

2020 a year of change and unsettled times

It has already been a busy start to the year for the User Group as we look to enrol you through our new accounting system as we have taken on the running of our accounts for the first time from UNIT4.

The User Group forum site <http://www.u4bwug.co.uk/> continues to be live, although following a survey of you the members we are not actively promoting as we have worked with UNIT4 to move the content into their Portal so that all customers around the globe get the opportunity to raise or answer questions, Feedback on how this is working for you all would be appreciated.

The final workshops of 2019 were run and full details of the workshops held last year can be seen in the table below.

Date	Workshop	Venue	Registered	Organisations
7 th March	GL & Financials	Royal Armouries - Leeds	138	73
11 th April	Technical	Bristol Zoo	73	42
23 rd May	Planner	East Midlands Conference Centre	104	59
20 th June	HR & Payroll	Botanical Gardens, Birmingham	88	39
26 th September	Systems Admin	Beaumont House, Windsor	132	75
21 st November	Purchase to Pay	EICC, Edinburgh	99	52

Across all the Workshops last year Feedback from the delegates has been really positive, which is always very good to see. If you have any suggestions of things you would like us to cover, or you would like to volunteer to present a case study, please do let Caroline know.

Outline details for the 2020 workshops will be advertised shortly and agendas and full booking details will be posted on the Forum as we get closer to the individual events.

If you have any issues you would like the Council to raise with UNIT4, then please let any of the Council members know and we will look to discuss the issue with UNIT4 at the next meeting. Meetings are normally held on a bi-monthly basis with the next meeting scheduled for the 25th March.

The User Group Council is made up of Customers who represent the thoughts and views of the Customer base. If you would be interested in becoming a representative please let us know.

As a final note from me, I will be stepping down as Chair of the User Group after 14 years in which I am very proud to have held the position. I will be staying on the Council and I am very pleased to be able to pass the Chair position onto Andrew Grice, Director of Finance at Reading University. I have had the pleasure of working with Andrew on the Council for over ten years and I know he will do an excellent job representing your views to UNIT4 at the Council meetings .



Incoming Chair UNIT4BWUG



I am Andrew Grice and the Director of Finance at the University of Reading, who have been a Financials customer since 2004 and upgraded to 7.3 in summer 2019.

My previous roles have been at the University of Bristol (2014-2017) & Southampton (2005-2014) which both went live with Unit4/ Agresso as part of a University wide programme to improve back

office information systems. All three Universities are now Unit 4 customers. As Reading is a large research-intensive University we also use the new Agresso research Costing & Pricing module.

My background is in research and education (both further and higher) after qualifying as an accountant in practice and working in New Zealand post qualification for a couple of years.

My interests outside work are sport (I play veterans hockey & am a big supporter of Welsh rugby) and walking our two rescue

Workshop Schedule 2020 - On hold

Who knew 2020 would be a year never to forget!

Due to the current ongoing situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19), our schedule of workshops has been postponed until the pandemic has passed and restrictions on social gatherings has eased.

We will then try and re-arrange a many of the events as possible, once lockdown has been lifted.

We will investigate other “options” but in the mean time please stay safe and feel free to contact us if we can help in any way, or if you have questions you would like us to raise with Unit4 on your behalf. Contact details are overleaf. The dates of the Council meetings with Unit4 are as follows :

10th June DFID – Glasgow
 16th Sept University for the Creative Arts
 2nd Dec Institute of Cancer Research - London



Below is a quick Quiz, to help keep your brain ticking over, if you want the answers you can email caroline.batten@unit4.com

Quiz	Answer	Answers
1	What used to be the currency of Italy?	
2	In what country was pesetas the currency?	
3	Which country is the largest producer of olive oil?	
4	What is the world's largest office building?	
5	Which currency is at home on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange?	
6	What is the main component in glass?	
7	Which country is the origin of the car brands Daewoo and Kia?	
8	Where does a car with the letters CH come from?	
9	What is the national currency of Albania?	
10	What is the national airline of Australia?	
11	In which military camp is the US gold reserve stored?	
12	What is the national currency of Laos?	
13	Which prehistoric animal also indicates something very large?	
14	What is the brand of the oldest sewing machines?	
15	Where was the first subway built ?	
16	Between which two places did the first railway track in the UK run?	
17	In which country is Varig Airlines based?	
18	What is Pakistan s currency?	
19	How many digits does an IBAN number consist of?	
20	What is the official currency in Nepal?	
21	Which Japanese car brand did exist from 1932 until 1983?	
22	What is the biggest oil company in the United States?	
23	Which company was established in the year 1962 by Sam Walton and is one of the biggest employers in the world?	
24	Which Italian family is in charge of FIAT?	
25	What was the currency of Greece before the introduction of the EURO?	

Business World User Group Workshops 2019

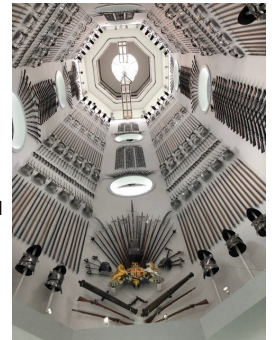
2019 has seen another year of well attended Workshops with a total of 633 registered attendees representing 168 Organisation a rise of 50 more attendees than in 2018.

Our Workshops have been held at various venues around the country, so that everyone has to travel. Each workshop is only held once and the presentations are then made available in the Events section of the Business World Forum enabling members to access and download as and when required. Each Workshop is built around a topic which are selected after reviewing the feedback from the previous years events.

At each Workshop we aim to have something for everyone, as our members are from all sectors of industry and most are on different versions of Business World. The days are usually made up of talks and demonstrations by Unit4, Partners and Customers around the subject.



If you or one of your team could volunteer to present a Customer Case Study any of the Workshops in 2020 I would be very pleased to hear from you. The presentation could be on anything related to BW and could be about your implementation / upgrade, journey or benefits gained and clever things you do that might be helpful to others,. You could discuss what went well and what you could have done differently. Routines you run that save you time. What seems very simple and obvious to you will be of great interest to someone else.



We look to book venues which add a certain something to the day. Many people ask why we don't publish the venue details before people book, the reason is we have to cater for each attendee and pay for their places so we can't allow people to just turn up on the day.



2020 User Group Membership have you renewed yours?

It's now time to renew your User Group membership, the User Group membership year runs from 1st January – 31st December 2020 membership **must be** renewed annually - this is not an automatic process. The Unit4 Business World UK User Group is run by the users through an elected council with the support of UNIT4 Business Software.

A total of 6 workshops will be run during 2020 and will cover different areas of the Unit4 Business World product and typically consists of case study presentations from users, along with product demonstrations and hints and tips from Unit4 and Partners.

The Membership fee for 2020 is £500.00 excluding vat. Membership of the User Group entitles any two delegates from your organisation to attend any of our BWUKUG events (more places can be purchased if space permits, at an additional fee of £100.00 plus vat per delegate).

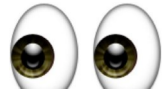
Further information on the User Group is available on our web site <https://www.u4bwug.co.uk/>

If you have any questions regarding the User Group, please contact: Caroline Batten – Unit4 Business World User Group Facilitator **Caroline.batten@unit4.com**



Business World User Group Newsletter

Getting to Know you User Group Council Members



The User Group Council consists of a group of elected customer organisations from different business sectors who represent the thoughts and views of the Business World UK customer base directly with Unit4.

The User Group Council, UK Board, and Executive members meet on a Bi-monthly basis to discuss and review changes within UNIT4, its products and any issues raised by the members. If you would like anything raised at these meetings with the Unit4 UK Board or Executive please let one of our Council members know by emailing them before one of the meetings, the dates and contact detail are below.

10th June DFID - Glasgow
16th Sept University for the Creative Arts
2nd Dec Institute of Cancer Research - London

Would your organisation like to be represented on the Council?

The Council are very keen to have representation for all the Business World sectors especially within the Commercial, Health, Charities and Emergency Services Sectors which will help give a more balanced user's view to UNIT4, so if you would like to know more about becoming a Council Member and what is involved, please contact the User Group Chairman or anyone one of the council members listed below, they will be more than happy to tell

Andrew Grice - AUKUG Chairman
University of Reading - Director of Finance
A.S.Grice@reading.ac.uk

Maureen Potter - AUKUG Vice Chairman
University for the Creative Arts - Finance Systems Manager
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Mary Kent - AUKUG Treasurer
Magnox - Head of IT Programmes
mary.kent@magnoxsites.com

Michael Ward - AUKUG Website
DFID - Senior Applications Engineer
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Ian Sibbald
Cranfield University - Director of Finance
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Alan Hill
Institute of Cancer Research - Head of Procurement
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Steve Lewis
South Wales Police - Head of Exchequer Services
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Rachel Reid
Nutrius Central Services - ERP and Financial Systems Manger
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Vasi Vasikaran
Square Enix - Head of Business Systems
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Katrina Joost
Edinburgh Napier University – Lead IT Developer
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Local Government Association - HR and Payroll Advisor
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Mark Jeffries
Haymarket Media Group Ltd - Finance and HR Systems Manager
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