-Month Campaign, you are asking for virtually nothing.

So there’s your argument when people ask why they might join the campaign. It’s because it means practically nothing to us, and could mean a great deal to those who must choose between eating and education, food for the family or school uniform so their kids can benefit from the free education offered in their country.

I know that in writing to you I am ‘preaching to the converted’. But maybe you are wondering what your arguments could be when you ask your friends and neighbours to join. Some of the above might help. It certainly puts it into proportion for me.

I have been giving my pound a month for over a year now. I often wonder why it’s not five. Nobody amongst us would really miss that. But let’s not go over the top! A pound is what we ask for, and if we were to get this from just a thousand people, that’s twelve thousand pounds a year. Just imagine if we all did this ... think of the money we would have to help bring about real change.

‘From each according to their ability to each according to his need,’ wrote Karl Marx. If a tenth of the UK working population gave a pound a month and it was used to help those in real need, we would have transformed the world **without** revolution.

In the US at the moment a scheme called ‘No Child Left Unfed’ is running. This scheme feeds children who are left without food during the summer months when schools are closed. This is happening in the richest country in the world. I am appalled that it is necessary. But in other parts of the world children are hungry all the time: for food and for knowledge.

If we can get this scheme off the ground we can do what Mark and Guy have dreamed of and really make a difference. I’d like to be part of that. I’m going to try to get five more people to take this up this month. I promise. What about you?

Through our Pound-a-Month campaign we’re currently supporting young homeless people and also helping to support the provision of ointment to prevent river blindness. If you’d like to join in, you can download the form below. Thank you.

<http://poundamonth.championsclubcommunity.com/files/2014/07/gnb-donation-form.pdf>

After all, it’s just £1-a-month!

Update from Guy and Mark : Founders



Hi there Everybody and a very warm welcome from Mark and me to this July 2014 team update.

First off a very warm welcome to Nathaniel Ashford, who joins us courtesy of Annemie Ress, existing team member. Thank you Annemie and welcome Nathaniel!



Nathaniel is a creative technologist with bags of experience in delivering creative and innovative projects, having also worked extensively in the Charity sector. Nathaniel will now be working with Ola and Helen and we look forward to our first web development project team meeting on the 29th July where we will also be joined by designers Forbes Low and Jane Chamberlain, both existing team members, who will be looking at the GNB site design moving forward.

This month has seen us make significant headway in the design of the first schools roll out with St Thomas More's school in Westcliff on Sea, spearheaded by deputy head Phillip Maxwell working alongside Chris and Guy. Work has also included the development of some success criteria measurement, for sign off with Phillip. More on this from Chris below.

Meetings have also taken place this month with St. Marys University Twickenham and with Middlesex University.



We met with the Vice Chancellor at St Marys, Francis Campbell, with discussions focused on understanding how we might be able to partner with the University, with a series of follow up meetings scheduled to start to work this through.

A big thank-you to Francis. Thank you really Francis.

We were also invited to present to Middlesex University last month and we believe this will develop into a significant and important relationship too.



Special thanks go to Donna Beamish, Martyn Thomas, Serengul Smith and Tony Clark, with a mini 'in focus' feature detailed below. Thank you sincerely to you all. Thank you.



Anchor House Director Keith Fernett is in focus again this month! A big thank you to you Keith for your support in securing our 2nd full time web-developer and for facilitating two funding approaches this month as well. Thank you Keith.

Finally, an enormous ***** “THANK YOU” ***** to everybody for all that you are doing to bring this alive. This is happening because of YOU!

Thank you.

Guy and Mark

How's the Web build going? : Ola Awogbade



Key development work delivered this last month comprises:

Group invites: we had an issue inviting people into specific groups as opposed to the GNB generally. Now solved.

Work has been done on closing out Offered/Wanted postings, feeding into basic reporting functionality

We've resolved a group overwrite issue as well as an avatar cropping problem, and we have begun to work/thinking about our new landing page. Jane Chamberlain and Forbes Low will be leading on this. (Forbes is on the right, above)

Finally, there's now heightened focus on delivery vs the GNB test roll out groups, especially as regards St Thomas More school in Essex. We meet as a full web development / design team on the 29th July to plan next steps.



Chris Driscoll (above) reports that key GNB roll out meetings have taken place this month with Father Andrew Headon from St Peters and St Pauls parish in Ilford, Paul Halliwell from St Bonaventures School in Forest Gate, Phillip Maxwell from St Thomas More school in Westcliff on Sea in Essex, and Paul Parascandolo from Our Lady of Ransom school in Rayleigh. All four are pictured below.



As mentioned last time we are looking to go live with St Thomas More in late October and are currently in the project-planning phase. We are also in early discussions with Andrew, Paul and Paul.

Thank you guys, all four of you, for your ongoing support and encouragement, which is appreciated.

Chris also facilitated a great meeting with Telco Citizens this month just gone who are interested in taking the platform nationally, a little further down the line. Telco have 75 member organisations each of whom would be interested in taking a Group area linked into the parent Group, Telco. Telco, stands for The East London Communities Organisation and is a founding chapter of London Citizens, the UK's largest independent community alliance.



News from Middlesex University



We are especially indebted to Donna Beamish, Martyn Thomas, Serengul Smith and Tony Clark for their incredibly generous, warm, encouraging, (and appropriately challenging!) welcome again just recently, when we presented to the wider University team. Thank you all.

Significant next steps now comprise:

1. Partnering with Ola and the guys to help architect and design the next phase platform-build (scalable system) in collaboration with the academic and research staff.
2. Once the framework has been built, to set in place student placements/internships to help deliver the build, working closely and in partnership with the team.
3. Exploring a joint funding bid for a 'Knowledge Transfer Partnership' role. This person will act as the interface between the University team and us to ensure effective working, as well as being a part of the team that will help deliver the build. There is Government funding available to support KTPs in partnership with Universities. In essence a University expert is seconded to us to help transfer specialist knowledge and expertise.

All in all a **very** exciting starting point for our joint working together. Thank you to Martyn, Donna, Serengul and Tony. Extraordinary really! Thank you.

News from our Head of Fundraising : Kevina Mugwe



This last month Kevina has helped us apply to the Google Challenge fund, just launched, which is all about supporting technology-based projects that are deploying for humanitarian ends. Each finalist secured £500k. We didn't win one of the places this year (each of the 10 finalists were significant national organisations, which was disappointing), but Kevina put together a great bid which will now form the basis of our approach to the Andrews Charitable Trust and Nominet during the course of August. Thank you to Kevina for some first-rate amazing work! Thank you.



Update from the "Pound a Month" Campaign : Andrew Leadbetter



Andrew will be taking a lead now on the Pound-a-Month campaign strategy, starting to map out the journey in front of us. Thank you Andrew.

Our initial short list of people we are interested in approaching for a 'corporate' type partnership, based on some existing strong relationships, are as follows: Scott Bader PLC, British Telecom, Rotary, and the Scout Movement. This is in addition to the schools programme that Chris is leading on now.

This month Andrew also met with Ed Vaizey, the new Minister for Digital Industries, (above

right), who is now aware of our agenda and that we have an open door to go back to as soon as we are ready.



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Where are we at with our Mail Servers? : Update from Andrew Giddings



Great News! Email marketing capabilities will soon be operational!

We are soon to take delivery of an extensive bank of servers from Foehn with ICM'S front end. In effect what we've done here is bring together the heads of 2 technology-based companies to deliver a substantial email marketing capability, getting ready for the future.

This presents a unique opportunity for us to begin to talk to a large audience every month, at no cost, so many thanks to our technology partners for making this happen: to James Passingham from Foehn, and to Nigel Busby and Martin Gunther from ICM. Nice one guys!



Special thanks also to Andrew (photo above) for everything he's done over the years to bring not only this project alive, but many others too . . . building blocks for the future. Thank you most sincerely Andrew.

Schools Outreach with Garth Delikan



While working as ambassador for Caritas Anchor House, (a cornerstone partner of the GNB project) these last months, I've been absolutely thrilled with the positive support and depth of understanding that pupils of all ages have shown to the plight of the homeless in our society.

Through my talks which highlight the fact there is indeed a person and a story to tell behind each homeless person, every school I've been into has responded in a positive manner and wants to help in a positive way.

Many schools have decided to run fundraising events which is really touching, however, since I've mentioned the GNB and the £1 a month campaign, a lot of schools and teachers have been sitting up and taking notice, as they realise that this is a programme that will make a **huge** difference in the way that real life global issues can be eased!

Visit to our first sponsor : Scott Bader PLC



Welcome to a very different organisation! This month we met with our partners and wider team members, Sue Carter and Hayley Sutherland from Scott Bader PLC

Scott Bader was established in 1921 and today is a €227 million global chemical company, employing over 600 people, with manufacturing sites located around the world, including in Canada, South America and India. Scott Bader is very different from other organisations because of their unique ownership and governance structure, aspects of which we have taken on board as regards our own organisation and deployment.

Our discussions focused on progress around the GNB platform and the roll out of the Pound-a-Month campaign to their workforce, initially in the UK, and then beyond to all 12 of their Country sites globally.

Sue and Hayley have been 'visionary' supporters from early days, before the platform even existed, and we've been back to present to the Trustees of their Commonwealth Foundation several times now, as is now planned with their Executive team very shortly.

A big thank you this month goes then to Sue and Hayley for their continued support and encouragement along the way. Thank you.

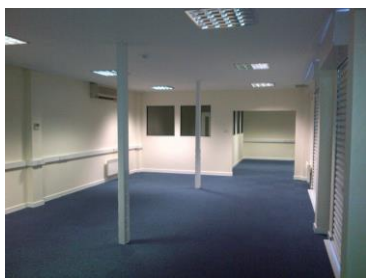
Our Impact so far : Mike Morrison (Chair of Trustees)



Our latest Trustee meeting took place on the 23th July. From next month on we will be publishing the extent of the impact we've had so far, so watch this space.

Thank you everyone.

Breaking News : Well, **still** not quite yet!



We've been held up slightly moving into our new (first) premises owing to networking delays from BT. Planned move-in date now is the end of August/early September.

The new premises are in Nelson Street, Canning Town, two stops down on the Jubilee line from Canary Wharf. It's a great place to come have GNB meetings and to be able to start working together in the same room.

Community Member in Focus (140 Characters) : Meet John Meredith



Please do say hello to John Meredith who has been on board now pretty much from the start. John plays a special role in that he also sits on the Governance board, and thus has been instrumental in keeping us all on track over the years and in helping to set the framework for the evolution and development of our community, of our team.

John is a master (expert) facilitator having set up Stephen Coveys business in the UK. He would be the first to say that he lives and breathes Stephen's '*7 Habits of Highly Effective People*'.

Thank you John for all that you are doing.

Upcoming Meetings ;



St Thomas More School: Pound-a-Month project planning meeting
Andrew Headon from St Peter and St Paul's in Ilford: exploratory meeting re GNB
Middlesex University: Meeting the Head of Computer sciences, Professor Tony Clark
St Marys University Twickenham: Partnership meetings
The Humanity Fund Trustees meeting: Review of progress plus statutory meeting

Web development and design meeting: Team build plus work planning scheduling
ICM and Foehn meeting: Server delivery progress update meeting, and finally
Leadership team meeting

Resourcing Help Needed: All



As ever we are constantly looking out for values-aligned, highly-skilled **Web Developers** with the following skill sets: Word Press, PHP, CSS, HTML, Lamp, Javascript, J Query

Remuneration is via the share scheme. Lunch provided, travel allowance too.

If you think you might know anyone that could be interested either in volunteering or taking an Internship please do let me, Dianna, know and I will pass the message on. Thank you.

Any Questions?



If you have any questions you'd like to ask, we'd love to hear from you. Thank you.

Inspirational Quotes

And finally, some words from the wise



- If you are not willing to risk the usual you will have to settle for the ordinary. ~**Jim Rohn**
- All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them. ~**Walt Disney**
- Opportunities don't happen, you create them. ~**Chris Grosser**
- Try not to become a person of success, but rather try to become a person of value. ~**Albert Einstein**
- Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people. ~**Eleanor Roosevelt**

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After all, it's just a £1pm! Thank you.



The next newsletter will be in four weeks' time so if you have anything to share please contact me, Dianna Moylan, Editor of GNB Snippets, by emailing diannasong@me.com

