

Supporting the Health Researcher of the Future

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Presentation Plan

- The Context of Research Support (AB)
- The Potential of Web
 2.0 (AB)





 What we are doing in ScHARR/Yorkshire & Humber (AT)

The Way Forward? (AB)

Questions (AB/AT)



The Context of Research Support

Andrew Booth



From Gamekeeper....







Researchers' Use of Academic Libraries and their Services

- Significant differences of perceptions and views between researchers and librarians
- Communication channels need to be improved. How?
- Research community uses social networking to exchange and share research-based information.
- Role of libraries presently ill-defined.
- Researchers don't readily recognize content on their desktop is provided through library.

Researchers' Use of Academic Libraries and their Services A report commissioned by the Research Information Network and the Consortium of Research Libraries



Research habits

Users "power-browse" or skim material, using "horizontal" (shallow) research. Most spend only a few minutes looking at academic journal articles and few return to them. "It almost seems that they go online to avoid reading in the traditional sense,"

Not just "screenagers". "Undergraduates to professors....exhibit a strong tendency towards shallow, horizontal, flicking behaviour in digital libraries. Factors specific to the individual, personality and background are much more significant than generation."

INFORMATION BEHAVIOUR OF THE RESEARCHER OF THE FUTURE



Researchers information literacy training should focus on information management, not information retrieval – 1 (Booth, 2007)

- Inappropriate to meet IL needs of researchers using instruction methods based on undergraduates;
- Researchers do not follow neat stepwise progression from state of unknowing ("information need") to knowing that underpins most IL instruction.
- Information management, rather than information retrieval, should be focus of IL instruction for researchers.



Researchers information literacy training should focus on information management, not information retrieval – 2 (Booth, 2007)

- Information retrieval should focus on "area scanning", footnote chasing and known author searching rather than keyword searching
- IL training should be "socialised" through formal collaborationand integration with existing research programmes or research groups.
- Training should focus on practically based outcomes e.g. production of log book or portfolio.
- Training should optimally be tailored to individual and delivered at time of need.



RIP - Library as Place

 "the library has changed from being the place for researchers to visit for help with information searching and for picking up the actual information, to being the "living room" for undergraduate students, making the researchers who visit the library feel outnumbered, and sometimes unwelcome."

Haglund and Olsson (2008)



Rethinking the Library Web Site

 "Libraries spend huge amounts of time and money to work on the structure and content of the library Web page, while few researchers use it as a starting point for information searching.
 Many researchers....used the Web of their own department as a starting point, and this is where the library should establish a presence with direct links targeted to that particular group".

Haglund and Olsson (2008).



The Potential of Web 2.0

Andrew Booth



The Health Researcher of <u>Today</u>:

- Expects service that optimizes benefits of technology:
 - anywhere,
 - anytime,
 - personalized,
 - at the point of need,
 - instantly.
- Requires services that are seamless, integrated and open access



Web 2.0

- Includes specific applications that actively engage users (advanced searches for information and production of information).
- Young predominant early users of social networking and user-generated content.
- Social networking sites mainly used for simple social interactions but sometimes linked to information searches.
- Not only Google Generation display advanced online behaviour. Other "Generations" also able and willing to engage in complex online activities.
 INFORMATION BEHAVIOUR OF THE RESEARCHER OF THE FUTURE



Impact of Web 2.0

- Blogs, wikis, podcasts, social networks/other online features offer new educational opportunities.
- Application of e-learning technologies is evolving. More than publishing content online dynamic learning environment in which to actively share knowledge and...experiences.
- Blogs, wikis and social networking stimulate dynamic and proactive engagement in learning (or indeed investigation!) process.
 - INFORMATION BEHAVIOUR OF THE RESEARCHER OF THE FUTURE



Some Candidate Web 2.0 Applications

- One stop shops Wikis & Portals
- Project-based Blogs/Wikis/Discussion Fora
- Collaborative tools Shared Slides/ Documents/Bookmarking/Tagging
- "How To"s Instructional Resources
 (Wikis)/Videos
- The Business of Research e.g.
 Publication/Research Assessment/Funding
 Opportunities (RSS feeds)

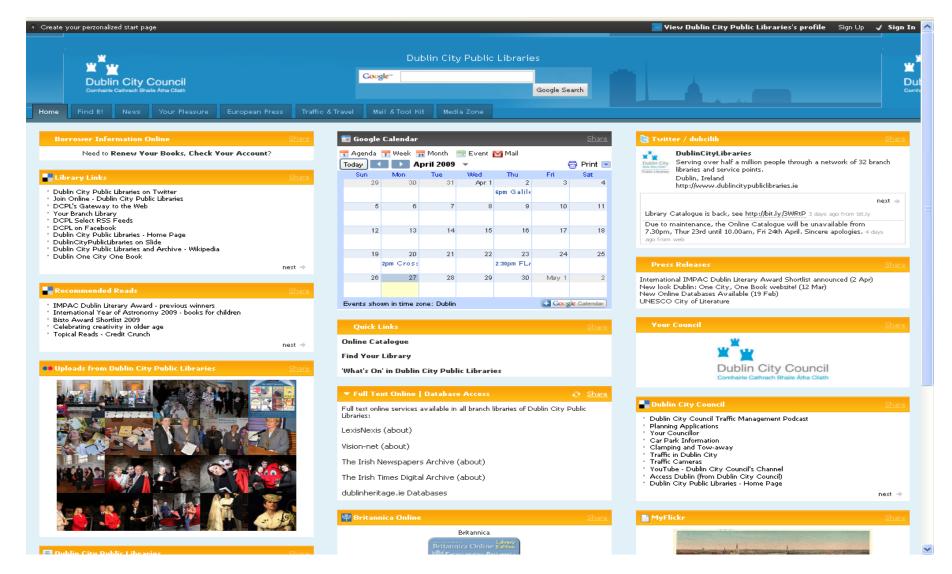


Some Examples of Good Practice

Andrew Tattersall



Dublin Public Library Portal



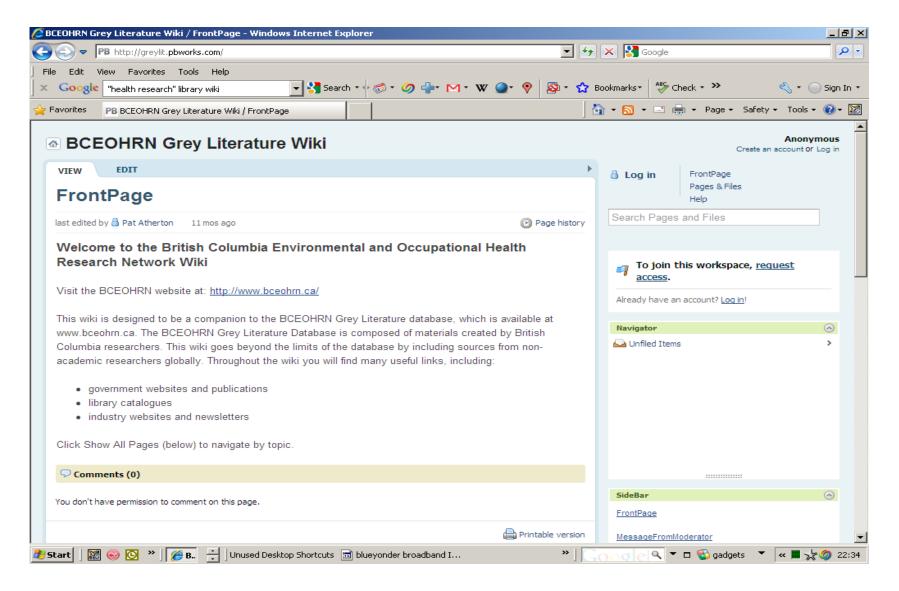


Tropika.Net



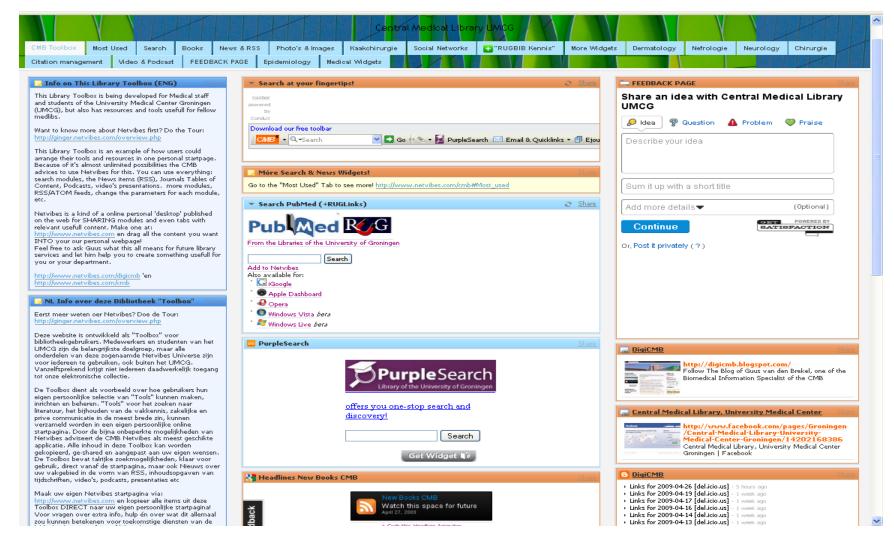


http://greylit.pbworks.com/





Central Medical *Library*, University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG)





Central Medical *Library*, University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG)





















What we are doing in ScHARR/Yorkshire & Humber

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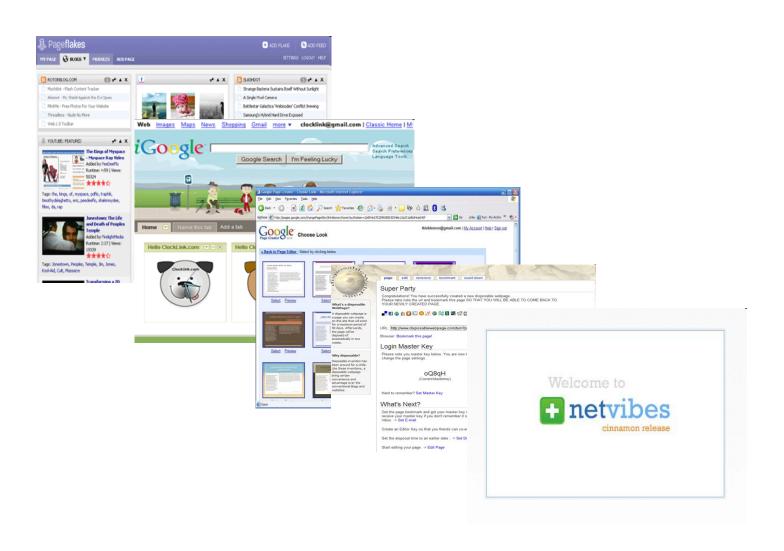


Context

- Independent University-based library serving health services researchers and students and providing tertiary information services for NHS researchers (Trent RDSU up to March 2010)
- Move away from physical use to use of virtual services
- New Yorkshire & Humber Research Design Support Service (from October 2008)



Personal Homepages and Web Portals





How could it help

- Keep you up to date with what interests you
- Entertain you
- Be a point of reference
- Be formal and informal
- Be automated (for the most part)
- Help you find/share/collate information
- Help you interact
- Be accessible anywhere
- Combine text, links, images audio and video
- Give you snapshot on topic, organisation, country, the world
- Adaptable and moderately easy to master
- Make your life simpler?



How could it hinder us?

- Not as automated as we would like
- RSS feeds can break
- Web pages go out of date or just disappear
- Always new information, links and people to add
- Multiple moderation needed for specialist topics
- Not all content is applicable to everyone UK/US angles
- Information overload
- Pages can be slow loading
- Need for decent Internet connection
- Could make your working life more complicated
- Sponsored links



Widgets

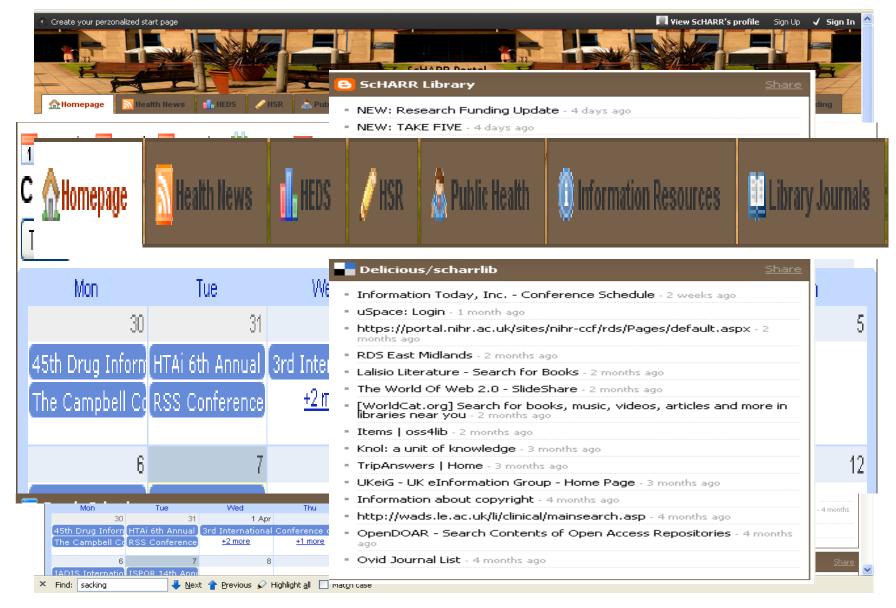
"A web widget is a portable chunk of code that can be installed and executed within any separate HTML-based web page by an end user without requiring additional compilation"



Wikipedia (2009) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_widget

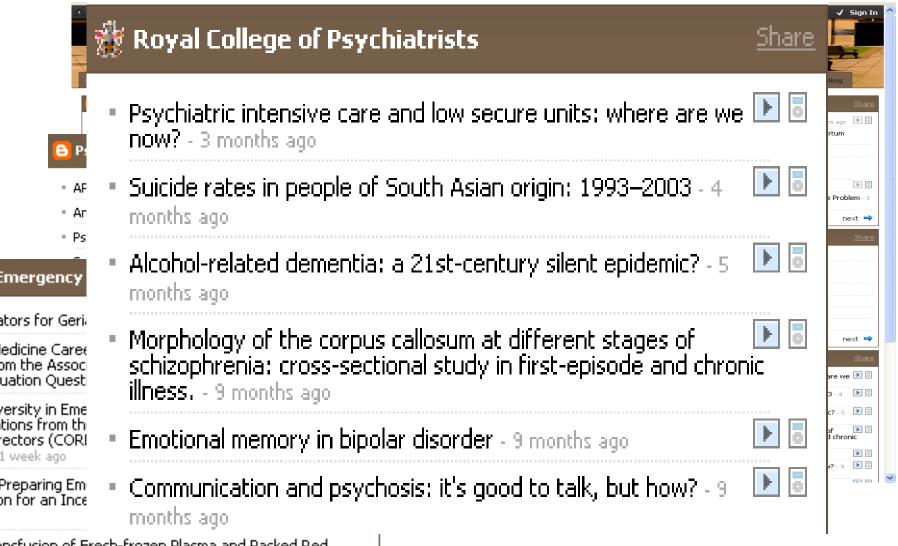


The ScHARR Portal





Journal feeds and podcasts



insfusion of Fresh-frozen Plasma and Packed Red a 1:1 Ratio on Survival of Emergency Department



Tailoring Your Information



- •Health News
- •Special Research Topics and Interest Groups
- Library Journals
- •Videos
- •Funding Feeds
- •Maps
- Customised Search Engines



Evaluation of The ScHARR Portal

- "Easy access to resources saving time"
- "Could give quick access to interesting info and share what's going on around Scharr"
- "I value the links to anything to do with my current project and report writing"
- "Will be a handy one-stop place for lots of information"
- "I can get the right feeds for me on there"



The Way Forward?

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At the moment.....

We are at the "If we Build them a Portal will they come?" phase of development



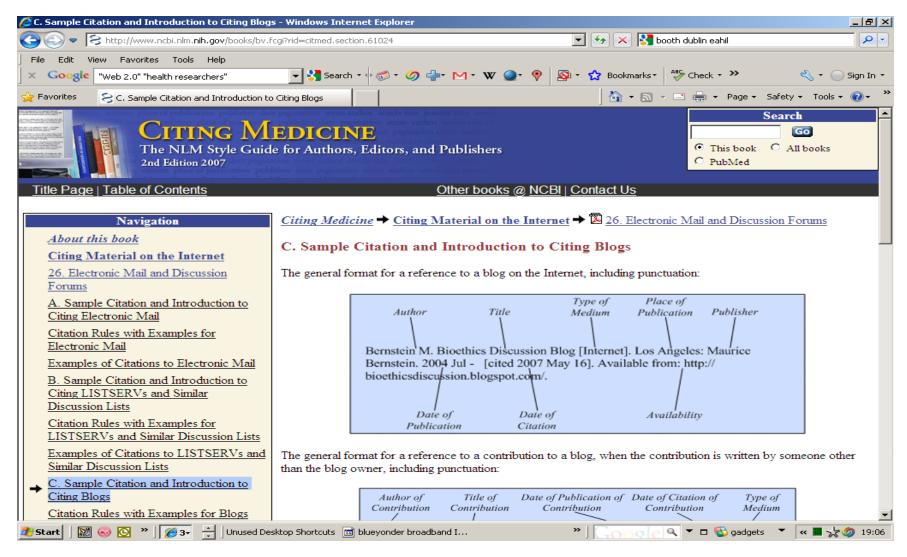


However....

- Evidence both locally and internationally that health researchers have an appetite.....
- Not for the technology itself,
- But for the "What's In It for Me" of new technologies
- They will need Guides.....and Architects



Where will become less important than How!





Above All.....

- Health researchers will want us to open our toolbox of "make your job easier/more effective tools"
- Will include both free Web 2.0 tools and conventional products (e.g. reference management; citation tools etc)





Welcome to the era of Web Tool Point Zero!





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