



**Webarchitects
Co-operative
NEWSLETTER
Autumn 2018**

Webarchitects are ethical, green, free/libre/open-source software specialists. Honest advice, from real human beings! We offer online services, systems admin and hosting for all websites, with transparency. Check the status of our services at webarch.info.

Online talk

Webarchitects members can now share discussion in a **members' forum** at members.webarch.coop. It's open for all to read posts, but only members of our co-op are allowed to post.

There is also a co-operatively-run **Mastodon** social platform. This is similar to Twitter, with transparent and free software, run by Webarchitects member **social.coop**. They're among a growing list of members joining to share and develop code on git.coop, Webarchitects members' free code repository.

Co-operation in the clouds

The co-operative movement is offering alternatives to 'Big Tech', by investing in its own open-source software for shared online data storage. Webarchitects as a supplier of Nextcloud was mentioned in The Times: <https://community.coops.tech/t/cotech-in-the-press-media/930/15>. Webarchitects also gave a presentation, Building the Co-operative Cloud, during the Open:2018 conference on platform co-ops. Video of the workshop is available online here: <https://youtu.be/TOLmJezqxWs>.

Nextcloud now lets you chat

There are two new options for clients with our managed Nextcloud servers. One is an anti-virus app which can be installed. The other is a **Prosody** chat server running **XMPP** (the secure, privacy-focused open standard for messaging). Please contact us if this is of interest, or join the discussion on XMPP here. There's a help page for getting started with Nextcloud at <https://docs.webarch.net/wiki/Nextcloud> and we hope to add more help documentation to our wiki. We would welcome suggestions towards improving this useful facility.

Looking for work?

From time to time we're asked for services we don't specialise in, such as front-end website design. We try to share the work around our co-op members, and through the **CoTech** network. If you work in tech, why not get in contact and let us know what skills you have?

Sales report

Webarchitects' turnover rose last year by £15k, up to £66k thanks partly to networking through **CoTech's** 32 tech co-ops membership. Our work included migrating WordPress and Drupal sites for a college, and a major upgrade to their Moodle site. We also helped a national charity, setting them up with a **Discourse** online forum, after a Bitcoin-mining trojan attack on their previous website.

Dot.coop changes at Webarchitects

For some clients Webarchitects act as an Internet domain name reseller for **domains.coop**. Following a change in their backend systems, our committee has decided to cease this in the future (only for technical reasons; we do still strongly support use of services of other co-ops, as discussed in our members Discourse forum). Customers affected are being informed of the options available.

If you don't fully understand the Internet Domain Name system, Webarchitects offers a complete DNS update service which doesn't involve you filling in any complex forms.

For those with a good technical understanding, who want total control of their DNS setup, we offer access to an account on git.coop allowing use of git to manage the raw Bind Zone files and integrating domain name management into other processes. More information at: <https://community.coops.tech/t/git-hosting-for-co-operators-gitlab-at-git-coop/544/5> <https://www.webarchitects.coop/domain-names> and <https://docs.webarch.net/wiki/DNS>

Email on the move

Migration of email accounts to the new webarch.email Mailcow server is ongoing. Email customers are being contacted individually with details. We now have a help page for configuring the Free K-9 Android email client: https://docs.webarch.net/wiki/K-9_Mail

Could you advertise Webarchitects?

It's really appreciated when people recommend us to their friends and networks. Could you? We welcome new enquiries and talking things over. New customers make us ever more sustainable, and we've built many good long-term relationships from personal introductions. We have a range of flyers about our services, please ask if you could use some printed copies.

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