

Hello Spiders

check bookmarks for contents/outline

Will Pollard

intro

This is a form of autobiography as a situation. So there may be some sense of time, but not much. Or not much sense of sequence. This will change in a later version with a different title.

This version starts with headings from a set of Swickis started last year. "Hello Spiders" was just a set of links on a diagram. What concerns me is now fairly well integrated with normal life, so working on the text could make this moreso. The Swickis are a combination of search engine and collaboration. Once set up they take their own form. The learn9 one (learning with ISO 9000) shows there is a connection between quality and learning.

There are also some "lenses" from Squidoo.

I have also shown where the blogs fit in, including some extracts. This started with one on IPEX 2002. Now it is about drupa 2008. So there are some future events within the scope of this situation. Earlier this year (July 2007) I was on an autobiography course, part of the summer at Lancaster University. They suggested reading **Slaughterhouse Five** by Kurt Vonnegut. I am also reading **Timequake** in which Vonnegut imagines being alive in 2010. This is not so much of a stretch at this time so I am assuming much the same.

The blogs are a mess. I intend to avoid starting up any more of them so the scope may change. They are shown within the headings for the Swickis. But I have increasing confidence in blogs as a format. Most of them have places for comments. This text will become more fixed but there will be connections with the blogs.

The websites are also shown. These go back a while and are not always updated. Probably more people look at them but the blogs seem more urgent somehow. I hope to develop a style so that the websites have more permanent material. Often the news story stays the same essentially though a few details alter. I have not found a way to archive this so search engines may have annoying results.

I spend a lot of time reading the *Guardian*, in hard copy and online. I have engaged a lot with Talk so there are links sometimes. Also I have a PDF record of topics either deleted or in danger. I prefer Talk to "Comment is Free" as the readers like me get a chance to choose the agenda.

I went to the first OhmyNews Forum on citizen journalism in 2005. I see this as fairly central to what I am working on. I have written stories since 2004. I find the comments from the editors useful in developing ideas. The context of OhmyNews International is the Korean version which started with the first territory well covered by broadband. The technical capability is now available in the UK but I don't think the social basis for citizen journalism is appreciated yet.



citizen-journalism

The third OhmyNews Forum has ended in July 2007 but I can't find enough on the web to give me any sense of what is new. This just makes more sense of the idea of looking at a current situation and not worrying if the presentation is from 2005.2006 or 2007.

I was in Seoul for about four days in 2005. Then I have followed developments online. I think they have dropped the tours of technology sites from later events as they took up too much time. But I found this fascinating. The Samsung museum has a context of what has already happened alongside a showroom of future products.

I have written some cultural stories about pop, folk music and Open House in London. But mostly about trade shows in the UK. These cover e-learning, print and computers. I have found that I can cover trade shows outside the UK. At first I thought i could get help on Chicago from another citizen reporter. It turned out because of deadlines that there was no time to add anything other than what I found on the web about a Chicago print show. But meeting people at Seoul gave me confidence. Since then I write about events that relate to UK shows. This is one reason I am losing track of time.

Some example stories-

[Open Source Graphics meets Quality Assurance](#)

[Bloomsbury and the Struggle with Web Economics](#)



blogs citizen
journalism digital
media participatory
media social
networks we media
Web 2.0
read/write web

Comment on Organ Grinder "citizen journalism" debate -

January 23 2006

Guardian website

http://blogs.guardian.co.uk/organgrinder/2006/01/the_citizen_journalism_debate.html

For some time I have posted to a topic on Guardian Talk- media- new media - OhmyNews Forum.
<http://mediatalk.guardian.co.uk/WebX?13@ohmynews@.7747ecc2/25>

I am amazed that the discussion so far seems to be about casual photos or tips for tourists. The point about citizen journalism is to allow citizens to have a voice.

Why is the Talk bit (a *Guardian* message exchange) a closed world for actual proper *Guardian* journalists? Surely it would be possible for staff to reply to some of the points raised?

Some mention of this event on the OhmyNews topic for example. I only found this through Emily Bell's print copy today.

On *Guardian* Talk I have written about the PDF / online subscription versions of the *FT* and *Guardian*. No news really on the ABC figures for digital. I think this Talk has included more than appears in *Guardian* print on the actual situation of web / print news circulation. Jeff Jarvis says more on his blog than in print and benefits from the comments he gets by publishing online up to a week earlier. I refer of course to the last presses article, quote of the year 2005 not spelt out in the printed version.

I have written several stories for **OhmyNews** about media and print. They do allow opinion in with the reporting. I have tried options like letters to Printweek etc. but they do not have the same effect. Not all stories for OhmyNews are featured on the starting pages, but not much is deleted.

This week there is a forum for Al Jazeera that includes a session on citizen journalism. I have done a report for OhmyNews. Searching on "jazeera forum" in Google News shows this and The Peninsula, published in Qatar

http://www.thepeninsulaqatar.com/Display_news.asp?section=Local_News&subsection=Qatar+News&month=January2006&file=Local_News2006012963440.xml

keep scrolling down.

Chances of mainstream reporting on this event? Time will tell.

Probably something from Blairwatch

<http://www.blairwatch.co.uk/node>

There will be another **OhmyNews** Forum sometime this summer, maybe June at a guess.

Posted by will789 on January 30, 2006 10:29 AM.

In my opinion Guardian coverage of citizen journalism has got more hostile over time, even as some of the approach is adapted by the Guardian website. Marcel Berlins December 2006

South Korea has a news website, OhmyNews, that uses "citizen journalists" to provide most of its material. It has some 40,000 non-professional contributors; they are, of course, untested and unvetted, their submissions unchecked, their motives unknown. The reader of the website can have no idea about the accuracy of the information on it; yet it is one of the main sources of news for South Koreans.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/Columnists/Column/0,,1975771,00.html>

wwwatford

Watford is an imagined destination for the printing industry. Rather like Memphis or Cairo for the people who work with Microsoft products. Apparently some of the features in Windows servers are still expected.

Having worked in print I am still interested in hard copy. Many people are moving almost entirely online and working with sound and vision. But I think print is still part of the mix. I wrote an [article](#) for the Institute of Paper, Printing, and Publishing about the last two Seybold Seminars held in Amsterdam.

I don't think print can be promoted as an alternative to the web. But is complementary and design needs to cover both. And other media as well though they seem more likely to end up as just part of the web.

drupa in 2008 may be a better imagined destination at this time. It has some reality to it. I have been to some previously so have an idea as to how it could be. Previously I have seen presentations about the Adobe PDF Print Engine but drupa 2008 will be the first time actual examples of workflows will be shown with a range of choices. At IPEX 2006 Stephan Jaeggi commented that Adobe should have done this ten years previously, a PDF workflow complete. So this is where time travel comes in. There could be some rehearsal at Digital Print World, London, later in 2007.

Gradually the websites for Acrobat Services UK and Acrobat Services.com are moving away from print. The UK one is more or less based on UK reality. The dotcom is closer to Adobe imagination about bandwidth and Flash etc. It may be somewhere in the future, not necessarily the USA. I have met people from the USA who find bandwidth just as much of a problem as in the UK.

Acrobat Services UK

Acrobat Services dotcom



acrobat IPEX jdf
job definition format
wwwatford
XML open document pdf
postscript print



Later in 2006 I tried to do more formal search engines with Google Co-op. These are tighter than Swickis but maybe not as open.

[JDF Search Engine](#) (Job Definition Format) [PDF Search Engine](#)

Squidoo lens - [Job Definition Format](#)

From the IPEX 2002 blog

April 2002

http://ipex2002.blogspot.com/2002_04_14_archive.html

April 18th

On Wednesday I finally got round to spending time at the Cross Media Theatre. Unfortunately the BT speaker was ill so it turned out to be non-stop Adobe. The carrier bag featured hard copy on InDesign, a special from Macworld and Digit. However much 'broadband' had featured on other days, Adobe appeared to be concentrating on strengths relevant for the show. Sessions on Photoshop or Illustrator seemed to come back to integration with InDesign. There was much confidence that people now have a choice for page makeup. We were even invited to visit the Quark stand provided our first question was about tables. There were no suggestions that there would be a problem in Quark with placing PDF or creating PDF so presumably no such problems exist.

Attention was drawn to a Macworld article on typography-

"The art of good typography waned when DTP took over from typesetters, and it has taken more than a decade to recover. Now that the industry has learnt how to 'do it yourself', it's time to relearn how to 'do it right'."

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Last day of the show but here are three stands to visit you may miss if you happen to be at IPEX.

Sansui Software (Hall 5 Stand 555) offer several innovative products for integrated print and web publishing. The background knowledge seems to be how to use XML and plug-ins for Quark and InDesign. They support both Mac and Windows. One of their projects has been to write forms design software for Ascent (Hall 4 stand 222) as a plug-in for InDesign. PDF is part of the workflow and you can gather the speed differences in PDF creation given a choice of InDesign or Quark.

www.sansuisoftware.com

Founder Electronics (Hall 4, Stand 739) are at IPEX for the first time. Based at Peking University they fully support Postscript Level 3. ElecRoc provides an open JDF-based workflow and consists of four key technologies: JDF, XML database, PDF, and the Internet. Founder Electronics is a member of CIP4. Weisman Jia Wenhua, General Manager of the International Business Division, said "We hope that IPEX will introduce our high quality software to a broad range of pre-press and printing companies as well as help us forge long-term business partner relationships".

www.founder.com.cn

IBM (Hall 5 Stand 181) seems to have been overlooked in the attention paid to colour digital printing from Heidelberg, Xerox and HP. They are turning out black on white books very effectively. The covers and the random halftones are all the same but the contents vary so check carefully in case there is one you'd like. They also offer a Job Ticket plugin for Acrobat which saves as a .JDF file.

www.ibm.com/printers

These will also be at drupa 2008

anti-performativity

"Anti-performativity" is a word that sums up a point of view shared by a number of academics, including the UK. I put this section before "learn9" because these are issues to get past before linking quality and learning.

A lot of UK academics who study learning share the views of Wilkinson and Wilmott (1995), that the word "quality" has no meaning and is part of a rhetoric to impose a neo-liberal agenda. I have tried to get on a Lancaster course about management learning but have never managed to show sufficient reason to link to quality.

The most recent attempt was a paper for a 2006 conference on the Knowledge Economy, organised by the Institute for Advanced Studies. This included a section on "British Origins of Anti-Performativity". Briefly I think there are some people on the staff of business schools who would rather work somewhere else. They do have a point in a critique of business, but students expect to work as managers so relevance is an issue.

The paper was titled

"Learning Organisations, Now with Quality Assurance" link to [PDF](#) ..

Foucault Habermas performativity
anti-performativity
business schools CMS critique



Extract from the paper, Learning Organisations, now with Quality Assurance

British Origins of Anti-Performativity

Part of the critique of quality ideas is an objection to 'managerialism' and 'performativity'. The approach is based mostly on analysing something like 'quality' as language on the assumption that it disguises something else. A sentence such as "The Knowledge-Based Economy (KBE) conjures a world of smart people, in smart jobs, doing smart things, in smart ways, for smart money, increasingly open to all rather than a few. It has become the dominant economic strategy for many countries, regions, and cities and is endorsed by many economic, political, and social forces." may mean that KBE is the latest version of neo-liberal propaganda or an attempt at 'corporate culture'. It could be doubted that anything 'managerial' would ever appeal to academics in a tradition where vocational knowledge is only recently accepted as part of the scope. Critical Management Studies (CMS) has strength in the UK, something that calls for explanation. The traditions of British education may be connected with how it survives.

Since 1995, 'Making Quality Critical' has defined attitudes to quality for many academics concerned with management learning. As part of critical management studies it is intended as a challenge to any unthinking acceptance of quality ideas. For someone working with quality assurance the book often seems lacking in sympathy. My impression now is that the CMS project is concerned with 'corporate culture' as a general theme and that quality is just one aspect of this.

Recently *Management Learning* included a debate about CMS, starting with 'For Management' by Stewart Clegg and others. They write that CMS has a 'non-performative' intent, where 'performativity' is seen as "a means-end rationality where what is valued is the maximisation of outputs for minimum input". "Antiperformativity" may have some idea about action or involvement but I cannot understand what it is. Nelson Phillips comments on the 'positioning of the critic in relation to the object of study and its practitioners' as 'central to the identity work that goes on within CMS. This identity through distancing may relate to the perception that CMS 'demonises managers'. In a reply Hugh Willmott characterised the starting position in 'entertaining, knockabout stuff' terms as an 'anti-management stance ascribed to CMS'- 'any support for management is a support for technocratic desires for performativity'; management is both totalising and "bad".

This summary may have been intended to show that CMS could not possibly be so simple, but actually I am inclined to accept the statements as a starting point, based on things I might say myself.

"CMS is said to demonize quality managers"

learn9

"learn9" is about learning with ISO 9000. I worked as a quality manager for a print organisation on ISO 9000. Some say that ISO 9000 is of limited value, tending only towards conformance. But it seems to me that it would be possible to learn from a quality system. I have tried to work on similar ideas though find mention of ISO 9000 is not always a useful way to start a conversation.

As mentioned in the section on "anti-performativity", I have not been able to get on a course about management learning. But I have done some modules.

1996	Adult Teaching and Learning	Exeter, Adult Education
2000	Management and Implementation of ITC	Exeter, St Lukes Telematics
2002	e-learning for enterprise	UMIST

I am a member of the Chartered Quality Institute and have attended meetings of the Deming Special Interest Group. I find they are prepared to mix learning, quality and systems in ways that seem rare in an academic context.

I have done papers for conferences at Lancaster where ideas about quality and learning were discussed. More or less, I repeat the same sort of structure or loop. getting past go is still the problem. So the section on "anti-performativity" is still relevant.

2001	Is ISO 9000 worth another look?	pdf
2003	Management, values and Dr Deming	pdf
2006	Learning Organisations, now with Quality Assurance	pdf

2005 There was also a proposal for a [paper](#) for a conference on leadership in Further Education. This was not accepted but the ideas are part of the trend with the others..
"How learning centres adapt to work with the technologies around e-learning"



Things may get more clear around the time of Online Information in December 2007

Google search engines on [Quality](#) and [Learning](#)

Part of a report for OhmyNews from Online Information 2006

http://english.ohmynews.com/articleview/article_view.asp?article_class=4&no=332841&rel_no=1

The acceptance of blogs is evidenced in the ways that the show is reported. The official Web site shows a link to the [IWR blog](#). Last year there was a temporary blog just for the event. The IWR blog will continue year round and extends the authority of a print publication. The print version now has a "blogosphere" section on the back page and the David Tebbutt comment reflects online discussion. [Information Today](#) started to blog the event in 2003 and this year includes many photos. Their blog indicates that blogging was still an experiment in 2004, but 2005 was the first year that some press members added the word "blogger" to their badges.

The move toward e-books is only the start of a change in how knowledge is created. Text and other content online can be presented in many formats and combined for new purposes. Last year's keynote address by David Weinberger, "Everything is Miscellaneous," continues to be influential. He has now completed a [book](#) that is being edited for publication next year by Times Books. It may seem odd that an argument about how the audience can influence categories should be in the form of a printed book. However, this just demonstrates the blended nature of positions on learning and knowledge.

In this year's keynote address, Tom Stewart spoke about the speed of change, customer power and low-cost competition. He also discussed decision-making under uncertainty and management without supervision, an environment in which Weinberger's approach to sharing knowledge could contribute. There is more on the keynote address in the [Information Today](#) blog.

[Trexu](#) won the Best Specialty Search Award for their search trails technology that builds on the results of previous searches.

Nigel Hamilton said, "We want to give information professionals the power to remember and share their search trails on all the online engines they use. Having someone with expert knowledge of an information repository helps provide real authority when it comes to information retrieval. Librarians are natural trailblazers."

The "trail" is a term based on work by Vannevar Bush in 1945, describing trailblazers as "those who find delight in the task of establishing useful trails through the mass of the common record." At a seminar, Hamilton explained that the aim is about "advancing the knowledge that we have. It is not about the information. It is about what people do with the information."

Megan Hamilton explained more on the approach: "Online communities are being built around social search tools. Online searchers now decide what a good search result is, and harnessing this communal effort can contribute to expert knowledge being shared among users. With Trexu, users can also follow the anonymous search trails of other Trexu users, or as we call them, "trailblazers," to quickly pinpoint information without having to do all the searching themselves. The idea behind Trexu is that if someone creates a meaningful trail, others will follow in it. This means that the more people accessing the trail over time, the more relevant it will become in the results."

In a keynote address for the e-publishing strand, [Kate Worlock](#) compared publishing with Web 2.0 ideas and saw many opportunities, although there are few examples of publishers taking advantage of it. She acknowledged O'Reilly Media both as a source for the Web 2.0 concept and for the success of the Rough Cuts series, where readers pay for the chance to suggest changes in an unfinished text. There are probably not many publishers with a strong enough connection to their audience to attempt something similar. The Safari project of online texts may be a better value as

there is no assumption that a text is final as with a printed book. In London, the Friday Project is an example of a book publisher working from Web content. [Beer in the Evening](#) is a pub guide based on user generated content.

Several examples came from Nature Publishing and the keynote address was followed by Greg Suprock, Nature's emerging technology director. He confirmed that [Connotea](#) can be compared with del.icio.us for bookmarks and that [Dissect Medicine](#) compares with digg for news. Some of the new Nature projects are not yet viable but they help to create communities around the brand. Alexandria is the real estate sponsor for [Nature Network Boston](#) and there are plans to launch Nature Network London next year. Suprock described the Nature approach as "considerably different than traditional journal publishers."

Part of Kate Worlock's presentation to explain Web 2.0 was a comparison of the Encyclopaedia Britannica with Wikipedia. However, there are some changes, as Britannica gets ready for a January launch of a new Online School Edition at BETT, an event for British educational technology. Developed with Azzurri, the [Talmos Britannica](#) includes class administration features and allows staff to collaborate in producing lessons from Britannica and other sources. There are 100,000 web links to selected sites such as NASA. There may be discussion at BETT on how collaboration software could be used by students as well as staff.

In his 1945 article "As We May think," distributed at the show by Trexy, Vannevar Bush predicted that "Wholly new forms of encyclopedias will appear, ready made with a mesh of associative trails running through them, ready to be dropped into the memex and there amplified." Trexy explain a memex as "an enhanced supplement to personal and community memory."

itc

ITC is a continuation from when I worked for London ICOM, funded by the Greater London Council. The letters probably stand for IT co-op. the members were the people involved in a database of London worker co-operatives that later covered the UK. Telecoms was discussed during the time of the GLC but mostly we dealt with a floppy disc in the post or an envelope with mailing labels. We also supplied data for directories so were involved in photosetting. Also letraset and Cow gum.

The co-op stopped existing when it got too expensive to maintain. I currently work with Jon Mackie on Exetreme, a very small co-op for web design. We continue the domain itc.coop to link back to uses of technology for co-operation.

Currently I find the open source and creative commons movements relate to co-operative ideas without always realising this. I think the classic co-operative movement could gain a lot from checking out what is happening on the web. There is a lot of connection already but even more potential.

itc.coop



(Web 2 Amsterdam) and eTEN

This is from 2005

Earlier proposals have contributed to proposals for eTEN, see the eTEN page at Acrobat Services.com. There is no formal project proposed for eTEN but some ideas relate to the eTEN research. eTEN has ideas about content as well as networks of telecoms. Recent ideas about PDF require broadband. Psand have worked on wi-fi and satellite and have demonstrated that web access is possible in Europe.

Ideas for eTEN have changed with new information from Seybold Seminars, twice held in Amsterdam as well as San Francisco. Seybold has covered web developments relevant for publishing. Some EU projects benefit from awareness of what is already available in the USA. At Seybold Europeans have contributed a lot of knowledge on pre-press and open source approaches to PDF.

There was no Seybold Amsterdam in 2005. Much of the material from previous events is available for download. See the yearlong site at www.seybold365.com . It seems attention has moved on to Web 2 in San Francisco. Maybe this will turn up in Amsterdam sometime later.

Below are some of the ideas mentioned previously on this site and relating to eTEN and other EU projects. If there are resources available from the social economy it would be useful to encourage more people to go to future Seybold events. There could also be meetings based on available materials.

PDF, the second decade

Currently the PDF functions developed in the first decade are fairly well accepted but the recent introductions are still very expensive. So most co-op sites have some PDF and most people browsing have the Acrobat Reader. There is actually much more to the Reader than most people are using but there is not much point to a grant aided proposal around this.

The new server software from Adobe and others could be useful for another level of collaboration and data transfer. It may be that large co-op organisations such as banking and insurance would be interested. The Adobe products are still expensive but there may be some alternatives, including an 'open source' approach.

Scanning and new material

There could be a budget for new materials and some scanning. This would probably cover original artwork and Capture processing. Meanwhile there may be more links to existing material in PDF.

Clifford Harper currently illustrates the Country Diary for the Guardian. His books are available from Agraphia. There is a download of another illustration [here](#).

Online Collaboration

It is possible there will soon be several providers of internet services where collaboration can be supported. For more information on this look at the Adobe site. Currently 'collaboration' is the main feature of Acrobat Standard. (The Reader has limited options ; Professional has other stuff as well)

Collaboration and Learning

The collaboration features of Acrobat 5 could link with ideas about collaborative and co-operative learning. It is unclear what the copyright situation is with material on co-operative learning. There are briefing papers on collaborative learning at the OU's Institute of Educational Technology site-

animxtra

Exeter has had an animation festival for several years. i have tried to make connections with digital technology for creating animation and web links for promotion and distribution. One aspect has been that this sort of content has helped to support the growth of bandwidth. At internet cafes, see section on "ubiquity", I have met people who know about the demoscene, amazing stuff that has worked within the capacity of the dial-up era. Very small code is the aim, but it looks fantastic through direct control of the graphics chip. Not that I understand it too much but since I first found it there are easier ways to watch. Demoscene TV and YouTube for example.

The formal Animation scene is still mainly interested in stop frame and film as far as I can tell. But it is now possible to have a parallel scene online.

[Website](#) was called Animex but Exeter City Council are concerned not to clash with another event in [Middlesborough](#). So now called "animxtra".

During 2006 and 2007 it has become clear that bandwidth can cope with full length movies, not just short animation. I am also interested in flat images, often quite small files. So the scope of the blog at least may get wider.



The Modem Festival started in 1996 and has not been formally closed. It aimed to link film festivals as found in the International Film Guide.

Thursday, July 12, 2007- From Animexeter.blogspot.com

A New Canvas, notes for Sundown

Thinking about an online guide to digital animation it strikes me that the top problem is the lack of availability of the classic stuff. For some reason the kind of work covered in A New Canvas is very rarely shown and is also very hard to find on the web. It seems to have the same sort of status as an ancient oil painting, best kept in the dark away from anybody except a distinguished academic.

Seriously though, why is it thought this style is suited to film and more or less film only. I may be repeating myself from previous posts but I feel certain that computer distribution would have been used in 1967 onwards had it been available.

The demoscene stuff is getting easier to access. A dedicated web TV channel. Versions on YouTube. A big screen at a party is much much better so the YouTube versions are in no way damaging parties as events, any more than MySpace damages live music. By the way, exhibitions of oil paintings can also benefit from online versions in reasonable resolution.

So plan A is to find at least some still images in time for Sundown. Not sure when it is, but summer has not started yet so there must be a few months to come.

Aim is to show some connection demoscene / new canvas. Maybe this will be an occasion to discuss archiving, preservation, distribution.

Not wanting to upset anyone by directly ripping off graphics, here are some links.

A New Canvas

Cibernetik 5.3- 1961-65, USA, 16mm, colour, sound, 8 min. John Stehura

Charles Csuri - Hummingbird -1967

Computeranimation, Microfilm Plotter, Film übertragen auf DVD, 10 min - Charles Csuri

Lillian Schwartz Papillons -1973 - music by Max Mathews,

John Whitney Biographical Page -Digital Harmony-still and Quicktime extract

what about some complete stuff somewhere?

Friday, July 13, 2007

John Whitney on YouTube

Update to yesterday's post, John Whitney is on YouTube. Arabesque.

My memory is that a previous example did disappear. Maybe you should be quick to see this. Who knows?

In a sensible world, everything from the early days of computer animation would be on YouTube. But this cannot be guaranteed.

ubiquity

"Ubiquitous" is a word I first became aware of through OhmyNews and Korea. at first I thought it a bit strange as I don't think many people in England were still using it. That was around 2004. Since then it has been used much more often to describe a condition of web availability. In Korea they are thinking about mobile devises and video. All the evidence is that they will continue to invest with government support. I think Europe and the UK are some way behind, but "ubiquity2 is a real phenomenon.

"wi-fi" has been discussed for a while. I have people from [Psand](#) who have demonstrated wi-fi and satellite broadband since 2002. This has been mostly at summer events around the broadcast of music. According to an official Intel survey, Exeter scored as the leading UK city for the number of hotspots per head of population. This may be because of the number of games machines in pubs with a possible link to the Cloud that few people use. I have done a blog about "[wi-fi Exeter](#)" that covers what happens but also links to other places.

There are plans for an Exeter TV, with cable or satellite. Meanwhile short video turns up on YouTube, some from Exeter TV. There is a time gap, especially when editorial standards are maintained. So this is not really ubiquity but part of the time travel approach of this document. In theory more rapid communication will be possible in the future.

Jeff Jarvis on [Buzzmachine](#) recently described the possible consequence of web availability for education.

"I keep coming back to the idea that the next institution to explode — after media, advertising, consumer companies, politics, and government — is the academe. This will have profoundly disruptive implications for both education and research. But why shouldn't educational institutions — especially publicly funded ones — follow the lead of MIT and other universities and put their curricula online? And wouldn't it be ducky if there were a good, standard infrastructure for doing so and even for joining in with other online students? And, of course, why shouldn't we all be able to create courses to share?"

This interest me as it would change the way people think about learning and quality, and the way that print fits with the web. The next text I work on will be called "The Going Of the Book" and will have more of a chronology.



Time Travel

There may be an equivalence for ubiquity in terms of time. Certainly dates seem to matter less. Maybe this is just because I am thinking about the past. I am reading *Timequake* by Kurt Vonnegut as well as *Slaughterhouse Five*. Dipping into both in no particular order though I have read them once through. Not why sure the end of the *Timequake* needs to be so dramatic. There is just a repeat somewhere in the middle of the story, that could be enough for a structure. Some of it reads like a blog. in my opinion. More on this later.

I started with the idea of still being alive in 2010. In this version of a text I will just concentrate on the rest of this year. Events much like last year would include Online Information, Digital Print World, Google University at AdTech and the Deming Special Interest Group. Maybe the issues around them will be presented and discussed online and outside the UK. So they can be imagined in no particular order. This year there may be no House of Commons debate about the printing industry but this could still happen during Digital Print World at the Futures Conference. Future fiction could include an exhibit taking up all of Earl's Court, with print at the back and publishing upfront. Upstairs for software and agents. Main benefit would be ease of access to the London College of Communications conference, not have to walk round the building a couple of times.

I did a week's course on autobiography as part of the Lancaster University Summer Programme. Apparently it is normal to make up dialogue but clarity is useful when venturing into fiction. I may go back to Lancaster again for some reflection. I think video interviews could be a form of autobiography as it gives people a chance to say something different to what you might expect. So life could turn out better than remembered.

Adobe will have some UK meetings I will try to attend. Usually they repeat what was online previously. Relating them to the UK requires other events as well. They prefer a closed world. Online Information will be an occasion to assess how far a Flash web has become part of the world of information. There is unlikely to be any Adobe stand.

Jimmy Wales will be the keynote speaker this year and this raises issues about knowledge authority. Sometime soon there may be a UK review of "Everything is Miscellaneous" by David Weinberger, keynote speaker a couple of years ago. Weinberger uses the words "official" and "grassroots" to describe ways of organising knowledge. There is no reason they cannot exist together. Something similar happens with academic ideas about knowledge in 'mode 1' for academic disciplines and 'mode 2' for practitioners. This needs a lot of further discussion. Recently UK journalists such as Guy Kewney in IT Week have written favourably about "The Cult of the Amateur", claiming that the bloggers etc. are a threat to proper journalism. Guy Kewney also works on newswireless.net where there is some tolerance for gossip. Last year, The Hunky Mouse was supposed to cover IMS, the technology section at the back of Online Information. Someone from newswireless may turn up this year but I intend anyway to draft out some fiction as if they did. Wireless networking devices are not a large part of the show but actually have a larger role in knowledge creation that is realised in most IT support departments. The Hunky Mouse may well recognise the value of "grassroots" as well as "expert" approaches to knowledge. My problem with Mode 1 is that "management learning" seems to be an entirely different academic subject to "quality". Practitioner space is useful for breaking this down.

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