

Hello Spiders

check bookmarks for contents/outline

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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 normal, 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. 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. Later this month (July 2007) I am on an autobiography course. part of the summer at Lancaster University. They suggest 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 of the editors useful in developing ideas. The context of OhmyNews International is the Korean version which started with the first territory 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 just ended (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

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](#)



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](#)

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



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](#)

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



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.

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.

