

BLUELOOP

Winter 2017

Newsletter

GDPR – Is our business compliant?

December is a good month for a business review.

Have you asked the question of the Board – Are we GDPR ready and compliant now?

Businesses have just five months to carry out the work required to meet the deadline of 25th May 2018. We all know how very busy it is returning after the festive celebrations and in a blink, it will be mid-February with inadequate time to prepare an audit and report of the works required.

If you have not had your briefing from the **Blueloop** team outlining the requirements and how we are able to support your business, we would urge you call **Julie** or **Darryn** on Tel **01460 271055** to make an appointment now before it's too late!!

Ahoy There!



Before the Heating was turned on this Winter, Julie our Sales & Marketing Manager, decided to have a change from fishing from the water's edge and took the plunge of an instructor-led excursion for sea-kayaking.

Julie enjoyed her birthday present from her son Ryan, who shared the six hour trip out of Dartmouth following the stunning Devon Coastline.

"After negotiating several large yachts and many ferries crossing the river, I am pleased to confirm that we both managed to stay in the kayak above water and were only slightly wet from some choppy stretches. Just as we got back onto dry land we had the pleasure of a seal popping up to say hello. I simply can't wait to get back again to improve my technique in the Spring"

Watch out Katherine Grainger!

A Dorset taste of the Mediterranean



Olives et Al were formed after Giles and Annie left the UK in September 1992 to navigate the Mediterranean basin on two motorbikes, spot them above. They returned with recipes from everywhere they had been and on the 28th October 1993, they sold their first jars of olives in Bath. - **Olives Et Al** was born.

The **Olives Et Al** team have been faithfully re-creating those recipes ever since and following rapid expansion and numerous food awards, **Olives et Al** was looking for an IT partner that could scale up alongside their own aggressive growth plans.

Earlier this year, following a successful tendering submission, **Blueloop** were selected as IT support partners for **Olives et Al**.

Blueloop carried out a full audit of the existing infrastructure as a strategic review was essential to ensure that the company had a robust and secure network to help drive the business forward. The existing estate had a mix of ageing and new technology and could not provide the flexibility and longevity to match the future business requirements.

IT Best Practice around business policies and processes also needed to be reviewed. Underpinning a hardware refresh was planning for Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery. It was important to review existing back up processes and the project also incorporated the use of the **Blueloop Invocation Suite** (see below) in Yeovil for a business-critical emergency.

The future roadmap includes projects for integrating existing business systems, line of sight wireless between separate business premises, Email Collaboration Tools, and additional environmental and security tools.

Finance and Human Resources Director, Kevin Athersuch commented:

“As part of our Strategy to grow aggressively but sustainably, we were looking for an IT partner who would understand our business needs and concerns.

After a rigorous assessment process, **Blueloop** stood out from those on the short list in terms of understanding the business and proposing both a cost effective ongoing support package as well as structured IT solutions that use a mix of existing and future technologies.

Blueloop have designed a roadmap that ensures that the existing hardware estate is fit for purpose as well as recommending and installing state of the art network, server, and personal computing solutions. Phase II includes a security review, integration with new phone systems as well as assisting in ensuring GDPR compliance.

We feel very confident that we have established a partnership that will stand the test of time.”

Don't Panic

As part of **Blueloop's** Disaster Recovery services we can now offer a full **Invocation Suite** at our datacentre premises in Yeovil.

Should your business suffer from a disaster and is no longer able to operate from your normal premises, **Blueloop** can offer a fully equipped suite to accommodate up to eight staff with phones and laptops. If required, **Blueloop** will assist implementing your Disaster Recovery Plan and can restore backups from either your own media or from off-site copies held in our adjoining datacentre.



This offering is very reasonably priced, comprising an invocation charge and then a subsequent daily rate for use of the service.

Please contact **Julie or Darryn** on **01460 271055** to discuss your requirements.

Reliable, Manageable WiFi

The **Ubiquiti UniFi** WiFi range is a reliable, value technology that has now become a mainstay of **Blueloop's** offering for high performance, secure and manageable WiFi installations.

The **UniFi Access Point** has an incredible range of up to 183m and gives you simultaneous Dual-Band WiFi and supports up to 300Mbps 2x2 MIMO for the 5-GHz band and up to 450Mbps 3x3 MIMO for the 2.4Ghz band.



Management of the **UniFi** range is simple yet comprehensive and you can take advantage of **Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) groups** to quickly deploy **UniFi Access Points**. This makes the configuration of large deployments straightforward and enabling wireless connection between multiple Access Points can also increase the range.

If you would like more information about how the **Unifi WiFi** range get benefit your company, please call **Julie or Darryn** on **01460 271055**

British Made Fashion & Lifestyle

Owen Barry Limited have been producing quality Sheepskin and Leather products from their workshops in Street since 1948. Five generations of the Barry family have been involved with skin tannage and manufacturing, developing **Owen Barry** into the unique company it is today.



Owen Barry approached **Blueloop** when their existing IT support contract was up for renewal. They were looking for a local provider to provide all their IT infrastructure and Security requirements.

As a specialised manufacturing business, it was crucial that **Blueloop** could embrace their various critical applications and make the business more resilient. This involved implementation of a new firewall, flexible anti-virus software and recommendations of changes to business processes.

To top it off **Blueloop** implemented a new backup system which copies **Owen Barry's** data both to a Network Attached Storage device on-site and then off-site to **Blueloop's** very own datacentre in Yeovil. In the event of a business-critical issue, **Owen Barry** can invoke their Disaster Recovery Plan and if required work temporarily from the **Blueloop Invocation Suite**.

Cindi Barnstaple (Owner) commented:

"**Owen Barry** have been very pleased with the support and guidance **Blueloop** have provided. From the outset they were swift and professional in getting our systems and methods on track, this ongoing service and information has been more than maintained, which is reassuring.

With a changeover of provider, you worry if it is all "first impressions" and the novelty will soon wear off. This is undoubtedly NOT the case with **Blueloop**, **Owen Barry** have been very pleased & impressed and would wholeheartedly recommend them".

www.owenbarry.com

McAfee acquires Skyhigh

After spinning out as a standalone security business from Intel earlier this year, **McAfee** has made its first acquisition. The company has acquired **Skyhigh Networks**, a specialist in cloud security

"**Skyhigh Networks** had the foresight five years ago to realize that Cybersecurity for cloud environments could not be an impediment to, or afterthought of, cloud adoption," Chris Young, CEO of **McAfee**, said in a statement.

"They pioneered an entirely new product category called cloud access security broker (CASB) that analysts describe as one of the fastest growing areas of information security investments of the last five years – where **Skyhigh** continues to innovate and lead.

Skyhigh's leadership in cloud security, combined with **McAfee's** security portfolio strength, will set the company apart in helping organisations operate freely and securely to reach their full potential."

Christmas & New Year

As this will be the last newsletter of 2017, Jon, Tony, Robin and all the staff at **Blueloop** would like to wish all our customers and suppliers and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and peaceful New Year.

