



Your latest quarterly update from Project Bijou.

This quarter's update from our Commissioner, Emma Martins

Since our last newsletter, we have added more content from first-class contributors, both local and further afield. It highlights how much common ground there is in this area. Whilst we may live and work in different jurisdictions, the challenges and opportunities are shared. More importantly, it allows us to join forces with others who want to chart a course for our data driven world that is rooted in human values. And that is absolutely at the heart of Project Bijou.

Our newest contributors **Stef Elliott and Rowenna Fielding** give a gripping account of the moral dilemma they faced after discovering that data was being collected and shared with social media platforms via a tracking tool embedded in the website of a British police force. Should they sound the alarm that people using the website to report crimes were sharing that information with platforms like Meta and Google without realising? Or should they remain silent so as not to risk putting people off reporting sexual offences, domestic abuse and other serious crimes?

We've also recently added Isle of Man-based **Kurt Roosen** who talks to our own Rachel Masterton about accountability in the face of a significant and sustained cyber-attack. I heard Kurt talk a couple of years ago and made it my mission to get him as a Bijou contributor. What he has to say is so important for us all and it is refreshing to hear from someone who is so honest about the realities and so determined to use that experience to help others. We need more of that!

We have also interviewed **Daniele Harford-Fox**, Principal of Ladies College here in Guernsey. When I first heard this interview, it stopped me in my tracks. Daniele talks so powerfully about the impact of the digital world on our children. Anyone who cares about people will recognise the importance of this message which points to the need for broader and more open conversations about the life experiences of children who, from a very young age, are immersed in technologies and data in ways that were unimaginable only a few years ago.

And this urgent need to address the challenges, especially for children and young people, is why we continue to put every effort into our work to support them, their teachers, and their families to engage in the issue. Our schools programme continues to develop, and we have been very excited to roll out 'Warro' to all Year 4 pupils across the Bailiwick over the past couple weeks. [You can find out more about Warro here.](#)

Shared stories and experiences matter more than we perhaps realise. They help to shape a common understanding and encourage a shared vision. The recent [AI Safety Summit](#), hosted by the UK Government and held at Bletchley Park, illustrates that beautifully. The historical context of the location was impactful, as was the attendance of so many countries from across the world. Because, after all, this is a global issue that requires global collaboration.

When we stand with others that share our vision and our passion, that's when real change can happen.

"The isolated man does not develop an intellectual power... From this point of view the search for new techniques must be regarded as carried out by the human community as a whole, rather than by individuals." - Alan Turing.

- Emma Martins
Data Protection Commissioner
Bailiwick of Guernsey

Bijou stories to share...

Daniele Harford-Fox



VIDEO: Children, big tech, education, and society: why we need to act strategically

In this wide-ranging and thought-provoking piece, educationalist and Ladies' College Guernsey Principal Daniele Harford-Fox talks to the ODPa about challenges faced by today's children and young people.

The headteacher discusses how and why the current model of education needs to be overhauled and how we can create an environment that serves children better.

She says: "We need to fuel their imaginations, and think strategically about how to tackle the increasing influence of AI and digital devices powered by largely unregulated tech companies."

She warns that the failure of governments to tackle these issues doesn't just disadvantage young people in terms of educational outcomes, it puts their mental health at risk, and from a wider perspective, risks undermining democracy. Our society has created these technologies, it's time to take a critical look at their impacts and decide on what we want the future to look like.

Kurt Roosen



VIDEO: Anatomy of a data breach

In this episode we are joined by Kurt Roosen, an entrepreneur and head of innovation at Digital Isle of Man. He has 35 years of experience as an IT professional across various sectors including banking, telecommunications and education.

Kurt's account of a cyberattack is a particularly dramatic tale. It's also a lesson in how transparency and accountability are two of the most important tools in dealing with a data breach.

Stef Elliott & Rowenna Fielding



Doing the right thing (can be difficult)

Decisions in life are rarely black and white. So, when data protection professionals Rowenna Fielding and Stef Elliott found data was being collected and shared with social media platforms via a tracking tool embedded in the website of a British police force, they were faced with a difficult ethical dilemma.

Should they sound the alarm that people using the website to report crimes were sharing that information with platforms like Meta and Google without realising?

Or should they remain silent so as not to risk putting people off reporting sexual offences, domestic abuse and other serious crimes? They talked to the ODPA's Katherine Levy about what happened next.

Over to you...

If you wish to play an active part in Project Bijou, below are some suggestions for what you can do:

1. Let us know who you want to hear from

Is there someone locally or further afield that you would like us to approach to be a contributor to Project Bijou? Maybe you know someone that is inspiring and can help us expand these conversations? Perhaps you have your own story to share? [Let us know](#).

2. Pick up your 'Bijou Box'

If you have not already done so, visit the ODPA to pick up your 'Bijou Box' ([find us here](#)). The box itself, and its contents, are designed to help keep the project in your mind, and to spark conversations with others.

3. Pass the baton

The more people that know about Project Bijou the bigger its community will get which in turn will help its goals be achieved. You can help grow this community by inviting others to take a look at the [project's resources](#), or to become a [subscriber to this newsletter](#).

Take a look at the Toolkit ([page 8 of this document](#)) for other suggested project work.

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