

Dare to Twitter?

You've probably heard the term 'Twitter' on many occasions over the past few weeks via the news, from colleagues or overheard conversations on the train and are wondering what all the hype is about. Well why not find out and take up the opportunity to test it out at the JISC Advisory Services Away Day with fellow colleagues?

What is Twitter

In its purest form, Twitter is an online service that allows you to post short descriptions (140 characters) outlining what you're up to, your thoughts and/or anything else you deem may be of interest to your dedicated followers.

Getting Started

- * Sign-up: <https://twitter.com/signup>
- * Provide name, username, password and email.
- * Twitter will ask to search one/or more of your email accounts for contacts already using Twitter. We'd recommend skipping this section (you may need to scroll down).
- * Begin following...

Following People

To get the most out of Twitter it's useful to start following some experts. This will get you used to the types of updates posted, **terminology** and general culture of the Twitter community. We'd recommend the following tweeple:



<http://twitter.com/stephenfry>



<http://twitter.com/bbctech>



<http://twitter.com/Lifehacker>

@ the AS Away Day

The **potential** of Twitter is phenomenal and it's well worth investigating how the tool might best support your own activities. We recommend the following for the JISC Advisory Services Away Day:

- * **Ask Questions.** Post a question based upon the day/sessions.
- * **Post Your Thoughts.** Let people know what you're thinking.
- * **Converse.** Discuss topics of interest with fellow colleagues.
- * **Twitpic.** Every picture tells a thousand stories!
- * **Lurk.** You may just like to listen ☺
- * **Feedback.** Provide organisers with away day feedback.

Why Not Follow Service Tweeples?



<http://twitter.com/andystew>



<http://twitter.com/sboneham>



<http://twitter.com/whaa>



<http://twitter.com/simonjball>



<http://twitter.com/zakmensah>



<http://twitter.com/owenpeteroberts>

Bringing It All Together

You can attribute a tag to one of your tweets using '#'. For example the tag #ASaway09 is currently in use for the JISC Advisory Services Away Day. Add this anywhere in your tweet and it will be aggregated within:

<http://search.twitter.com/search?q=%23ASaway09>

Supporting Software

It's well worth trying out a **Twitter Client!** Different clients offer different functionality so you may want to test out a few to find out which one suits you best.