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Hello again and welcome to our first newsletter of 2019.

We like hearing from you so do let us know what you think of the newsletters, the programme or us.

Updates

If you miss having one of the Blue Tuesday updates, we may need to manually update your data to match the latest versions since an update includes changes in both the programme and your data.

We must warn you that doing a manual data update can be a time consuming process which, in certain circumstances, we may have to charge for, but we'll talk to you at the time should it be necessary.

Making Tax Digital (MTD)

Please would you check your Practice Details (in the Admin tab) to make sure that your VAT number is correct. The number will be essential for MTD and submissions could fail if it is either missing or wrong. If you need help, ask us.

We're on course to get MTD finalised by the due date. Because of Brexit, HMRC can't advise what the final requirements will be, and they've had to pull the support staff off the job for now (Brexit again), plus their fraud department have some concerns and want checks built in, but can't advise what they are yet. These factors are certainly not making our developers' jobs any easier, but we're still working on it and will continue to do so.

HMRC have reminded all registered software programmers that, although the regulatory implementation start date will be April 1st at the earliest, even people affected by that start date won't have to submit a return until at least July.

We understand that firms who fall within the MTD criteria will have to submit their own returns and that there will be no option to alter a figure once it has been entered into a return field.

Windows 7

Windows 7 was released on October 22nd, 2009, and Microsoft made a commitment to provide 10 years of product support. In line with this, they have now announced that they will discontinue support on January 14th, 2020 and that after this date, technical assistance and automatic updates that help protect your pc will no longer be available for Windows 7 users. They also suggest that pcs will be more vulnerable to security risks and viruses because of lack of updates.

Support for Internet Explorer on a Windows 7 device will be discontinued on the same date.

Not surprisingly, Microsoft recommend that users move to Windows 10 before the end of 2019 as you may need support or service which will no longer be available.

Windows 7 has known issues on supporting some software using internet links and it is possible that these software difficulties may increase as the support cut-off date approaches.

If you still have pcs which use Windows 7, contact your IT team for more details and help on this.

Recommendations

We've all had time to get used to GDPR now, and those of us who have complied watch in wonder at other firms who blatantly haven't.

Has it made us all more careful of giving out any details? Certainly.

Does it mean you can't mention us to other firms who are looking for new software? Certainly not!

We are doing some advertising, but are flattered and happy that many of our users have recommended Blue Tuesday to other firms. Thank you.