



Dynamics 365 &  
Power Platform  
UK User Groups

# The Power of Mentoring in the Microsoft Power Platform ecosystem

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Presented by | Amy Hemingway, Sharon Smith, Keith Atherton, Bethany Marshall, Victoria Barrington



# TODAY'S STORY

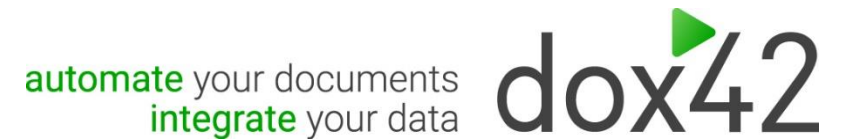
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1. The Power of Mentoring: Better Together
2. Independent Programs and / or Internal work-based Schemes
3. The Mentorship Experience: Timebound Cohorts and Unblocking sessions
4. Being a Mentee; being a Mentor; being Both
5. Best Practice: the Do's and the Don'ts
6. Success Stories
7. The Future: HeuristicDev: The Mentoring Hub
8. The Speaker Scheme: You Can't Be It Unless You Can See It
9. Your Opportunity to Shape the Hub's Services: what are we missing?



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# SPEAKER



## SHARON SMITH

Dynamics 365 Solution Architect, MVP & Founder

Dual Microsoft MVP: Business Apps. Founder, HeuristicDev: The Mentoring Hub.  
Women in Power (Platform) Mentorship Program Lead. Dynamics 365 Solution Architect



# SPEAKER



**KEITH ATHERTON**

— Power Platform Solution Architect & MVP —

Women in Power (Platform) Mentorship Program Lead, Microsoft Certified Trainer,  
User Group Leader, Power Platform Community Super User, LinkedIn Learning Instructor





# SPEAKER



## VICTORIA BARRINGTON

—Microsoft Dynamics Platform Engineer—

Women in Power Platform (mentor/mentee), Tech novice; operational and end user expert.  
Using Dynamics/Microsoft365, Power Platform, and Azure DevOps.



# SPEAKER



## BETHANY MARSHALL

Power Platform Consultant

History Graduate turned Microsoft Dynamics 365 CE & Power Platform Consultant |  
Women in Power (Platform) Mentorship Mentee (Cohort One) | Capgemini Internal Mentor



# SPEAKER



## AMY HEMMINGWAY

— Digital Project Delivery Team Lead —

Project Delivery Team Lead within the Microsoft Practice at delaware UK, and passionate UN Women UK Volunteer. A dynamic speaker and advocate for inclusivity, known for championing neurodiversity and accessible project delivery practices. With a strategic mindset and a community-driven approach, Amy fosters environments where collaboration and innovation thrive. Her voice on social platforms empowers women in tech and inspires professionals navigating the industry.



D365PPUG UK





# The Power of Mentoring: Better Together

# Independent Programs and / or Internal work-based schemes



# The Mentorship Experience

# Women in Power (Platform) Mentorship Program

- Initial Pairing & Kick-off
- Allies as well as women mentors
- Goal Setting: SMART goals
- Regular cadence of check-in meetings
- Mentees networking meet-ups
- Mentee-Mentor co-presentations
- Final Check-in
- Surveys, Certificates, & Celebrations



# Unblocking sessions



Follow-on  
check-in



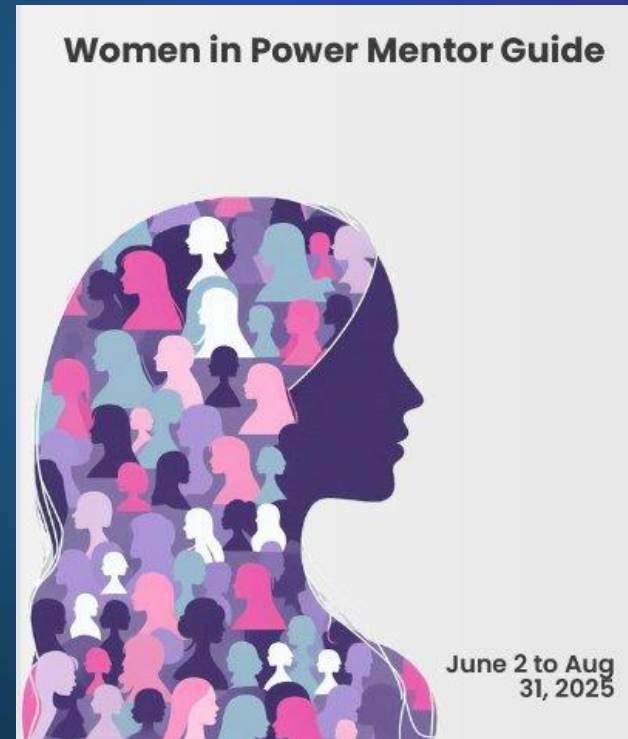
One-off sessions





# Success Stories

# Being a Mentee; Being a Mentor; Being Both



# Success stories!



**Victoria Barrington** ✓ • 1st

MS Dynamics Platform Engineer

1mo • 🌐



Cohort 2 of the [Women in Power \(Platform\)](#) programme came to an end in April and I was delighted to receive my mentee certificate yesterday. This opportunity was both exciting and daunting but I couldn't have been more delighted with the amount we've achieved in the last three months.

I've been on a professional and personal journey, going further outside of my comfort zone than I could've imagined. I've learned about the power of community, attended a number of user groups (two in person) and met some wonderful people.



# Success stories!



**Sarah Guest** • 1st

Power Platform Consultant | Qualified Teacher | Expertise in Microsoft Stack: SharePoi...

1mo •

I'm really pleased to share my experience with the [Women in Power \(Platform\)](#) mentoring scheme. Over the past few months I've not only developed my technical skills, but also made some truly wonderful friends who I'll be keeping in touch with long into the future.

At the same time, stepping into the mentor role has been equally rewarding. I looked forward to our catch-ups, loved our discussions, and have made plans to keep in touch with my lovely mentee as they continue their journey.

I've just signed up for Cohort 3 and can't wait to dive back in. If you're curious about getting involved – whether as a mentee seeking growth or a mentor wanting to give back – please drop me a message. This scheme has been truly life-changing!



# Best Practice: the Do's and the Don'ts



# Being a Mentee

## Do's

- ✓ Be Open-Minded
- ✓ Point your mentor in the right direction
- ✓ Stay Engaged
- ✓ Communicate Transparently
- ✓ Reflect and Apply

## Don'ts

- ⊗ Don't Be Passive
- ⊗ Don't Hesitate to Ask Questions
- ⊗ Don't Overlook Feedback
- ⊗ Don't Miss Meetings
- ⊗ Don't Set Unrealistic Expectations



## Do's

- ✓ Engage the mentee by listening and goal-setting
- ✓ Point your mentee in the right direction
- ✓ Celebrate with the mentee
- ✓ Be a teacher and a guide
- ✓ Show them the ropes

# Being a Mentor



## Don'ts

- ⊗ Talk more than you listen (within reason)
- ⊗ Discredit their goals and ambitions
- ⊗ Provide vague or unactionable feedback
- ⊗ Be overly positive
- ⊗ Break trust

# The Future HeuristicDev: The Mentoring Hub



# Registered Charity: in place by ESPC

“One connection can  
change everything.  
Start here.”



# The Speaker Scheme: You Can't Be It Unless You Can See It





# Mentoring new women speakers



# Your Opportunity to Shape The Mentoring Hub

# What service(s) are we missing?





# THANK YOU

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I look forward to connecting!



# QR Codes



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Agenda

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