

Lessons I've learnt from my boss

By [Sally Pike](#)

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The start of a new year often brings with it moments for reflection. As the clock strikes twelve, we're offered an opportunity (even if it's more psychological than tangible) to dance off the cares of the previous year and twist into a new year with vigour, conviction, dreams, goals and plans.



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In honour of the transition that is leaving 2013 behind and embracing 2014, I took a moment to reflect on the lessons I've learnt from my boss, [Louise Worsley](#), over the past year.

Lessons I've learnt from my boss #1 Invest

At the start of every year; decide how you are going to invest in your personal development that year. Pick one course to attend/tool to master/challenge to overcome and invest in it - invest financially, with your time, with your mind and

develop your capability.

Lessons I've learnt from my boss #2 Engage others

Communicate, share ideas, work through challenges together, learn from the experiences of others, create a culture of investment in and connection to the work being done - this ultimately leads to greater commitment to work and a healthy team culture.

Lessons I've learnt from my boss #3 Tell a story

Want your team or superior to embrace your new idea/opinion/insight? Tell a story. When people listen to stories the part of their brain that empathises lights up, in other words they put themselves in your shoes and start to own the story. Don't be surprised if you suddenly hear your idea/opinion/insight repeated in the corridors, and if someone takes it as their own? Well, that just could be true influence in action.

Lessons I've learnt from my boss #4 Expertise and intuition come from exposure and openness to development

If you want to develop to a point where your instinctual decisions are the right ones, then you need to engage in more information sharing and less training, more decision-making exercises and less process learning, more story sharing and less lessons learned reports, more conversations with experts and less show and tell. Look at your/your teams development differently, engage, aim long-term don't just tick boxes.

May your 2014 be one where you find yourself managing situations with greater wisdom, growing in capability, confronting challenges with relish and leaping forward both personally and professionally.



ABOUT SALLY PIKE

passionate about human development, learner with insatiably curiosity, believer in community networks, strategically orientated and driven by a desire to do life well
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