

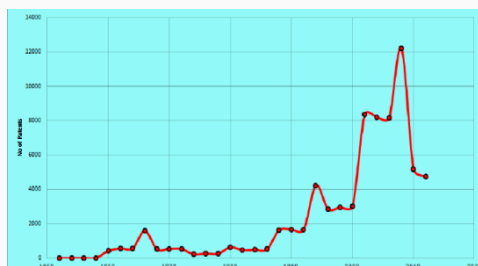


Dear All,

Welcome to the August edition of our newsletter. As always, any feedback will be highly valued. Just reply to this e-mail with your comments. If there is anyone else you think might be interested in receiving the newsletter, they can sign up with [this link](#).

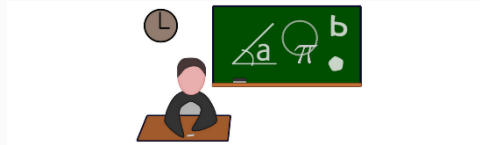
You can download this newsletter in PDF format [here](#).

Recent Blogs etc.



[Lasers and Artificial Intelligence](#)

Many technologies go through a period early in their development when there is a flurry of patents covering the basic technology. There is then a quiet spell with relatively few patents after which the technology takes-off with large numbers of patents being filed.



Schools Kill Creativity - Or Do They?

There are a lot of blogs out there saying that “Schools Kill Creativity” or words to that effect. Unfortunately, few of them offer any evidence for this point of view. The few that do, generally refer to a paper by Kyung Hee Kim, but the results presented in this paper are far from clear cut. So, what does the paper actually say?

This blog is also available on the [Perth Innovation website](#)



Why Don't Teachers Like Creative Pupils

I've heard this comment from innovation experts a few times recently and I am puzzled by it. I know many teachers (full disclosure – my wife is one) and without exception, they appear to be genuinely supportive of creativity in their classrooms. So, non-teacher creativity experts say that teachers don't support creativity and teachers say they do. Who is right? A paper by Westby and Dawson, covering two studies of teachers attitudes towards creativity, goes a long way to explaining this apparent conflict.

This blog is also available on the [Perth Innovation website](#)



Why We Don't Need an Innovation Culture

Over the last year or so, many people have written blogs, or LinkedIn posts, about how innovation is failing. The authors generally offer a simple solution – develop an “Innovation Culture”. They are not always clear what they mean by Innovation Culture but usually it involves giving freedom for creativity and being tolerant of failure. My gut feeling was that there is something wrong with this. I couldn't put my finger on what the problem was,

This blog is also available on the [Perth Innovation website](#)

Charity of the Month

This Charity of the Month section is intended to highlight local charities that at least one reader of this newsletter is worth supporting. Recently, I was at a meeting of Connect Aberdeen, where Myles Edwards gave a fascinating talk about the charity [Gathimba Edwards Foundation](#). This charity is a little unusual in that it is doubly - a local Aberdeen based charity supporting local support in Kenya. This is an extract from their web site front page:

Gathimba Edwards Foundation was set up to give kids in Kenya a chance.

With numerous projects across Kenya our aim is to help disadvantaged children get a start in life, whether it be food, education or shelter and giving them the opportunity to not only live their lives as children but also to develop as adults.

Please let me have your nominations for Charity of the Month. It should be a small charity near where you live or work. It does not have to be local to Perth in Scotland. e.g. if you live in Hong Kong, feel free to nominate a local Hong Kong charity.



Our Crowdfunder page is now in its final draft and Moovii are working on the animation for the campaign. If all goes well, we will be launching the campaign at the end of September. The campaign will have two aims:

1) To raise money to fund the next stage in the development of [The Concept Garden](#) application. It is a crowdfunding campaign after all, so it would be silly to try to deny this.

2) While the money is important for the development, equally important is input from potential users. I would like to use the Crowdfunding campaign as an opportunity for users to sign up to help guide the direction of development, I have suffered too often from software that appears to have been developed with little or no user input and want to avoid this with [The Concept Garden](#).

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