

Business News

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Hand Picked Hotels invests for corporate success

This month sees two more improvement projects completed as part of Hand Picked Hotels investment programme at its Jersey properties. The group has spent £40,000 installing a new purpose-built bar in the Park Suites at the AA Five Star Grand Jersey Hotel & Spa. Park Suites is the hotel's dedicated compact and flexible business centre, which boasts its own entrance and several event spaces including a private cinema. The bar provides an opportunity for guests to help themselves to barista style coffee in a social area as they break out from business meetings, and it is well stocked with a large selection of wines, spirits and other beverages to cater for private parties and corporate events.

Hand Picked Hotels has also invested £15,000 refurbishing the Boardroom at the AA Four Red Star L'Horizon Beach Hotel & Spa. The sophisticated space has been upgraded with new flooring, tasteful window coverings, comfortable high backed chairs along with an upgraded sophisticated AV system including integrated data points in the stylish 16 foot table and air share presentation links to the 60" TV using Wi-Fi technology. This is the latest phase of the substantial refurbishment programme undertaken since Hand Picked Hotels acquired the Jersey properties and it underlines their confidence in them as two of the leading business centres in the Island.



whynothaveashorterurl.je

We've long been an advocate of using a .je domain name, with gallery.je being our address for many years. It did hurt to have to pay twice the cost of a .com though with a registration and first year costing £88 from the backward registrar in Alderney. Digital Jersey has been working with wholesale providers to reduce this cost and it's now open season on .je domains so you can now pick up a .je for £25. Which really makes it more attractive to be a Genuine Jersey company with a Jersey URL. Sure, if you're starting a global brand it's a bit provincial but still, fly the flag with pride! Local web design firms Blue Llama and Codentia.



Digital Hub now has an academy

New for 2019 at Digital Jersey Digital Hub is the Digital Skills Academy. Digital in digital in digital! It's a great means for those considering a career in digital to get a qualification locally, with university-accredited qualifications and professional training, ranging from degree apprenticeships to short courses on offer. It comes after the Digital Jersey expands its desk space in The Hub from the current 28 to around 75 to meet unprecedented demand. These permanent desks are in addition to the hot desks used daily by Digital Jersey members. Work to expand The Hub will begin in mid 2019 with the Digital Skills Academy due to open in September 2019.



Moving Technology Forward in 2019

WORDS Jensen Nixon, CEO, WARM

Globally, we are seeing people pushing back against the accepted status quo. Perhaps triggered by the global financial crisis a decade ago and the subsequent economic, political and social challenges, there are numerous examples where, collectively and individually, people are realising they can have their say and they don't have to conform to accepted ideals.

In the UK, the Brexit vote split the population in half and the issue remains intense. Donald Trump's election to President of The United States shocked many, but was possibly symptomatic of people who were ready to try a new approach to politics.

The global banking system has been disrupted by the rise of cryptocurrencies. It may have been around for 10 years or so, but there has been a significant shift in users' acceptance of a currency that stands apart from the centralised banking system.

Technology has always played the role of the disruptor and this continues unabated. On a business level, many companies are eager to use ground breaking technology to their advantage to drive efficiencies and savings and expand customer base.

Huge corporations can be weighed down by lethargic systems that may have once been cutting edge, but now slow down employees and clients and limit innovation; reluctance to make a change is a dangerous place to be in business.

The answer certainly isn't always to scrap the legacy system, but to create and implement new systems that complement the old: modernising to fit the new world order. It's an exciting time to be working in tech research and development alongside forward thinking blue chip multinational companies that are focused on being fit for the future.

WARM is a Jersey-based tech R&D company. To find out more please visit www.warm.je