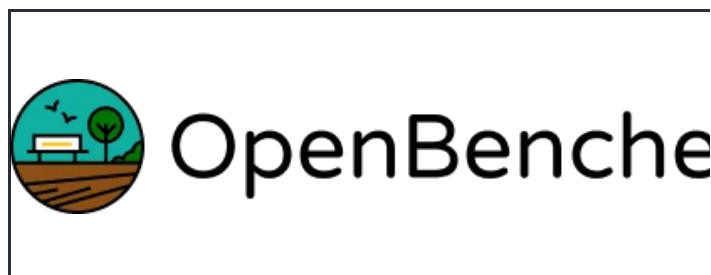
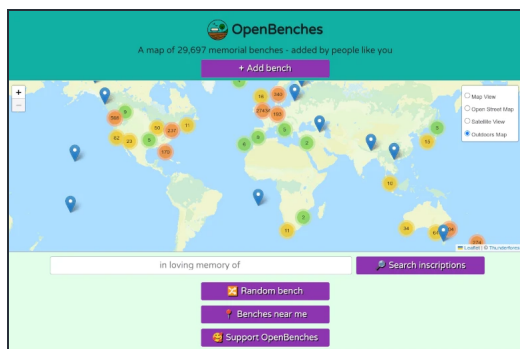




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Open Benches

How an independent open-source project was able to introduce people to memorial benches in their neighbourhood across the world, thanks to Krystal's easy to use hosting.



What was used?

*Open Benches
is about
celebrating
ordinary
people - and
that's how
we hope
the Internet
will evolve.
Elevating
all of us.*

Terence Eden

Co-founder, Open Benches

- + Linux
- + PHP
- + Symfony
- + OpenStreetMap

What did we see?

- Nearly 30,000 memorial benches marked around the world
- Open-source project built for anyone to participate in

Commemorating people around the world

Open Benches is an open-source project designed to provide a map of memorial benches around the world. People are able to mark where the benches are on a map, upload photos, and

write in all the details about the bench.

With nearly 30,000 benches marked around the world, from the Queenstown Airport in New Zealand to Dawson City in Canada, Open Benches gives visitors a chance to see how people want to remember those who have gone. They might not be famous historical figures, but someone wanted to commemorate them and the connection they had with them.

Building a crowd-sourced website

When Terence and Elizabeth Eden decided to create Open Benches, they knew they wanted to make this project crowd-sourced, giving people an

opportunity to upload their own photos, and help make a digital map of these physical commemorations. They also wanted to ensure it was as open-source as possible, using OpenStreetMap, PHP, and Symfony.

Because they knew this would be a project that could escalate quite quickly in terms of size, they needed a web host that would be fast, reliable, and cost-effective. They also wanted to make certain they had a host based in the UK. If they ever needed help, they wanted to make sure the team was available during their working hours, rather than trying to calculate time zones.

Our data centres powered by 100% renewable energy also made it easy to choose Krystal, with our tree planting also sealing the

deal, as memorial benches always do look better when surrounded by trees.

Help right when it was needed

Our tutorials helped immensely when setting up the site, including changing the PHP version, getting SSH connected, setting up one-click installations, and making sure everything was in order. On the few occasions Terence was stuck, the Support team was also on hand to answer any questions, making quick work of any problems.

And when it came time to upgrade due to the rapidly growing size of the site, including around 300GB of photos, it only took a few clicks to move up to a bigger plan, and at a price

that was excellent value for money.

Appreciating the world around you

Terence and Elizabeth hope that OpenBenches will only grow over the coming years, as more people discover the site and discover the history of their local communities. Even if it is just a bench that says "In loving memory of Billy, who would sit here for hours, staring into Robert Dyas, contemplating the sort of people who still actually bought SodaStreams."

**Share
this
story**



How can Krystal help you today?



E-commerce Hosting

Powerful hosting for online shopping

With unlimited storage space and bandwidth, our business hosting packages are PCI-DSS compliant, ISO 27001 accredited, and come with snapshot backups taken every 4 hours, a free domain name for the life of the plan, and 24/7 emergency phone support.



Managed Hosting

Expert solutions for your business

Krystal offers expert cloud consultancy and hosting services to enterprise-level organisations and businesses, helping them transform their IT solutions into powerful and resilient cloud-based infrastructure that lets you focus on what you do best.



Developer Hosting

The platform you need to build on

We're not just a hosting company, we're a skilled group of developers focused on creating a platform that's perfect for building your killer app, creating new applications, or tinkering with the latest programming language.



Krystoid



We plant the odd tree, too...

We've planted 4,615,839 trees,
which together take up an area
7,493 times bigger than the
combined footprint of all of our
data centre space globally!

Get more Greens! →



100% green web hosting

Yes, we obsess over our tech. But we also protect our planet.



Green energy

We use Ecotricity for our power, the first company in the UK to offer true 100% renewable energy.



Green data centres

All power consumed at our data centres comes from 100% renewable sources. All centres have achieved a PUE (Power Usage Effectiveness) rating of at least 1.2.



Green purpose

We work with key partners including Ecologi, veritree and 1t.org to create a path to a cleaner future. We balance profit with purpose and are a Certified B Corp.



Green leadership

We work as a beacon for positive change, so we help our staff go green by offsetting their lifetime carbon footprint, and encourage our industry to adopt a planet-first approach.

Exceptional support

 Start a live chat

Our award-winning support team are gifted problem solvers. Get in touch for fast, effective and honest responses that genuinely help.



1,135

● **Tickets** (last 7 days)

10 hours average resolution time

64% solved in first response



187

● **Calls** (last 7 days)

6 minutes average call duration time

< 30 seconds hold time target



352

● **Live Chats** (last 7 days)


3 minutes average wait time

36 minutes average resolution time

Last updated: Today at 15:01

 [View all stats](#)

We're rated Excellent

 4.8 out of 5 based on 1,864 reviews

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Over 20 years of experience have gone in to creating the perfect cloud hosting platform.



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