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News from Digital Unite - August 2012



Guides galore

With hundreds of [learning guides](#) about all manner of technological things we reckon we've got a guide for every digital occasion:

- Our popular [guide to the Olympics online](#) will help you as you go on to enjoy the Paralympics (29 August – 9 September)
- Get into the Notting Hill Carnival spirit and feel the vibe online with our guide to [downloading music](#)
- Keep up with the lingo this International Literacy Day (8 September) with our guide to [computer terms and internet jargon](#)

Wiltshire Online – connecting a county

With their £16million Wiltshire Online programme, Wiltshire Council is a shining example of how investment in faster broadband is being matched with an investment in skills and support for their residents to get online.

[Read more](#) about how their network of Digital Champions and other digital initiatives are helping their 68,000 'off-line' residents to enjoy the wonders of the worldwide web.



Last chance to win a Digital Camera!

There's still time to enter our competition to win a rather excellent Panasonic Lumix 14.1 megapixel digital camera worth £80. All you need to do is register on [our website](#) and answer a very simple question. Closing date is 30 August 2012.



Don't forget our dedicated Guides section on [Digital Photography](#) has all you need to know on [saving](#), [editing](#) and [sharing](#) your pictures.



Competition winners

Congratulations to Brita Bevis and Bill Tasker who each won a Doro PhoneEasy 614 mobile phone worth £140 following the online competition we held in June. By coincidence Bill (pictured centred at the back) is a Digital Champion and the team leader for the computer classes held by Age UK's Knowsley & West Mersey.

He will be kindly donating his phone to his local Age UK branch so they can give it out to a worthy recipient. We'd like to wish Bill and his colleagues lots of luck with their new premises, the Huyton Hub, which will offer a range of services, including computer facilities and tuition, for local older people. Read more about how he and his colleagues help older people learn about computers [here](#).

How a Get Online Week grant helped visually impaired people to get online

In October 2010 Digital Unite worked with UK online centres to run a small grants scheme as part of Get Online Week. Those individuals and organisations that ran events during that week were eligible for grants of up to £1,000 to help with their digital inclusion activities.

We recently spoke to one recipient, Christina Burnett, to find out how her £200 grant and a lot of hard work, enthusiasm and commitment opened the gateway to computers and the internet for visually impaired people in Lambeth. Read her inspiring story [here](#).



Social Housing Digifest (Skills, Suppliers and Spring Online)

Building on the success of our popular Social Housing Forums, we'll be hosting our free Social Housing Digifest event on Thursday 27 September which will be a practical and lively exchange of experiences, skills and services by those actively working in the digital literacy arena.

Kindly hosted by BT at the BT Tower the day will culminate in a celebration of this year's Spring Online activity and commendation of some of those who helped make it another successful year for our award-winning campaign.

For the full agenda and to find out how to register for a free place visit our [website](#)



National Grandparents Day – give a gift of learning

It's National Grandparents Day on Sunday 9 September and what better way to mark the occasion than with a gift voucher for personal computer tuition by one of our quality assured Digital Unite tutors.

Simply look up a tutor in your area and contact them directly via our [website](#).

Age UK's iTea and Biscuits (17-23 September)

Age UK's iTea and Biscuits week is a nationwide campaign dedicated to supporting people in later life to learn about digital technology. Hundreds of taster and information sessions will take place during the week.

For more information and details on how to plan and register an event visit their [website](#).



TalkTalk Digital Heroes Awards 2012

The TalkTalk Digital Heroes Awards, with Citizens Online, recognise people who harness digital technology to bring about positive social change in their communities and offer people a chance to win funding for new or existing digital projects.

Twelve projects from around the country will be awarded a £5,000 grant, with one overall winner getting £10,000. This year a new category has been launched for children and young people aged up to 18 years, with the Young Digital Hero receiving £4,000 for their chosen charity and an Apple MacBook Air. Deadline for applications is Friday 14 September. More information is on the [website](#)

Carers and iPhone app research – win a £50 shopping voucher!

The Health Design and Technology Institute (HDTI) at Coventry University are looking for people who use carers or who are carers to take part in an evaluation of a new, free health app for mobile phones. The new iPhone app has been designed to help people who use home carers or personal assistants, and the carers/PAs themselves, to communicate and make arrangements more easily.

Participants of the study will be asked to download the free app to their phone and use it for two weeks. They would then fill out a short survey to tell us what they thought about it and everyone taking part will be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win a £50 shopping voucher.

So if you use an iPhone and either use a home carer or personal assistant or are a self-employed carer to people at home and are interested in taking part contact Jill Evans at the Institute at jevans@cad.coventry.ac.uk.

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