

– User Groups –
What are they for?

How to get the best from one

Outline

- GP computing – a very brief history
- National Vision User Group
- User Groups
 - what are they for and
 - how to get the best from one

GP Computing history

1970 Dr John Preece had a computer in his consulting room

1975 Ottery St Mary Health Centre



Figure

Dr Jeremy Bradshaw Smith at Ottery St Mary health centre, which, in 1975, became the first paperless computerised general practice

GP Computing history

1970 Dr John Preece had a computer in his consulting room	1
1975 Ottery St Mary Health Centre	2
1980 National RCGP conference	<100
1982 RCGP-BMA Joint Computing Group	
1983 – 84 VAMP AAH Meditel founded	<300
1987 Free computers – in return for contributing data	
1989 Reimbursement of approved systems	20%
1992 Free computer systems collapsed	
1995 Vision launched	

GP Computing history

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GP Computing history

1987 Free computers – in return for contributing data

1989 Reimbursement of approved systems

1991 – 1997 GP Fundholding

1992 Free computer systems collapsed

1995 Vision launched

1996 *90% of practices had computer and 11% paperless*

2000 end of VAMP Medical

2003 New GP Contract

NVUG founded 1984 Oldest Independent User Group

- Monitoring the quality of service provided to members by [INPS](#).
- Advising INPS on software development
- Monitoring and influencing National Health Service Information Technology Policy.
- Providing conciliation services for any problems users have with INPS, THIN, or with the CPRD.
- Supporting and advising the General Practice Research Database ([CPRD](#)) and The Health Improvement Network ([THIN](#)).
- Providing advice and help on the best use of the systems.
- Holding a [National Conference and Roadshows](#).
- Maintaining and supporting web site and the [NVUG Forum](#)

Software

National
voice

User

Company
conduit

Training

Events

Support
Community

Questions

Who is the customer?

Who sets the
software agenda?

Independent from
company does it
matter?

Where do Boards
fit in?

What can only User
Groups provide?