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Thank you for subscribing to our monthly newsletter – in this issue:

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# **Message from the Commissioner**

Welcome to the May edition of our newsletter. It is a particularly special month for us here at the ODPA as we have launched Project Bijou.

Project Bijou forms part of our wider strategic aims to embed high standards of personal data handling and to reduce data harms. What we are aiming to do is move data protection from being seen as something only relevant for technologists and lawyers, to being something which matters to us all.



The fast pace of technological developments, together with the asymmetrical power we often see in the digital era (think how market-dominant some of the tech giants are today) can leave us feeling disengaged and disempowered. But the truth is that our behaviours and our choices really do matter.

In a small community, we have the unique opportunity to benefit from the power of the contacts of friends, family and colleagues. By encouraging engagement and learning, we in turn make it easier for our community to make informed decisions about their own data.

Regulation in this area is always going to be challenging as data and related issues extend so far into all our lives, both personal and professional. But if, as a community, we can start to better engage with the enormous opportunities that the digital era presents us with as well as better understand the very real harms if we don't look after data well, then I strongly believe that we can build something special for the Bailiwick.

None of us should be in any doubt that decisions we make (big and small) have an impact - whether

it's about what social media platforms to use/not use, whether or not to give our email address to the shop that says they need it for the receipt, or any other moment in your daily life when you are being asked to hand over your data. And importantly, if you are an employee of an organisation, you can also make a big difference.

And that is what is at the heart of this Project – an inclusive conversation that seeks to harness the opportunities of this data-driven era without exploiting each other in the process.

- Emma Martins

**Data Protection Commissioner** 

## Free support, public engagement, and advice

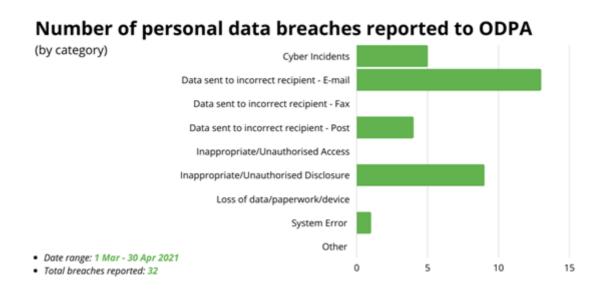
Here's a summary of the support available to everyone in the Bailiwick towards complying with the local data protection law: <u>ODPA resumes events and support programmes</u>

#### **Support and Advice:**

- Fortnightly drop-ins
- Study Visits
- Events \* **NEW** dates available via Zoom/in-person
- Podcasts
- Information Hub
- Bi-monthly breach statistics
- Newsletters

## **Public engagement:**

- Schools programme
- Project Bijou



## Latest statistics of personal data breaches published

We have published the latest bi-monthly statistics of breaches reported to us: <u>ODPA sees similar levels</u> of breaches being reported

## Why does the ODPA publish breach statistics?

We have published statistics of breach reports we receive, every 2 months since October 2018. Publishing this information allows everyone to benefit from a better understanding of how and why

breaches happen and how they can be avoided in future. View statistics from October 2018 - present

#### Action we've taken

Since our last newsletter, the Data Protection Authority's section 64 Committee has issued the following public statements on recent enforcement actions:

- Reprimand issued to Blue Diamond Limited over a breach determination made by the AuthorityPublished: 11 May 2021
- Reprimand issued to The Committee for Health & Social Care over a breach of local data protection lawPublished: 21 May 2021

## **Suggested reading:**

Each month our commissioner provides suggested reading to help you make senseof and safely navigate our data-driven society.



This month's choice is: *Artificial UnIntelligence – How Computers Misunderstand the World* by Meredith Broussard.

Broussard is an Assistant Professor at New York University as well as a software developer and data journalist. She opens up the inner world of computer programming, highlighting 'technochauvanism' - the belief that technology is always right and is always the best solution. The book is brimming with examples both from her own experiences as well as from her own imagination, including an exercise of using machine learning to predict survivors on the Titanic. Making what can often be an impenetrable topic so accessible and engaging, Broussard opens this important subject up to all of us. The book is both educational and entertaining – surely the perfect combination!

"Turning real life into math is a marvellous magic trick, but too often the inconveniently human part of the equation gets pushed to the side. Humans are not now, nor have they ever been, inconvenient. Humans are the point. Humans are the beings all this technology is supposed to serve. And not just a small subset of humans either – we should all be included in, and benefit from, the development and application of technology."





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