

Global Noticeboard

Snippets

Team update: June, 2014

Hello and Welcome from Dianna Moylan – Editor



Hello. I woke up this morning and the sun was shining. Doesn't it make a difference? As one whose mood isn't affected greatly by the weather (my gift, if gift it is, is that I wake up cheerful every morning, regardless of the weather) I can see how much better this start might be for those for whom rain is a real downer.

But talking among ourselves, let's face it, what's happening right here is not what we are about. Each of us joined CC because we want to make a difference elsewhere, or perhaps everywhere. And these are exciting times for us all. It feels as if what we have been striving for is no longer just around the corner but might be even closer at last!

I think that's a bit scary. (Yes, I know that's not a grown-up word, but it seems to fit the bill) We've worked so hard over what now seems, for some of us, a lot of years, to build something beautiful, efficient and resilient that will enable us to make the difference we seek to make. Now Guy tells me it is there, just at our fingertips, reachable.

We who, with some exceptions, have not met each other in the flesh are working together to achieve this ridiculous goal, of coming together to change the world. That sounds rather evangelical, and I'm sorry if it gets you that way, but even I, a realist and sometimes cynic, can see that things are going in the right direction. Guy and Mark shared a dream with most of us a while ago, and we are working together to achieve it.

I know that, as a Trustee (I am constantly concerned that I may not be worthy of the position, but I'm trying hard) I am constantly aware that a very small amount of money put into the right hands in the right place can have wider implications than we can dream of. The price of a pint of beer, a shop-bought coffee, a lipstick, can mean so much more to those who are sometimes without hope.

So I'm feeling optimistic. Hope you are too, colleagues. Here's to the great success we are all working towards.

Update from Guy and Mark : Founders



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

It's been a very exciting month with so much happening that we could have only longed for several years ago. In many ways it feels like we're getting very close to a '*tipping point*' whereby a whole host of things could just suddenly start to kick in, which is both amazing, (owing to the incredible efforts everyone is making to bring this to life), and humbling, (to think that we could be close to making a massive difference in the world and really releasing something very, very special and important).

We were honoured this month too to meet with both Dr Muhammad Bari (Former chair of the Muslim Council of Great Britain) and then separately also with Salman Farsi, head of communications at the East London Mosque. Dr Bari has very kindly agreed to become a Patron of the GNB project and now joins Lord David Alton (below middle) and Sir Stephen O'Brien (below right) who are also both Patrons. Thank you all.

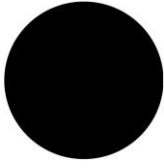


Guy also met late last month with Erin Lovett, GNB team member and Advisor, to discuss amongst other things the possibility of Deloitte helping us out. . . Erin works there. More on this to follow. Erin's photo is immediately below;



Thank you Erin.

We're also in early partnership discussions with adot.com. Please do go check them out – they are a really interesting (and special) organisation.



Guy had a very warm and encouraging meeting there just recently with Ivona Kirschel (co-Founder) and Rebecca Nahon from the programme office. Philosophically, there is a very close fit between what they are thinking about and what we are doing too, which is very interesting. Ivona, Rebecca and Ivona's husband Laurence, challenge us to look at a blank sheet of paper with a single black dot in the middle of it, asking us what we see?

Probably, you would focus on that black dot as this is the way that most of us see the world, focusing on the small difference between us as fellow men and women, and missing the big similarities – the things that are common to us all, as one humanity

The white background on a sheet of paper is far bigger of course than the black dot but our conditioning entices us to miss it, yet without it the dot wouldn't have a canvas for its existence. There is so much more sameness about us than differences.

By seeing this unity we give ourselves the chance to love our neighbour as ourselves, since our point of view has then shifted from the small difference to the big and truer picture: our similarities. Guy will keep us all updated as to our developing discussions with Laurence and Ivona's foundation.



A big thank you too this month to Keith Fennett, Director and CEO of Anchor House, the homeless charity in the East End of London. Keith was runner up for best director in the charity sector a couple of years ago and is rapidly becoming a cornerstone partner to the GNB project. Thank you Keith for your continued support and encouragement, which is very much valued.

We also welcome Chris Driscoll (above, right) who joins us from Anchor House to project manage and oversee the roll out of the GNB platform and the Pound a Month Campaign across the Essex Schools test groups. Chris is a great guy and we are very lucky to have him on board.

Lastly but not least I would also like to shine the light on Alistair Delves, below. Alistair has been a massive friend, supporter, encourager, and appropriately challenging advisor for more than three years now. I meet with Alistair each month to spend at least an hour thinking laterally about how everything is unfolding and specifically looking to the future as to what might be required next. Alistair – thank you, really, for all that you bring. Your contribution has been, and is, massive. Thank you.



Finally, an enormous *** **“THANK YOU”** *** to everybody for all that you are doing to bring this alive. Thank you 😊

We look forward to bringing you further updates month by month.

How's the Web build going? : Ola Awogbade



Key development work delivered this last month comprises:

Group chat: DONE

Ability to load files to the wall: DONE

Facility to set up any number of sub groups to be created linking back into one master group: DONE

Additionally, the web team (Ola and Helen!) has been supporting me with the early roll out of the platform, as detailed below.

Next month we will be focusing on: SMS capability, the invite functionality in groups, spell checker, and the ability to edit and delete posts.

Plans for the GNB roll out : Guy



In May we presented the GNB and the Pound a Month (PAM) campaign to St Thomas More school in Essex, home to over 1200 young people. The Head Master, Deputy Head and the Schools Council made up of 16 young people themselves unanimously voted to adopt the project and to launch the PAM campaign as the first of 20 schools in our initial launch group.

Other early launch activity included a group of 30 school bursars taking a group to connect, share and facilitate the spread of best practice between themselves. At Anchor House, (the homeless charity in the East End of London) three initial groups are being established: one to help coordinate volunteering, one for a social action event coming up in June and then also one for a community wellbeing day in August. Between the three groups we are expecting to be able to connect over 400 people, coming together to support and help one another.

News from Leadership team member : Maff Potts



Great progress this month also courtesy of Maff, GNB Leadership team member. Maff has facilitated the opening up of discussions with Middlesex University regarding a strategic partnership with them for the ongoing build of the platform.

We are especially indebted to Donna Beamish, Martyn Thomas, Serengul Smith, Jason Lafferty and Afzol Miah for their incredibly generous, warm, encouraging, (and appropriately challenging!) welcome. Thank you all.

News form our Head of Fundraising : Kevina Mugwe



A very big welcome to new team member Kevina, who's joined us to lead on the development of funding applications. This 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. Fingers crossed on this one!

Update form Governance : Andrew Leadbetter (Chair)



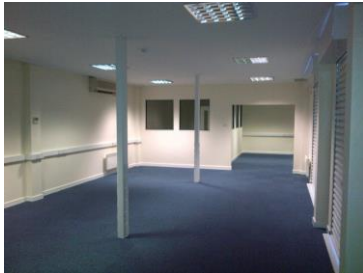
This past month we have been focusing on finalising the details of the licence agreement to the charitable foundation for the GNB platform. As we look ahead also we are also starting to plan for the AGM that comes up shortly.

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



We too are working on taking receipt of the licence agreement and have just recently met for the 2nd time this year to shape and discuss the evolution of our charitable foundation.

Breaking News : Well not quite yet!



We've been held up slightly moving into our new (first) premises owing to networking delays from BT, but hope to have these resolved shortly. Planned move-in date now is the end of June / early July.

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!

Again, a big thank you to Keith Fernett, the Director of Anchor House for his generous support in this way.

Community Member in Focus (140 Characters) : Meet Annemie Ress



Were very pleased to welcome (relatively) new member, Annemie Ress. Annemie runs an organisation called Purple Beach, which you can check out here <http://www.purplebeach.com/> Whereas Ted Talks are about inspirational talks, Annemie's organisation are developing the concept of inspirational conversations. I attended a beach event just recently with Annemie, which was really quite special.

Prior to this Annemie was Global head of HR / Talent management for eBay for 8 ½ years, and prior to that held similar roles with Skype and Paypal. Welcome Annemie!

Upcoming Meetings for Guy



Multi faith GNB meeting: date to be set for early July. In attendance will be; Dr Muhammad

Bari, former head of the Muslim Council of Great Britain, Harmander Singh, leader from the Sikh community, Lord Glassman representing the Jewish community and Father John Armitage and Keith Fernett the Catholic community. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss joint support for our GNB humanitarian mission.

June meeting date too with Philip Maxwell, the deputy head at St Thomas More School, to start to project manage the roll out of the GNB there, plus plan the school's Pound a Month campaign. A couple of weeks ago we presented (very successfully) to the student council.

St Marys University Twickenham on the 17th June to open up partnership discussions with the University's Incubation and Enterprise teams.

Meeting on the 19th June with Annemie Ress (profiled above) and recently joined team member

Finally, the next Leadership team meeting is set for the 18th June 2014. Please do forward anything you would like tabled for discussion. Thank you.

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



Some words from the wise!

MAE WEST: "You only live once, but if you get it right, once is enough"

OSCAR WILDE: "To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all."

ANN FRANK: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world"

VIRGINIA WOLF: "You cannot find peace by avoiding life"

RALPH WALDO EMERSON: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

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