

Saturday, October 4, 2008

### **Reformatting a FAT32 drive to HFS+ - Never trust a GUI**

I bought an external drive for a relative to use with Time Machine. Of course it came pre-formatted as FAT32 and while this would work it wouldn't give the best performance, so I wanted to reformat it as HFS+.

I fired up Disk Utility, selected Journaled file system and click erase...and error.

A bit of googling suggested that selecting the option to zero the disk would resolve the problem. I tried this but I decided I wasn't prepared to wait the 4 hours it was going to take to zero a 600GB drive - there had to be an easier way.

I decided to try the command line - I thought that this may give me a more meaningful error message if nothing else.

Anyway, much to my surprise the command `diskutil eraseDisk "Journaled HFS+" "Back Up" disk1` resulted in

Started erase on disk disk1

Creating partition map

Formatting disk1s2 as Mac OS Extended (Journaled) with name Back Up

[ + 0%..10%..20%..30%..40%..50%..60%..70%..80%..90%..100% ]

Finished erase on disk disk1

Finished partitioning on disk disk1

And it just worked, so hopefully Google will find this and it may help someone else.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Apple at 20:55

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

### **So much spin I'm getting dizzy**

This is kind of old news now, but I have been too busy to post in the last week or so. The chaser "invasion" of the APEC security zone was funny but also extremely alarming. The authorities applied "spin" to the issue, claiming that the security worked as the Chaser boys were arrested and that they placed themselves at risk of being shot by snipers. In fact, as shown by the video below, it wasn't until "Osama" got out of the car that they were challenged. And if they weren't challenged by ground staff, why would snipers suddenly decide to open fire?

The fact is that once again a lot of money was spent and a great deal of public inconvenience caused in the name of security that was in effect "security theatre". Although it seems unlikely that the cars were close enough to a venue to actually kill or injure any APEC delegates, if the vans had been packed with explosives and detonated it would have killed & injured a number of police officers and created a serious embarrassment for the Australian government. The Chaser's stunt was fairly simple impersonation attack and even if the police didn't have time to examine the (obviously) fake security passes on the cars, procedures should have been in place to challenge any unexpected convoys. The movement of these VIP convoys through the city was obviously co-ordinated with the RTA traffic operations centre to ensure green lights; this means that even if they movements weren't scheduled it should have been simple to notify the people "on the ground". The police would have had standing orders to either Stop any unexpected convoys or allow through unexpected convoys. Clearly option 1 may have resulted in potential inconvenience to a VIP, but is the more secure stance. It is what is known in IT security as a "default deny" policy. Option 2, "default permit" increases risks while reducing inconvenience. Surely the same world leaders that decide we can't take nail files on to an airplane would understand the need for a little inconvenience to protect their safety?

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Computers, Television at 10:42

Thursday, July 5, 2007

### **Minisodes - TV in 6 Minutes**

A new site on Myspace offers classic television episodes in 4-6 minutes. Cool!

Dilbert - THE KNACK [Add to My Profile](#) | [More Videos](#)

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Television at 09:22

Tuesday, October 24. 2006

### **Fascinating Captain**

Well, colour me excited. Tonight when I brought up the TV guide on Foxtel I noticed a new entry. Starting from December 1, The SciFi channel arrives on Foxtel.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Television at 19:48

Friday, October 20, 2006

### **BOSE - Excellence in customer service**

About a week ago my much loved Bose headphones broke - the plastic headband snapped. If they were a cheaper set of headphones I would have just thrown them away, but with a \$500 replacement cost I thought it was worth enquiring about repair. I called Bose and was advised that they may be able to repair them and that the best thing to do was to drop them in to the Bose office in Newington.

I called in there yesterday and was met by the service manager. He asked when I purchased them and how they had broken. I advised him that they were about 18 months old and that they just broke one day when I took them out of the case. He told me that he could see evidence of hairline cracking in the plastic and that even though they were out of warranty they would replace them at no charge!

5 minutes later he brought me a Bose bag containing a replacement set of headphones, some Bose stickers and two packets of Bose branded "Jaffas"! It certainly left me with a great impression of Bose and not only much more likely to purchase Bose in the future but also to recommend Bose to other people.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Technology at 12:58

Tuesday, October 10, 2006

### **Mac "Large Type" Function**

Dear LazyWeb,

I am looking for sample code that demonstrates how to achieve equivalent functionality of the Address Book "Large Type" option.

I have successfully created a transparent NSWindow into which I can place my view, but I am not sure how to put that window on "top" of the screen rather than just on top of my application. Do I need to use something other than Cocoa to achieve this?

Thanks,  
Paul

Update 11/10/2006 For the sake of Google and posterity, the answers can be found in the Round Transparent Window example on Apple's Developer site. I had figured most of it out myself - the key item is `[iconWindow setLevel:NSStatusWindowLevel];` in order to have the window appear on top of everything else.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Apple at 16:28

Saturday, August 12, 2006

### **Apple...working to keep the skies safe**

According to an article in this morning's Sydney Morning Herald US Homeland Security officials were warned the bombers were plotting to use liquid explosives hidden in sports drinks or other containers in their hand luggage.

Once on board, the suicide bombers would detonate the explosives using a battery from a simple device like their camera or an iPod.

But, we all know iPod batteries aren't user replaceable

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Apple at 07:04

Wednesday, August 2, 2006

**You never know what is going to come back and haunt you...**

You never know what is lurking on people's hard drives. Dave Colvin found this video of one of our colleagues testing a web camera many years ago. Enjoy.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in What the? at 09:09

Monday, July 24. 2006

### **Its not a bed...its an iPod Dock**

Whilst shopping for beds recently I came across the Pause by NZ company DesignMobel. The available accessories for this bed include a Bose soundsystem and iPod Dock built in to the bedside table.

Microsoft has announced their intention to ship a music player by Christmas. I think it is a good indication of what they are going to have to compete against when companies are building beds with iPod compatibility.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Apple, Microsoft at 09:21

Friday, May 12. 2006

### **How much energy is spent producing energy rating stickers?**

We just bought a new freezer. It comes with one of those energy star rating stickers stuck on the door. Starting with the new washing machine we bought six months ago I have noticed an annoying trend in these stickers. They used to be made of a kind of plastic that was held on to the metal with static & suction more than glue. They came off easily. The new stickers are paper and seem to be stuck on with superglue. They come off in a thousand tiny scraps and leave a horrible glue residue behind. The result, instead of looking at an ugly sticker on the freezer, I am now looking at uglier, partially shredded sticker!

Why do they need to put the sticker on anyway? I mean, of all the freezers, washing machines, fridges etc produced, how many are destined to be display models? Couldn't they supply the stickers for the retailer to stick on to the display model? The same with the stickers on your new TV that tell you it has "Super auto-vibrant constrast modulation" or whatever?

Anybody know of a good sticker removal product? Big Kev we miss you!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in What the? at 17:53

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

### **The Foxtel IQ Remote is a Universal Remote**

While browsing the Foxtel site today I discovered that the remote controls for the Foxtel digital set top box and Foxtel IQ box are actually universal remote, and can be configured to control your television, DVD, VCR and amp. I am sure that this information was not included in my Foxtel IQ manual. The manual for the remote explains how it all works. It even includes a learning feature, in case the code for your product isn't included.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Television at 13:14

Monday, May 8, 2006

### **A Glowing Recommendation**

I just received a glowing recommendation of my technical ability from Olivia. Apparently she told Kym: "daddy is a good fixing man isn't he mummy, and I love him" Apparently this praise was earned by re-attaching the door to her Little People school bus on Saturday night.

Should I update my resume?

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 13:04

Tuesday, April 11. 2006

**Broadband is back. We missed you so much!**

Hooray! The ADSL has been reconnected. Well I care!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Computers at 15:34

Monday, April 10. 2006

### **A much cooler way to spend US\$20,000**

Your very own "Lost In Space" Robot

I have a 12" model, but this would be so much cooler. I think I would put in by the front door to great callers. "My sensors indicate religious missonaries approaching. Danger! Danger Will Robinson".

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Television at 14:30

### **The joy of Dialup...Not!**

This week we have been having a little trip down memory lane. Due to Telstra's incompetence our ADSL has gone off line. Last week it seems that Telstra put someone else's configuration onto our line, with the result that My Darling Wife Kym (MDWK) who complains that I never mention her here, received some irate phone calls from some woman who wanted to know why we had her telephone number! MDWK explained that perhaps she should call Telstra as she (MDWK) had no idea why we had her telephone number. Of course this meant that we lost our ADSL as well. I called iiNet to log a fault explaining the situation with our number and that our ADSL was down. They logged a fault with Telstra and told me that it should be rectified by 7pm the next day. Well, the next day our telephone line was back, but not the ADSL. I called iiNet again who said that they would log an ADSL fault with Telstra (Why they didn't do that when they logged the original fault I don't know) but that it would take between 5 and 15 working days for the ADSL to be restored.

MDWK asked why I don't shout at someone to get it fixed, to which I replied that because of the half-assed approach to de-regulating the telecommunications industry in Australia:

iiNet would love to fix the problem, but all they can do is ask Telstra and Telstra doesn't really care because they have to do the work for one of their competitors

I am constantly amazed at how short-sighted the government was when they de-regulated telecommunications (And to be fair I think it was actually the previous Labour government that kicked the whole thing off, rather than the current Liberal government.). They seem to have got it right with power. I can choose any electricity supplier I like, but I don't hear anyone suggesting that there should be multiple power distribution networks outside my house as it seems to be understood that the delivery infrastructure is a natural monopoly. Telstra claims that it would like to roll out a new fibre network, but to do so it requires an access holiday "in order to promote competition". Let me get this straight. In order to "promote competition" Telstra wants to decommission the very network that its competitors rely on? And what company actually wants to promote competition anyway? Not Telstra, certainly. Perhaps I should have categorised this under "What The?" rather than computers.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Computers at 10:54

Friday, April 7, 2006

**Sad or Cool - I am not sure**

Full colour moving LED displays on your wheels

Sad or Cool? I'm not sure, but at US\$10-20,000 it won't be something I have to worry about.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in What the? at 14:27

Wednesday, March 22, 2006

### **New Site**

As you can see, I have moved this site over to a new format. I am now using the Serendipity weblog system. This will enable me to re-enable comments and hopefully not get comment spam, but we will see how that goes.

Due to the move, entry categorisation has been lost. I will try and restore them as I get time.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Weblog at 09:19

Monday, December 12, 2005

## **Orlando**

We had a good last couple of days in New York - The Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History was a particular highlight for me - The 3D effects (no glasses required) are fantastic.

We have left the cold of New York for the warmth of Orlando in Florida. Think Gold Coast without the high-rise - it is all spread out but the same type of tourist tackiness. The area is home to about 8 major theme parks from Disney and Universal.

Today (Sunday) we are driving up to St. Augustine to see Kym's cousin and then Monday and Tuesday we will go to a couple of parks - The Universal ones sound like they might be better for adults than the Disney ones.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Travel at 17:02

Friday, December 9, 2005

## **New York, New York! Part 2**

It has been another couple of full days for us here in New York. On Monday we took the trip to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. She isn't as big as we thought .

We braved the outside upper deck yesterday for the "up town" bus tour, but after two hours I couldn't feel my feet, so we stayed inside for the "holiday lights" tour last night and the "down town" tour today.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Travel at 02:33

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

### **New York, New York**

Kym and I have started our US adventure. We had a bit of a rocky start after our plane for the LA to NY leg was taken out of service 5 minutes after we boarded. After a 1 1/2 hour delay they found a new plane and we were on our way. We arrived in NY about 10:30pm local time only to wait for 30 minutes at the baggage carousel. They then told us that if our bags hadn't appeared (which ours hadn't) then we had to walk over to the next terminal where they would be waiting.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Travel at 11:44

Saturday, May 21. 2005

**Today's frightening concept is...**

"Unisex fashion lingerie" - Seen on a sign outside a shop in Rockdale. Either I have led a more sheltered life than I thought or the owner of the shop thinks that "unisex" means something else.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in What the? at 02:54

Monday, December 6, 2004

### **Big and Beautiful**

After nearly three months wait I finally have my new iMac G5 20". It was well worth the wait. When you sit in front of it the screen practically fills your field of view.

The upgrade process was also particularly seamless - very Apple. When you turn the new Mac on for the first time it asks if you want to transfer data from an old Mac - if so you simply hook the two machines together via a FireWire cable and come back in about half an hour. No need to spend hours or days reinstalling all of your programs.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Apple at 07:18

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

### **The bubble is back redux**

The previously mentioned Bluetooth Network at Broadway shopping centre is offering a free trial - so I signed up.

Amazingly underwhelming. You have to leave your phone in "Discoverable" mode, which I don't like doing because of security concerns. Even though they claim to have 100 base stations throughout the centre I often have no access.

It offers incredibly useful directions; such as when I asked it for directions to Collins Booksellers it suggested "Walk towards Collins Booksellers".

And the special deals - things like "Come in to and check out our special deals". Wow, that is worth \$5 a month.

I know that they are just in startup mode, but the whole thing seems to fall in to the "yes you can, but why did you?" category.

I predict one of two things will happen;

The service will change to free (advertising supported)The company will go brokeOr, probably even more likely 1 followed by 2.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Computers at 02:47

Tuesday, November 2, 2004

### **Life is Not a Video Game**

I have been playing a lot of Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas since it was released last week. One part of the game involves spraying over the "tags" of rival gangs in order to claim territory. These tags are somewhat hidden, so you have to keep your eyes open as you drive around.

This morning, as my bus was going down George St, I noticed a graffiti tag that looked a lot like one from the game. My first instinct was to jump off the bus and claim the tag. Is this a problem?

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Games at 05:36

Wednesday, October 27, 2004

### **The bubble is back**

A company has spent \$100,000 installing a Bluetooth network in Broadway Shopping Centre. The network can deliver location/retailer specific "coupons" and specials.

The strange part is that they expect customers to pay \$5 a month to have access to the network. I know that I will be leaping at the opportunity to pay \$5 a month to be spammed by my shopping centre.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson in Computers at 00:53

Thursday, October 21, 2004

### **TV-B-Gone**

I want one - what more can I say (via JWZ)

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 09:23

Wednesday, October 13, 2004

### **AllOfMP3.com**

I heard about this site back in January, but I was a bit wary as it was run out of Russia and you need to pay by credit card. I decided since it was still around and I could find nothing but good reports about it, I would give it a try.

The site lets you download music, in a range of formats (MP3, FLAC, WMV, AAC) without any DRM. You choose the sample rate and you pay \$US0.01 per megabyte you download. For about US\$3 I downloaded around 30 tracks, all at 340Kbps. Sound quality is excellent.

Supposedly the site is legal because they are paying royalties to a Russian music licensing service, and if it is legal in Russia then it is legal here thanks to the parallel import clauses in Australian copyright law.

The SMH has already mentioned this site, but I would love to see more people use it rather than the Australian Microsoft DRM based services - it might send a message to the music industry as to what people really want.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:20

Friday, September 17, 2004

### **Team America World Police**

The new movie from the creators of South Park Team America World Police looks like it will be very funny. This is what the Thunderbirds movie could have been!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 09:19

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

### **How Not to get a job**

Wilkinsons, a chain of hardware stores in the U.K., has the domain wilko.co.uk. Not surprisingly I get a lot of email that is intended for them. Today I received the following (quoted verbatim):

dear sir

i went to store on 4th sep to ask for application, but told its over. i showed them the ad of evening mali that its till 10th. then they gave me form. then asked can v keep ad?

also there is a banner above the store

V R OPEN SUNDAYS

but its close?

so, wat kind of professional & customer planning is this?

i have applied and look forward to join.

thanks  
fawad

While computer literacy (or indeed literacy in the English language) may not be a pre-requisite for a position as a shelf-stacker or whatever this person is applying for, I think it is generally considered a bad idea to accuse your prospective employer of being unprofessional.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 06:50

Saturday, September 4, 2004

### **The beginning of the end of Telstra**

I signed up for Mobile Innovations new Voice-over-IP service today. For \$19.95 a month you get a box that plugs in to your broadband service and delivers a standard phone line. Untimed local calls are 10c and include calls to Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane & Adelaide. Other calls within Australia are 10c per minute, billed per second and 30c per minute to mobiles.

They are still in "trial" mode so they don't recommend you disconnect your Telstra line just yet, but once they go live I can use my cable modem and cancel my copper line - the price of which keeps going up

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:54

Thursday, September 2, 2004

### **Drool On**

The new iMac has been announced and I want one!

On the Apple page it states: You'll also find a passel of USB 2.0 and FireWire 400 connectors for your camera, camcorder or gamepad.

Well, boy-howdy, a passel eh? I was looking for the footnote that explains that a passel is defined as 1000 millipassels but actual usable ports may be fewer but it seems to have been omitted.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 02:17

Friday, August 13. 2004

### **Why are people embracing free software?**

This story about Quicken and MYOB requiring customers to purchase software updates or maintenance in order to receive updates to payroll tax tables embedded in the software go a long way to answering the question. I appreciate the difficulty that a software developer can have in a saturated market - how do you keep revenue coming in once everyone who needs your software has purchased it? But I have always considered charging for software maintenance a somewhat dubious practice.

Receiving updated software with new features as part of maintenance is fine, as is charging non-maintenance customers a higher price if they do decide to upgrade.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:01

Monday, August 9, 2004

### **A particularly sweet donut**

The queue at Krispy Kreme wasn't too long today when I was passing so I thought I should try one in the interest of journalistic integrity or something.

Anyway, the "original glazed" is pretty good, although a bit of a sugar overload.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:00

Wednesday, August 4, 2004

### **Mmm...Donut Drink**

New Liquid Krispy Kreme. With the calories of two donuts in every glass. (Via Michael Moore)

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:01

### **Fahrenheit 9/11**

Like Mr Hicks I also saw Fahrenheit 9/11 last weekend. I didn't think it was as good as BFC - although I think that was partly because of the enormity of the story that Moore is trying to tell. Even though the movie is quite long, there are so many threads of corruption that are associated with GWB that he couldn't adequately explore them all. GWB's involvement with Enron was only mentioned in passing, but I have read in great detail on Michael Moore's web site about the shenanigans that went on.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:34

Tuesday, June 29, 2004

### **Blog Spammers Go Home**

Look,

I realise that all you blog spammers are probably just bots, so you won't read this, but please quit it with all of the comment spam. The longest the comment will last is an hour or two, so it won't be googled. You are just wasting my time.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 09:35

Saturday, June 19, 2004

**I always knew American cars were too big**

E450 as in-car MP3 player (via slashdot - site is slashdotted right now)

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 08:53

Saturday, June 5, 2004

### **Just call me**

Call any time Nicole.

I mean, its Friday night and I am just sitting here watching Jake 2.0 which I suspect should be called The Bionic Man 2.0 - same bad physics, similar groovy sound effect when Steve/Jake does something amazing.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 12:57

### **Lard Lad**

They're just doughnuts people!

I can't believe how many people are lining up at the new Krispy Kreme store at Wynyard. I haven't tried one yet, so perhaps they have more going for them than just a funky name and retro style logo. Even last Saturday morning, at a time when the area around Wynyard park is normally dead, there were 10 or 15 people lined up. Oh well, with McDonalds trying to go all healthy people need to get their fat fix somewhere.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 08:48

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

**iStockphoto image of the week**

A brilliant concept

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:31

Monday, May 10, 2004

### **The first signs of Autumn**

The leaves on Liquid Amber trees turning to gold  
Cooler, windy days  
The first cough drop advertisements on television.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:56

Thursday, May 6, 2004

### **Microsoft isn't so bad...**

Someone remarked the other day that I didn't seem to be so viciously anti-Microsoft any more. This isn't strictly true, but since I switched to using a Mac full-time and I don't have to deal with Windows every day I don't get so worked up about it.

Things like this latest virus outbreak are a case in point. It is a bit like hearing about some natural disaster on the other side of the world. You know bad things are happening to other people and you feel sorry for them, but it doesn't involve you (and you do wonder about why no-one in power takes steps to stop people building non earthquake-proof buildings on top of a fault line).

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:31

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

### **Purchase a Piece of Internet History**

This is your once in a lifetime chance to purchase a Netscape T-Shirt Signed by Marc Andreessen (Actually I think that I may have one more of these unframed in my drawer).

Update: It sold for \$31.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:53

Saturday, May 1, 2004

### **iStockphoto meets Konfabulator**

This is probably of interest of very few of my regular readers (all three of you) but I want this to be googled for those irregular readers who are interested.

I have created a Konfabulator Widget that monitors iStockphoto.com downloads. You can get it here

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 07:54

Tuesday, April 27. 2004

### **Enough Rope**

I have heard comedians including Billy Connolly and Mel Brooks (on last week's Enough Rope) say that anything can be funny. Still, the program guide listing for tonight's Enough Rope has an interesting contrast: Andrew Denton talks to six war veterans, including a war widow.

Comedy

I am sure that if anyone can bring out the humor in a topic like this, it is Andrew Denton

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 01:41

Wednesday, April 21. 2004

### **New Look**

I decided that it was time for a new look. There hasn't been any new content for a while, so I thought a style change might fool people into thinking something was actually happening.

The graphic at the top of the page came from iStockPhoto.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 02:02

Monday, March 22, 2004

### **You know you are old when...**

What is it with kids today and their crazy hairstyles, baggy pants and weird video games?

Finding myself with half an hour to kill before watching a movie (Lost in Translation - it is excellent) on George St today I thought, "I know, I'll have a few games of pinball". I could only find one pinball machine in the two amusement arcades near the cinemas, and it was bit worn out - the balls kept on jamming. I did get excellent value for money though - 6 games for \$2 and two bonus games. I had to leave two credits on the machine because it was time to go to the movie.

There were plenty of driving games of course, but the latest thing seems to be "virtual rock star" games - The machine is fitted out with a drum kit or a electric guitar and you have to play along with the cues on the screen. These are really just variations on the "Dance Dance Revolution" games which seem to be based on memorising sequences (by playing many, many times at \$2 a go).

It was quite funny to see the electric guitar version of this game featured in Lost in Translation as an example of strange Japanese culture.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 08:32

Thursday, March 11, 2004

### **The first \$2.00 is the hardest**

iStockPhoto is a stock photo library where royalty free images can be downloaded for US\$0.50 to US\$1.50. The images are uploaded by amateur (and professional) photographers who get one fifth of the download fee as a royalty (i.e. 10-30 cents). Once you have earned \$100 they will send you a cheque.

So far I have accrued the princely some of US\$2.00, but it is still cool to see people actually paying money for your photographs.

You can check out my portfolio [here](#).

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 05:12

Thursday, February 12, 2004

### **Another CD not purchased**

Once again I held a CD in my hand yesterday that I would have proceeded to purchase had it not been copy protected. Another \$22 lost for the legitimate music business. Of course I am sure that I could still go and find the music for free on one of the file-sharing networks.

While we are on the subject, what exactly are Michael Speck's (of the Australian Music Industry Piracy Investigation) qualifications? Certainly he seems someone underqualified in the area of corporations law. A quote from a report at [zdnet.com.au](http://zdnet.com.au):

"I think it will be a concern to artists throughout the world that when it comes to the pinch this telco will throw its weight behind its online business rather than music," said Speck.

Well, of course Telstra (the telco in this case) will act to protect its online business at the expense of music. By law Telstra must operate in the best interest of its shareholders. If it makes more money from "online businesses" than music (or "artists throughout the world" whom Michael Speck seems to think are a big market for Telstra) then that is where it should throw its weight. Of course acting illegally is not in the best interests of shareholders (if there is a change of getting caught...) but in this case the action was not against Telstra, MIPI was looking for information to help them in their case against Kazaa et al.

Perhaps he attended the same school as Darl McBride - he seems to have the same brand in logic.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:02

Saturday, January 31, 2004

**No Linker for you!**

Anthony refers to a piece by Joel about the lack of a linker in .Net  
Almost everything in Joel's article could be said about Java too. At least with Java you get true platform independence  
in exchange for your pain

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 02:15

Friday, January 30, 2004

**I hope someone got this on video**

A dead, 50-tonne sperm whale has exploded in a busy street in Taiwan, showering passers-by in blubber, blood and innards.

The 17-metre whale died after beaching itself and was being hauled to a research station through Tainan City on Wednesday on a flat-bed truck. That she blows!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 12:33

Thursday, January 29, 2004

### **Copy Protection Cost Counter**

I have decided to keep a running total of the number of CDs that I have not purchased due to copy protection. It is just over there, on the side of the page.

I have started with a quick estimate since I haven't been keeping records. I will keep better track from now on.

This number represents CDs that I have held in my hand at a music store with the intention of purchasing but then returned the shelf due to the presence of a "copy protected" notification. If I can't put it on my iPod, then I don't want it.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:41

Saturday, January 24, 2004

### **At last a Wireless Hotspot at the right price**

We went for dinner at the Harbour View Hotel in The Rocks last night. They had a sign on the door advertising that they had a PubNet wireless hotspot installed. Best of all the price per hour is zero, nada, zilch. The theory seems to be that you will attract more people to your pub and for longer if you provide free Internet. Sounds like a good idea to me. Certainly more attractive than \$9-\$15 per hour.

Unfortunately I didn't have my laptop with me so I couldn't try it out, but it may be worth a return visit. The fact that they have James Squire Amber Ale on tap doesn't hurt either.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 00:54

Thursday, January 22, 2004

### **Anthony's trackback System**

Anthony Hicks has added a trackback system to his blog. This record should ping the entry that announced it:  
[anthonyjhicks.com](http://anthonyjhicks.com) - weblog - TrackBack

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 09:33

Friday, January 16. 2004

### **I Blog and I Vote**

One of the most annoying American cultural imports that I see around is the "I xxx and I Vote" bumper stickers. In a country with universal, mandatory voting these stickers make no sense whatsoever.

In the city today I saw a delivery ute with the biggest pedestrian killing bull bar imaginable. On that bullbar was a sticker that read "I {loveheart} my bullbar and I vote".

Well guess what, there are probably 50000 people who hate your bullbar and who vote, and about a million people who don't give a toss either way and who vote.

Now excuse me while I go set up a Cafe Press store for "I Blog and I Vote" merchandise.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 11:15

Saturday, January 10, 2004

## **GarageBand**

Also from Apple is "GarageBand" - a new component of their iLife suite.

GarageBand a home studio application that allows you to combine live recordings (including virtual guitar amps for special sounds), MIDI sequences and pre-recorded instrument "loops" to create your own music. My descriptions doesn't really do it justice - you have to see and hear what it can do for yourself. If you have time and bandwidth to spare, check out the demonstration in the most recent MacWorld Keynote - fast forward to 1hr 8 minutes for the GarageBand demo.

It will be interesting to see if Apple take the next logical step and allow you to publish your GarageBand music to the iTunes Music Store.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 02:53

## **Apple Xgrid - Computational Clustering simplified**

Apple have released a preview version of a new tool for "Advanced Computation" - Xgrid

This tool allows you to form a computation cluster from the Macs on your network. Nothing really new here, except that in typical Apple fashion it is easier to set up than any of the other computational clustering implementations I have seen.

It uses Apple's Rendezvous technology to make the discovery of available computational clusters easy, and has a simple preferences pane in order to set it up.

At the moment it is a preview release but it is functional and comes with some demos including a Mandelbrot set calculation and the BLAST DNA application as well as an API to allow development of custom tasks.

While it is intended for scientific computation you can see how it could be used to distribute CPU intensive tasks such as video rendering in a home or office environment.

Once again Apple shows that innovation doesn't mean adding a few new features to an office suite.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 02:40

Tuesday, November 11. 2003

**Shouldn't that be [wma.wiredrecords.com](http://wma.wiredrecords.com)?**

Sanity and HMV are both about to launch online music sales in Australia using this service:WiredRecords Music Service V2.0b. However, despite the URL [mp3.wiredrecords.com](http://mp3.wiredrecords.com) they actually sell wma files that can only be used on Windows. Oh well. I guess I will just have to hold on to my money.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 05:27

Thursday, November 6, 2003

**All line up for the "B" Ark**

I am currently working at a customer site, and I have just had a visit from a telephone sanitizer. They really exist!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 05:22

Saturday, November 1, 2003

### **Spring Cleaning**

We are doing a bit of spring cleaning here, and this is your chance to buy some of my old crap!

Have a look at my eBay auctions and make a bid!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 00:13

Friday, October 31. 2003

### **SPAM solved!**

A British MP has proposed a solution to the problem of SPAM. It consists of two simple steps: Everyone changes their domain to include their postcode or a PIN number - the details of which are held in trust Spammers agree not to forge their email addresses

It seems to me that if we just ask the spammers nicely not to forge their email addresses, then we can probably skip step one.

At first I thought that this was a joke, but apparently this is an official web site, and this is a serious suggestion.

The Register also has some comments on this brilliant proposal.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 07:12

### **Targa NZ**

Those of you who remember Dave Colvin from your days at Com Tech might be interested to know that he and Adam Spence are currently competing in the Targa NZ. Updates and information available [here](#) and [here](#).

The boys were in 3rd place in their class, but I have been told that the team has had an unscheduled stop in a ditch this morning. Everyone is OK and they hope to make up the lost time.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:13

Thursday, October 23, 2003

### **Use a link, go to jail**

According to this report Australian IT - Music piracy war unleashed in the Australian, ARIA have brought action against the creator of a web site [www.mp3s4free.net](http://www.mp3s4free.net) and the Internet provider Comcen. This is the same provider that hosts this web page.

There are a couple of things about this case that I find interesting.

Comcen has not shut down the named website -

It is good to see an hosting provider that does not shut down sites in a knee-jerk reaction to as yet unproven allegations. Based on a quick look at the web site, it does not appear to host any mp3s, but rather a database of links to mp3s on other sites. Using this criteria, this link could make this site a target for ARIA action.

I am not advocating music piracy, nor suggesting that the music industry should not target large-scale piracy, but I would be happier if I thought that they were expending the same effort to provide legal services

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:00

Wednesday, September 24, 2003

### **The Comprehensive Bunny Name List**

Via Neil Gaiman:  
The Comprehensive Bunny Name List

Each Bunny Name has an official Bunny ID (BID) which enables each bunny to have a persistant URL.

Also, please note:

"Use of this list to obtain names for kitties, puppies, gerbils, hamsters, or other fuzzy pets is an abuse of this service and will not be tolerated."

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 07:13

Friday, September 12, 2003

### **The killer app for broadband**

There has been a lot of discussion in the I.T. media and from the government about what is the killer app that will drive broadband take up. I submit that it is patching Microsoft operating systems.

A brand new Windows XP installation requires over 36 megabytes of patches to be applied. This takes a number of hours over broadband and requires several reboots. Imagine if you had to download all that data over dial up - and redial your Internet connection each time. No wonder there are so many unpatched Windows computers out there.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 00:26

Thursday, September 11, 2003

**Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery**

The power light on my new Dell D600 pulses on and off while the computer is suspended. Just like a Macintosh. Of course the light is a tiny little green one instead of a sexy white one and the pulsing is a bit stuttery, but what can you expect. The Dell is also finished in silver metal-looking plastic. Cool.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 06:54

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

### **Light or Dark**

As you can see, the web site has a new look. For those of you who prefer the old design you can use the View->Use Style menu in Mozilla to select the old style.

I may even get around to writing some PHP code that allows you to select your preferred style and remember it using a cookie.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 08:17

### **Wireless by the minute**

Following on from the "world of ends" I can't quite figure out why nearly all of the wireless internet access services are insisting on charging by the minute. The internet is not a telephone call!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:58

Friday, August 8, 2003

### **The World of Ends**

This site was discussed on Slashdot a while ago, but I thought of it again today.

It is well worth a read and should be mandatory reading for any politician that is proposing/supporting a law that affects the Internet. One politician in particular should read and attempt to understand this page.

I am a big fan of explaining by analogy, unfortunately all analogies break down at some point, and the ones we have chosen for the Internet: TV, Telephone, Magazine tend to break down very quickly.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 05:28

Thursday, July 31, 2003

### **CSI:Reality**

In CSI:Miami the team get around in US\$50,000 Hummer H2s.

Spotted on the street last week: a A\$35,000 Ford Transit with "NSW Police Forensics" written on it.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 15:34

## Blog Export: Paul Wilkinson's Weblog, <http://www.wilko.com/weblog/>

Monday, July 14, 2003

### Slashdot Link

A story was placed on the Slashdot Apple section that links to my eMac pages.

Thankfully the server doesn't seem to have been slashdotted as the story was in the Apple section and not on the main page.

See if you can pick at what time the article was posted based on the graph below:

It is also interesting to look at the browser stats. Most months I get around 30% Mozilla/5, 30% IE6 , 22% IE5 and the rest is miscellaneous. Since the slashdot story the stats have changed to 56% Mozilla/5, 25% IE6 and 11% IE5.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:01

Friday, July 11. 2003

### **21st Century Moss**

I have never been able to figure out how to tell north from the moss on trees (It turns out you can't really).

Satellite dishes generally point North (Or South if you are in the Northern Hemisphere), so they can be a handy way of orienting yourself when out and about in the wilds of suburbia.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 15:55

Thursday, June 26, 2003

### **Photos**

I have started uploading the photographs from our trip to France. You can see them [here](#).

I took over 500 photographs, and I have slowly sorting through them, giving them captions and uploading some of the better ones.

So far there are photos from Provence, Paris and Versaille. Still to come are Blois (Loire Valley), Lyon & Strasbourg.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:19

Saturday, June 7, 2003

**The sounds of silence...**

I haven't posted anything here for the last few weeks as I have been on holiday in France (Yeah I know, it is a tough life but someone has to do it).

Anyway I am flying home tomorrow and I will have a few photos to post (After I get a chance to sort through the several hundred I have taken).

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 00:00

Thursday, May 1, 2003

### **Souls in the Great Machine**

I picked up *Souls in the Great Machine* by Sean McMullen the other day and I can highly recommend it. I bought it because the description on the back that described duelling librarians and a mysterious "call" that lures people to their death and the fact that it was set in Australia.

It is refreshing enough to see an Australian science fiction author, but one that actually sets the story in Australia is even better. (I can also suggest Greg Egan for quality Australian science fiction).

The story is set two thousand years after a nuclear winter has destroyed the civilisation of the twenty first century and is a fascinating combination of political intrigue, suspense, battles and computer science.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 15:16

Wednesday, April 23, 2003

## **Water**

This weeks Photofriday challenge was water.

I took the photo below on the Pulpit Rock track near Blackheath in the Blue Mountains

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 15:19

Monday, April 14. 2003

### **No Nukes Here**

I just checked my web server logs, and for some reason my #1 referrer is The International Atomic Energy Agency. Weird!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 16:40

Sunday, April 13, 2003

## **Skin**

Here is my photograph for this week's Photo Friday challenge which is "skin"  
It was difficult to think of something different for this. While sitting on a bench in the park I noticed that someone had dropped some mandarin skin on the ground and I took the photo below:

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 08:55

Sunday, April 6, 2003

### **Brokenman Update**

The Brokenman has revealed another letter - 'D' - giving us \_ORDAN - Could it be Jordan?

To find the final clue you have to find six locations in the city.

I think location 1 might be the pedestrian tunnels near the Sydney Harbour Bridge Southern pylon.

Location 2 appears is in Chinatown according to Whereis.

Location 3 might be near Central railway.

Location 4 looks like Crown street looking towards William St.

Location 5 is the Harbour Master's steps at Circular Quay.

I am not sure about location 6. I cannot read the street sign, but the neon sign is for a "Club X" adult shop, and the whitepages list three of those in the city and one in Kings Cross. My bus goes past the one on George street every day, the scene doesn't look like George St. So it would seem likely to be one of the two listed on Pitt St.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 16:02

Thursday, April 3, 2003

### **Nuts and Gum...Together at last**

While at Fox Studios on the weekend I picked up some free tickets to a preview screening of a new Australian film *Gettin' Square*. The film was still missing credits and had some rough edits and scratches but was very enjoyable. I would highly recommend seeing this when it is released. It is a "crime caper" set on the Queensland Gold Coast. David Wenham steals the show, and it was also great to see "Ugly" Dave Gray in a small role.

At the end we had to fill in a short survey which took about 5 minutes and the screening was on a Monday, but if you are in the Fox Studios areas have a look near the cinema box office for people handing out tickets for a chance at a free movie.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 15:25

Friday, March 21. 2003

### **Be Prepared**

In these times of heightened awareness we all need to be prepared.

This site could save your life.

(via Tiny Pineapple)

Warning This site seems to spawn many pop-up windows, so if you aren't using a browser with a pop-up killer feature, it is probably best to avoid it.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:55

Saturday, March 15. 2003

### **Two less CD sales**

I had a look at the EMI web site where they have an FAQ on their copy protection technology and some forums for the discussion of this technology. From these forums I have learnt that

The copy-protected CDs won't even play on a Mac

For the CDs to play on Windows you have to agree to the installation of software (on Windows XP it doesn't even ask apparently - the software just installs)

When you do play the CD on a PC it actually plays a 48Kbit WMA file instead of the original CD audio

Massive Attack's latest album is also copy protected. This is another album that I would have purchased - I have several of their others.

You can easily circumvent the copy protection with CDEX

I also had a look on Gnutella and found more than 100 Norah Jones tracks available for download, So, it seems that EMI are losing customers while failing to prevent piracy. Looks like they are on a winner with this plan.

I think I will drop in to Fish Records next week and let them know that they have lost two album sales because of EMI's copy protection decisions.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 13:55

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

### **One less CD sale**

I was just about to purchase the CD from Norah Jones this afternoon when I noticed that it has copy protection technology. The label said that it was compatible with CD-ROM & DVD ROM drives (and mentioned Windows 98 or later - nothing about Linux or Mac), however I wasn't prepared to take the risk that I wouldn't be able to rip it to MP3 and thus listen to it on my iPod or my mp3Elf. I am glad that they clearly labeled the CD, although perhaps that is fear of the ACCC.

Interestingly, there are MP3s available for download from the Norah Jones site, so they seem to be discouraging purchase of the CD and encouraging getting at least some of the tracks for free.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:23

Saturday, March 8, 2003

### **Switch - to Smith & Wesson**

Column 8 - smh.com.au

Column 8

March 7 2003

After shooting his laptop computer four times when it crashed once too often, George Doughty, of Lafayette, Colorado, was arrested on charges including the prohibited use of weapons. He told police: "At the time it seemed like the right thing to do."

Updated 3/11: More detail

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:13

Friday, March 7, 2003

### **Broken Man in Glebe**

I saw "Broken Man" chalk messages on the footpath at the Broadway end of Glebe Point Road the other day. Perhaps the CBD is getting too hot, or maybe he was targetting Glebe market goers.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 23:31

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

### **Major Vulnerability Discovered in Windows**

It was announced today that a major security vulnerability has been discovered in windows. The vulnerability allows unauthorised access to areas protected by windows and can be exploited by using a range of common tools including hammers, bricks or even rocks.

The manufacturers of windows have attempted to downplay the risks posed by this vulnerabilities, however security experts disagree. "Kiddies have been known to exploit these vulnerabilities using items such as baseballs", said Brian McGee of BugScreenTraQ. "Although these kiddies may claim that they intend no harm, and are merely 'playing', the fact remains that once the window has been compromised, other people may take advantage of it to access unauthorised areas" he concluded.

Window manufacturers have defended the faults in their product. "User feedback has told us that our customers prefer the ventilation and light transmitting qualities of our products, and that security is a secondary concern" claimed Mandy Finklestein for the Window Manufacturer's Association. She did admit that "Window manufacturers had been aware of the vulnerabilities for some time and have, in fact, made available a range of add-ons such as 'bars for windows' and 'shutters for windows'" and it was not their fault if "users failed to asses their own security needs and apply the appropriate patches."

Finklestein added that the rise in popularity of so called 'open' solutions did not necessarily solve the problems as "with an open window, you don't even need to break the glass - there is simply nothing there. I think that this is an 'emperors' new clothes' type of thing".

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 03:08

Tuesday, March 4, 2003

### **The first million starts with the first dollar**

A few days ago I received my first \$1 (well, 66c after PayPal fees) donation from this web site. Wow. Thanks MV!

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:52

### **Good Riddance to Bad Windows**

The last remaining Windows machine in my household (Not including the laptop that belongs to my employer unfortunately) has gone.

My Sony Vaio Picturebook has been sitting on the floor gathering dust since its battery packed it in. I will be travelling in a few months and I need a machine that I can upload my digital photos to each day. Although it only works when connected to the wall now, the Picturebook is a perfect size for travelling. So, out with Windows 98 and in with Redhat.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:47

### **Alert Staus: Mauve**

Hey!. I haven't yet received my government anti-terrorism-readiness-trust-no-one(particularly if they look different) kit. I am still undecided as to whether I should send it back as a protest or keep it, so that in 20 years we can look back at the stupidity and prejudice of our times, much as we look at the racial policies of the past and wonder how they were ever permitted.

Of course, the lack of delivery by our wonderful government has made this a moot point. In the mean time I offer my own recommendation on how to be prepared

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 01:38

Tuesday, February 25. 2003

### **More Brokenman.net**

Following my previous post, my web logs show me that brokenman.net is my number one google search term. I have even had a few comments from some people who are following the brokenman thing. The next clue was supposed to be in Hyde Park on the 17th of February. Of course that was the day of the anti-war rally. Did anyone find anything?

It seems that I misunderstood the "missing letters" puzzle in my previous post. It was not the name of the station where the next clue was to be found. It looks like this is actually the name of the brokenman. Each new clue provides an additional letter in the puzzle, so with the addition of the latest clue "n" we have

\_OR\_AN

So, the broken man could be "Norman", but this still doesn't mean anything to me.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 07:17

### **Perversion Tracker**

Bringing you the worst of Macintosh OS X software.

There are many clueless VB programmers churning out garbage for Windows. It is good to see that the Macintosh is also proving a viable platform for the creation of programs of dubious value.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 01:44

Tuesday, February 18, 2003

### **Suspicious Confirmed**

MY suspicions have been confirmed. There is no money to be made in this blog .  
I have raised \$0 so far. I guess I had better not quit the day job.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 22:53

Saturday, February 15, 2003

### **Blogging for Dollars**

According to this article on the SMH, there is money to be made in blogging.

Feel free to throw your money my way:

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:29

Friday, February 7, 2003

### **iDVD3**

I have installed iDVD3 on my upgraded eMac.

I didn't have any problems with the installer complaining about my drive and the software seems to work fine.

I did have some problems burning a DVD - it kept hanging in the burning stage. One of the following things I did seemed to fix it:

Turning off "power down hard drive" in power management

Running a "repair permissions"

Setting the action on inserting a new blank DVD to "ignore"

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:13

### **Nipples**

Why are there more exposed nipples on the cover of Inside Sport than on Practical Parenting or Mother & Baby?

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:10

Thursday, February 6, 2003

**This page in IE**

It has been brought to my attention that this page doesn't look quite right in IE 6. This isn't by design, just a happy coincidence.

Since it works fine in Mozilla and Safari it is obviously an IE problem with the stylesheet. For a fix, go [here](#).

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 01:06

Tuesday, February 4, 2003

### **Karajoke**

I have seen this advertised on the back of taxis around Sydney. One look at the web site confirms my suspicions - this may be the stupidest concept ever. And check out the web page - straight from the hall of shame.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 07:41

### **get an iLife...**

Apple has released the iLife apps for download. I have also placed an order for iLife so that I can see if iDVD works with my do-it-yourself superdrive upgrade (the Apple dealer tells me that iLife is expected this week, so I will keep you posted). Updated xlr8yourmac is reporting a number of people have successfully used iDVD3 with OEM DVD drivers, so it is looking good

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 06:13

Monday, February 3, 2003

### **What is brokenman.net?**

There is a guerilla marketing campaign around Sydney at the moment. Other Sydneysiders may have seen the chalked messages referring to brokenman.net. There doesn't seem to be much on the site yet. The only "secret letter" that goes anywhere is 'o'.

I presume more will be revealed soon. It may even be part of an election campaign (Although a state government capable of eliminating terrorism seems a bit too good to be true).

Does anyone know a city train station whose name fits this: OR\_A ?

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:57

Tuesday, January 28. 2003

### **eMac Upgrade Page**

I have uploaded my guide to eMac superdrive upgrade. You can click [here](#) or access it from the "Other Stuff" link on the left.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 05:58

Sunday, January 26, 2003

### **DVD Installed**

I have installed the DVD-R in my eMac. So far all seems well. I have been able to watch DVDs and burn a DVDRW. I don't have a copy of iDVD yet (iLife is delayed apparently) so I can't test that, but I am hopeful. I took photos of the process and I am now working on a web site that steps through the process.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 04:59

Saturday, January 25, 2003

### **DVD Upgrade for my eMac**

My plan for the long weekend is to replace the CD RW drive in my eMac with a DVD "Superdrive". It should be pretty straightforward although the eMac doesn't look to be the easiest beast to disassemble. I will put up a web page showing how to do it as the only page currently available is in Japanese

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 10:03

Friday, January 24, 2003

**What more can I say?**

Doonesbury

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 08:30

Wednesday, January 22, 2003

### **On Safari**

I have adopted Safari as my new Mac browser. I must say that I am very impressed. I miss tabbed browsing, but it is very fast and quite stable. I have had quite a few problems where Mozilla and Chimera seem to lock my Mac (The mouse still works, but you can't seem to do anything). I have had none of these problems with Safari.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:10

### **007 - license to Advertise**

We went and watched Die Another Day on Sunday. Completely preposterous but good fun anyway. It seems quite interesting that they picked North Korea as the bad guys given the current tensions. On the other hand I guess North Korea isn't a big market for Aston Martin, Jaguar etc so no harm in upsetting them

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 13:23

Tuesday, January 14. 2003

### **Attachments**

Attachments has just started on the ABC. This is a show that I might have been interested two years ago. Now it just seems very dated. I find it hard to empathise with the characters as I know that they are doomed even if the series ends with them being successful.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:35

### **Lust**

Object of desire.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 14:33

### **Battery Replaced**

I am sure that you will be pleased to know that the battery was replaced a couple of days ago.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 12:44

Thursday, January 9, 2003

### **BEEP - YOUR HOUSE IS NOT ON FIRE - BEEP**

For the last three days we have been living with a loud beep every 3 minutes thanks to a flat battery in a smoke detector. Unfortunately it is mains powered so removing the battery won't help. Of course as soon as we leave the house some form of memory erasing ray causes us to completely forget about buying a 9 volt battery.

Posted by Paul Wilkinson at 13:49