Who are ISTN?

The ISTN Board is made up of digital and tech leaders in Ipswich and Suffolk, Local Authority representation as well as experts in financial and business management advice and support.

ISTN aims to help Suffolk be at the heart of the UK's digital and technological community by:

- Working with schools, higher education, local businesses and government to identify any gaps in education and skills.

- Providing free events, education and support to students, small businesses and members of the community.

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Chair
Sam Parnell
Measured Brilliance
Digital Transformation and Change Management

Vice Chair
Martin Russ
Hi-Tech Music
Technical Author

Secretary
Anette Gilham
Ipswich Borough Council
Project Management

MEET THE BOARD

MEET THE BOARD

Left to Right:

Abi Turner, All About Users Ltd, User Researcher

Paul Hutson, Amazon Web Services, Software Engineer

Andy Bristow, Bristow Holland, IT Recruiter

Richard Jennis, Simple Click Ltd, Web & App Development

Paul Martin, SETL Ltd, Fintech

Hannah Rampton, Hannah Rampton Ltd, SEO Consultant

MEET THE BOARD

Left to Right:

David Atkins, 3ADesign Ltd, Software Engineer

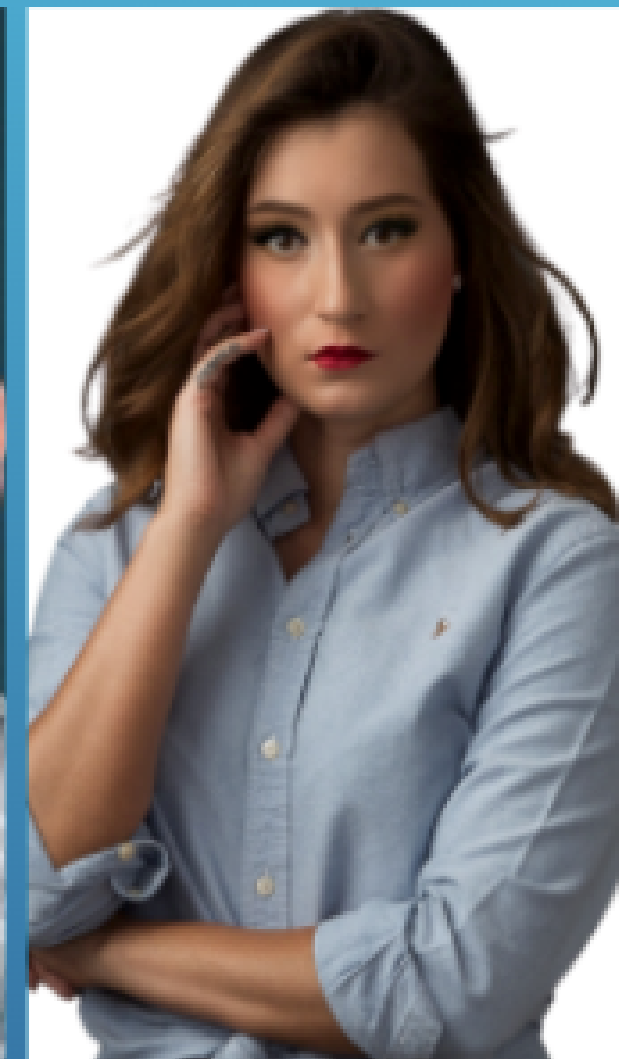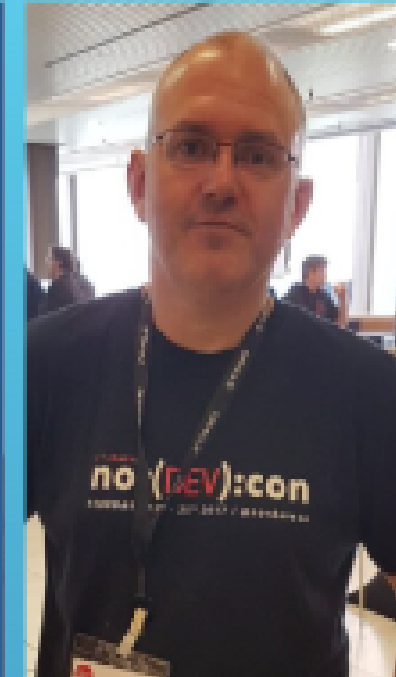David Flint, Mobile & Secure, Cyber Security, QA & Testing

Ewan Slater, Oracle, Cloud Architect

Kish Singh, Pretty Technical, Project Manager

Toine Scholtz, Switch Studios, Game Designer & Software

Kara Thurkettle, Coderus Ltd, Marketing Consultant

David Buist, Xperience, Cyber Security

Subcommittees

Education

Led by Sam Parnell, the education subcommittee works hard to bring opportunities back to Suffolk schools, colleges and universities. Recent programs have included a Youth Pledge promotion, helping to establish mentor groups and ensuring local business education is shared with our growing audience.

Diversity

Diversity and inclusion advocate Kara Thurkettle is a part of our board. Kara is an award winning Innovator & Marketer as well as a Brownie Leader. Giving back to the community is second nature to Kara who supports Adastral Women in Tech, as Women in Tech SEO.

Kara is also Chief Executive of Stress Buddy, a start-up which span out of Suffolk's first tech Hackathon.

ISTN
IPSWICH & SUFFOLK
TECH NETWORK

Subcommittees (cont'd)

Cyber Security

Led by David Flint, a Cyber Security Researcher, owner of Mobile and Secure Ltd and Chapter Leader of OWASP Suffolk. David is passionate about IT security and promoting the industry. When he's not bug hunting he's working on building a local network of individuals interested in cyber security that can help provide free education, training and contacts for students, companies and anyone looking to get into the industry or to learn how to become more security aware.

Recruitment

Tech recruiter Andy Bristow understands what a good workplace needs. Andy shares content for all ages to help people to qualify, up-skill, reskill and succeed in the tech industry. Andy's team have some weighty plans for ISTN, showcasing best practice and advice for anyone who wants to start a career in digital and technology.

Subcommittees (cont'd)

Innovation

UX designer Abi Turner is a seasoned consultant in user experience (UX) research, design and strategy, spanning both digital and non-digital products and services. Abi is also a business coach and proactive STEM ambassador who helps introduce and enthuse young people into the technology design space. Together Sam and Abi are recording sessions to show how it's possible to get into tech careers from any background.

Conference

Ewan Slater and Paul Hutson both worked hard to produce various local events and conferences. Both have been inspired to create new conference looping in more of the Suffolk community and ISTN. Plans were halted by Covid but they aim to bring a conference to Ipswich in 2022.

If you want more details, or want to get involved, get in touch.

Why ISTN?

We bring people together

We work with the fantastic professionals and organisations in both the public and private sector, add our expertise and experiences and bring all that knowledge together in one place, sharing talks, industry updates and opportunities with our community, both in Suffolk and beyond.

We keep it simple

This isn't about re-inventing the wheel. It's about making sure that our community can access the resources that are already available and that those resources remain relevant.

We love what we do

We're a diverse group of experts with one thing in common – our passion for growing the tech sector in Ipswich and Suffolk through education and networking.
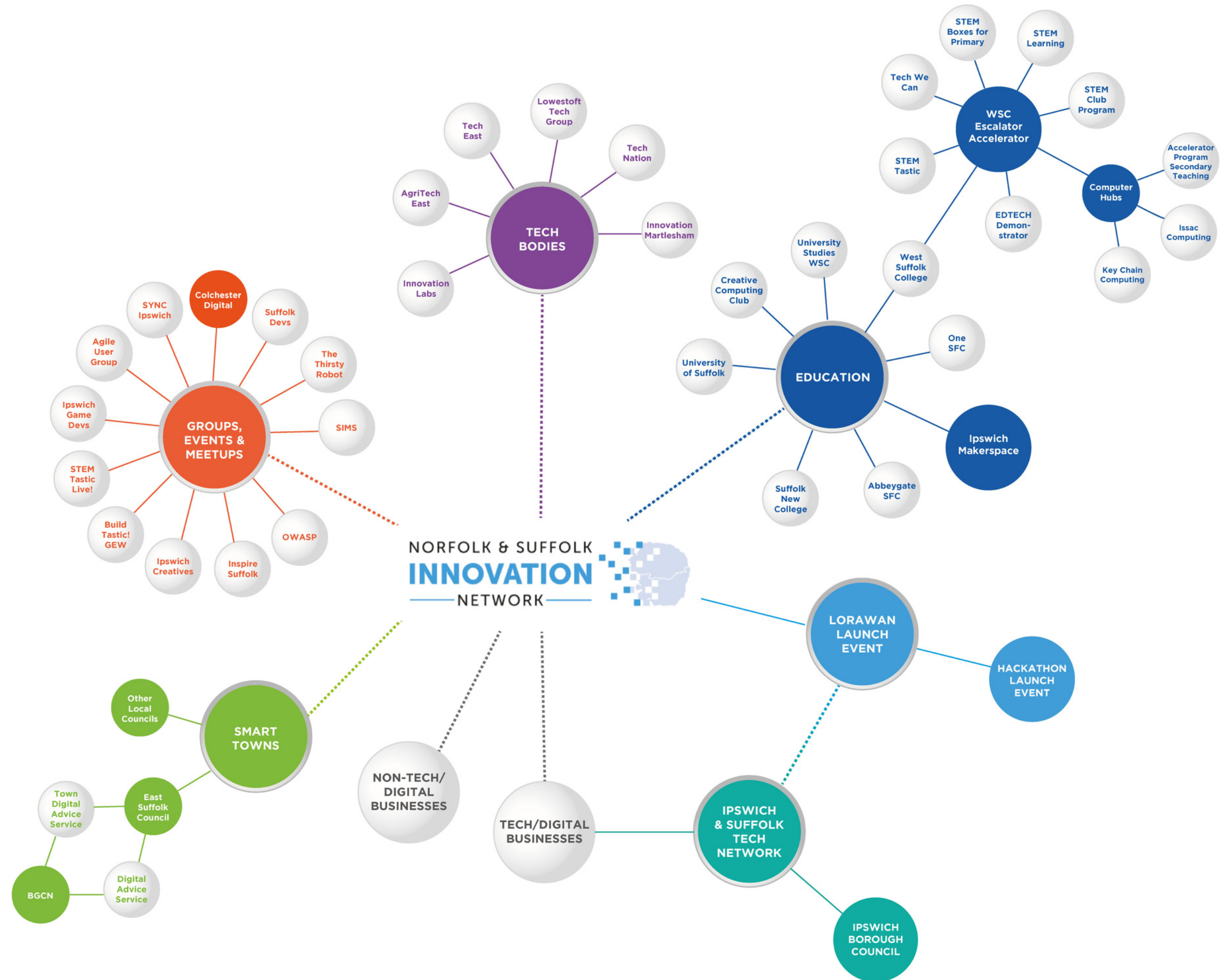
Digital Impact

Anything and everything we do is to ensure Suffolk and the Eastern Region are at the heart of the UK's digital and technological community.

The work has already started!

And our teams have worked hard to position us as an industry leader - we want to see that work continue.

Your sponsorship and support can ensure we reach existing groups, helping them share their content with new audiences. You support will also allow us to support the growth of new groups in the East

It's All About Education

Students

We work with local secondary, Further Education and Higher Education providers ensuring students are fully prepared for their role in the digital and technology sectors. Inspiring an interest and passion in technology careers and provide the education needed.

We help young talent find placements and secure experience while keeping their skills and ambition in Suffolk. This in turn addresses the skills gap via strategic collaboration with local educational bodies and tech community groups.

We are creating a directory of tech businesses in Suffolk to showcase the talent already within our county, this will be a great place for graduates and other professionals in technology to find each other!

Learning for Everyone!

Life Learners

Our regular meet-ups encourage life-learners to engage with the tech community. These sessions provide monthly opportunities across a range of levels and subjects for local business and education communities to learn from the best in our network.

We demystify. We educate. We support.

With over 1,000 individuals engaged on our platforms and attending events ranging from digital marketeers to software developers, coders and cyber security, we bring people and businesses together allowing opportunities to be gained, business connections to be formed and collaboration to take place.

The Talks

We regularly organise 6-9 online talks a month. While these talks are delivered by members of the tech community, they're not exclusive to tech, anyone can come along completely free of charge!

Any expert giving a talk does so voluntarily, this means any sponsorship funding we receive goes towards the organisation and our running costs.

Our experts presenters choose up-to-date topics for their talks. They get about an 1 hour to talk, with a Q&A and some networking.

Each talk has a presenter and a co-host to help on the day of the event so presenters can focus on their delivery. We aim for the content to be educational and the talks are a strictly no sales pitch event.

We plan to have face to face talks and workshops starting in 2022. We feel that there is still too much uncertainty around Covid-19 related restrictions to offer these any sooner. Online talks will continue in the interim. We record all our talks for onwards sharing across social media. Check out the latest editions on our website.
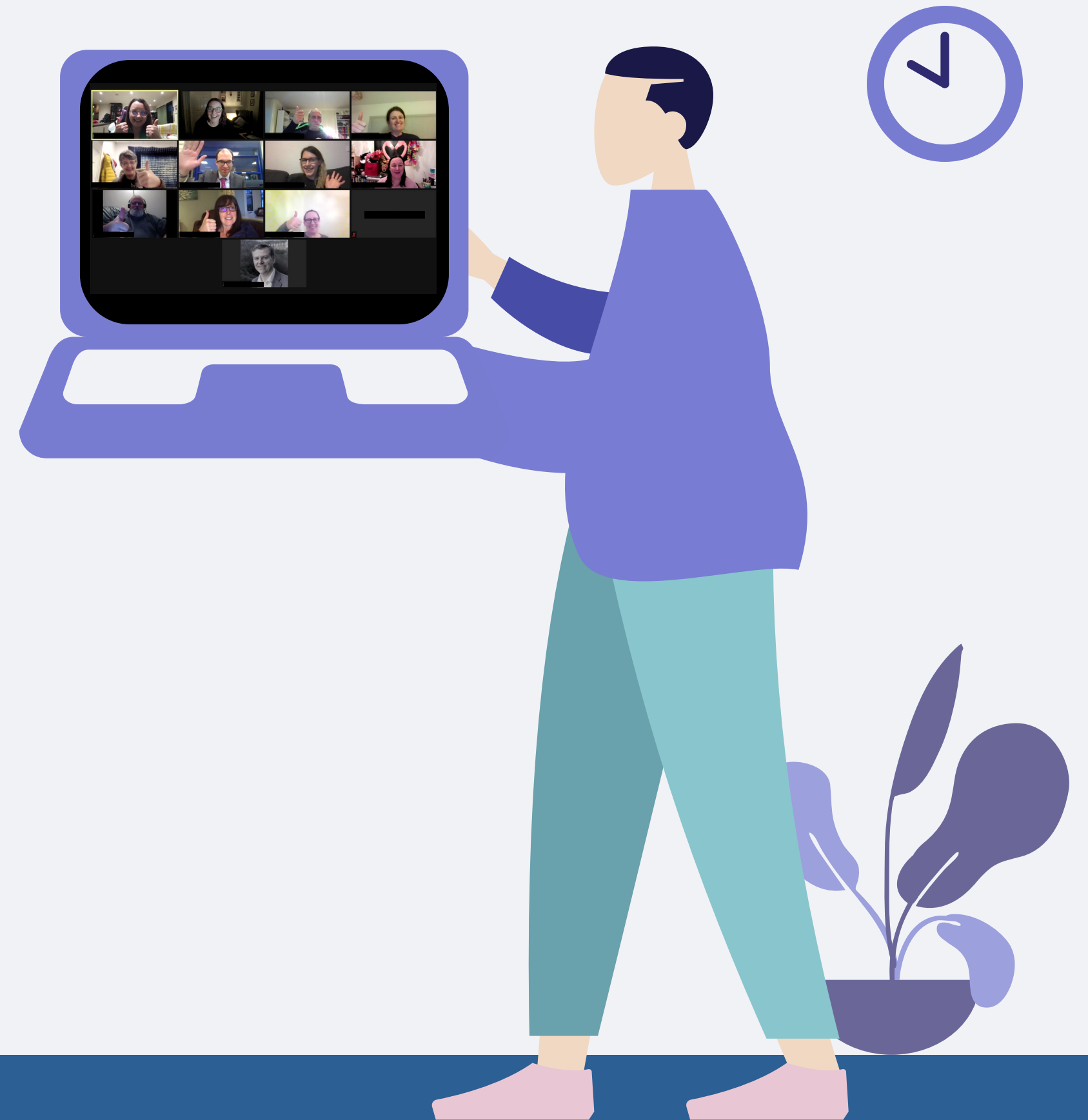
How You Can Help

It's showtime! We need your help to create awareness and curiosity around the Suffolk Tech Community.

The business landscape has changed dramatically in the last 30-40 years with tech being the main driver. Tech innovation has irrevocably altered our lives, it's revolutionised the way we work, the way we relax, the way we eat and even the way we sleep!

The point is, behind every piece of technology that we can't live without is a team of experts and extraordinary thinkers and behind them is ISTN!

Help us to inspire the next generation of tech innovators!

Our size is our strength!

Sponsor ISTN and you'll also be backing local SMEs – showing that you believe everyone has the right to develop a career in their home county.

Allow our close-knit team of industry experts to utilise your professional backing and we will provide useful connections, share your knowledge and empower others across Ipswich and Suffolk to gain the skills and confidence they need to grow their digital presence.

 Put simply: Your backing will make this happen!

How We Can Help You

Keep that competitive edge

Sponsorship is a great way to increase your brand authority and competitiveness within your business' sector. It provides the opportunity to get you in front of a new market of potential customers, exposing a variety of new opportunities such as publicity for you and your business.

Stand out from the crowd

In saturated markets, it's easy for businesses to get lost in the noise. Not only will sponsorship help you stand out from the competition but like all forms of marketing, the ultimate aim of sponsorship is to generate more money for your business.

Get a package that's right for *you*

We're only too happy to discuss tailoring a sponsorship package to meet your requirements and budget. We can't wait to welcome you on board this exciting Suffolk Initiative!

WELCOME TO OUR TEAM

ISTN IPSWICH & SUFFOLK TECH NETWORK

Why we need sponsorship

Without money, no business or organisation can function. ISTN works on a voluntary basis, any time given by the Board or the experts presenting at our workshops is free of charge.

This means that 100% your sponsorship money will go towards the following:

- Our ISTN website (we're keen to share your details!)
- Sharing industry news and opportunities.
- Building a Tech Directory into the website to showcasing our community
- The organisation, hosting, planning and promotion of the 6-9 talks and workshops we deliver each month on Meetup.
- Delivery software subscription to enable us to host online events.
- Venue hire, caterers, equipment hire, event ticket functionality and the time involved to promote these events.
- PR & marketing costs to give ISTN and it's community visibility and to spread the good word of the work we do that we couldn't do without our sponsors.
- Sharing industry news and opportunities.
- The administration costs that go behind all of the above being organised and project managed to ensure it's a success.

What's next?

Check us out -
- https://www.istn.org.uk/
- https://www.linkedin.com/company/ipswich-and-suffolk-tech-network/mycompany/
- https://www.facebook.com/suffolktechnetwork/
- https://twitter.com/suffolktech
- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdqAeVp4JlHf9SB3pHetMjA

We've made a start and we hope it shows. Your help will boost this work and help us do even more!

Let us know you're the one!

Contact suffolktechnetwork@gmail.com if you would like to show your support for our community and receive details of our sponsorship packages.

Let's make Ipswich and Suffolk THE place to be for education, business, investment and careers.

Contact Us

Our Board are happy to make themselves available to answer any questions that you may have. We've popped the details of the Chair and Project Manager below but if you would like to speak to anyone else, simply reach out to them on LinkedIn or let us know who and we will get you the details.

Sam Parnell - Measured Brilliance - 0776 585 2887

Kate Baines - Prestige VA and Boutique Corporate Finance - 0779 939 1343

ISTN
IPSWICH & SUFFOLK
TECH NETWORK

WOULD YOUR
LOGO LOOK

GOOD
HERE?
ASK US HOW

WE CAN MAKE
THAT HAPPEN!

The ISTN Suffolk Tech Pledge

We're asking you, as a carefully selected and trusted partner, to pledge £1,000* to be part of something truly amazing in our tech community.

With £1,000 from 20 tech sponsors we can:
- Facilitate events that showcase Ipswich and Suffolk as a leader in tech innovation
- Push for greater tech investment within the region
- Continue to provide education and deliver exceptional value to our community

IF YOU WANT TO TAKE UP THE ISTN SUFFOLK TECH PLEDGE, please contact:
Sam Parnell
Measured Brilliance
0776 585 2887 sam@measuredbrilliance.com

*VAT is applicable