

O'Reilly UK User Group Programme

NEWSLETTER

Issue 04-07

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HIGHLIGHTS

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O'REILLYGMT

NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

- April is Web 2.0 Month at O'Reilly
- License our Content
- Maker Faire 2007 Tickets on Sale, SF Bay Area--May 19-20
- Jolt Award Winners: Third Year in a Row!
- What's All This Fuss About Erlang?
- Create Your Own O'Reilly Shirt or Mug
- O'Reilly School of Technology Courses: UG Members Receive a 30% Discount
- The lighttpd Web Server
- PHP Search Engine Showdown
- Lightroom Getting Started: Creating Identity Plates in Lightroom
- Robert Leslie on Shooting TED and Using Aperture
- Digital Media Insider Podcast 10: Annoying Audio
- Apple TV: State of the Hacks
- Introducing Google Desktop for Mac
- A Chat with Nobi
- The Logic of Service-Oriented Plus 14 SO Tenets and Practical Principles
- Logging with Custom Web Events
- Controlling Threads by Example
- Using Groovy to Send Emails

BOOK NEWS

- Books for review
- Coming soon

CONFERENCE NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUR BOOK REVIEWS

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O'REILLYGMT

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O'ReillyGMT is a new blog from O'Reilly. We plan to bring you the low-down on tech culture from Iceland, Russia, South Africa and every place in between, from grass roots coding in solitary rooms, through the hopes and dreams of start-ups, via the pioneering work done by governments, charities and direct action groups, to the sizeable contributions of the major corporations that grace this territory.

Our main line of reportage will be technology, but we're keen to dive into ecology, business, media, the arts, academia whenever we learn something we'd like to pass on.

But we want this to be a two-way conversation. Please let us know what you're working on, comment on the stuff we write about, tell us what we're doing right and what we're doing wrong. We built this site to reflect what's going on: you know better than us, so please, join us!

Contact us – oreillygmt@oreilly.co.uk

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NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

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General News

***April is Web 2.0 Month at O'Reilly

We've put together a special resource page dedicated to Web 2.0 essentials including books, Short Cuts, articles, courses, and info about the upcoming Web 2.0

Expo. <<http://www.oreilly.com/store/april07.csp?CMP=EMC-ugwebess>>

***License our Content

We are pleased to announce our partnership with CCC's Rightslink service. You can now purchase reprint rights to our book content to reuse on your corporate internet, intranet, in newsletters, magazines, and course packs. This same tool makes it easy for you to browse much more of our books online before deciding to make a purchase.

<<http://www.oreilly.com/rights/>>

***Maker Faire 2007 Tickets on Sale, SF Bay Area--May 19-20

Join us for MAKE magazine's Maker Faire--a hands-on event featuring Makers whose science and technology projects will amaze you and ignite your imagination. Meet Expert Makers, MAKE contributors, authors, attend DIY Tutorials, explore DIY projects and demonstrations, and more. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to:

<<http://makerfaire.com/>>

***Jolt Award Winners:Third Year in a Row!

"Head First Object-Oriented Analysis and Design" won the coveted Jolt Award (the top prize) and "CSS: The Missing Manual" won the Productivity Award.

<<http://oreilly.com/promos/jolt17/?CMP=ILC-2RQ886833906&ATT=joltwinnerslink>>

***What's All This Fuss about Erlang?

What is Erlang? Why is it different? Why is everyone talking about it? Find the answers to your questions.

<<http://www.pragmaticprogrammer.com/articles/erlang.html>>

***Create Your Own O'Reilly Shirt or Mug

In three easy steps you can create your own O'Reilly shirt or mug.

<http://www.qoop.com/photobooks/photofront/pub_store.php?pub_name=oreilly>

*** O'Reilly School of Technology Courses: UG Members Receive a 30% Discount

O'Reilly School of Technology has opened its virtual doors with educational offerings and certification for IT students looking to further their careers or to launch one. As an O'Reilly User Group member, you save on all the courses in the following University of Illinois Certificate Series:

- Linux/Unix System Administration
- Web Programming
- Open Source Programming
- .NET Programming
- Client-Side Web Programming featuring AJAX

To redeem, use Promotion Code "ORALL1," good for a 30% discount, in Step #2 of the enrollment process. Each course comes with a free O'Reilly book and a 7-day money-back guarantee. Register online:

<<http://www.oreillyschool.com/?CMP=BAC-ostug>>

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Open Source

***The lighttpd Web Server

Apache is the 800-pound gorilla in the web server arena, but a plucky young featherweight called lighttpd is knocking at the door--and already powering some of the best-known and highly frequented sites on the Internet.

<<http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/onlamp/2007/04/05/the-lighttpd-web-server.html>>

***PHP Search Engine Showdown

Your users know exactly what they want to find on your web site, but they just can't find it. If only your site had a good search engine. Michael Douma and his team recently compared several different search engines for PHP sites.

<<http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/php/2006/02/16/search-engine-showdown.html>>

Digital Media

***Lightroom Getting Started: Creating Identity Plates in Lightroom

You can personalize the Lightroom environment by creating Identity Plates that appear throughout the application for a nice aesthetic touch. They also have very practical purposes as they can be used to identify slideshows, web galleries, and prints. Here's how to set up an Identity Plate of your own.

<<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/2007/03/14/identity-plates.html>>

***Robert Leslie on Shooting TED and Using Aperture

Event photographers need all the help they can get to survive the grueling hours and gigabytes of data they amass. Pro shooter Robert Leslie just completed one of the most challenging events of all, the TED conference in Monterey, California.

<<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/2007/03/27/robert-leslie.html>>

***Digital Media Insider Podcast 10: Annoying Audio

Peter Drescher designed the sounds for everything from After Dark screensavers to the T-Mobile Sidekick. Hear what it takes to annoy (and thrill) this top ringtone composer.

<<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/2007/03/29/digital-media-insider-podcast-10-annoying-audio.html>>

Mac

***Apple TV: State of the Hacks

Erica Sadun has been hacking away on the new Apple TV and presents this "State of the Hacks" roundup of what people are doing with their Apple TV boxes. Discover what kinds of mods are out there and whether they're the right fit for your needs and abilities.

<<http://www.macdevcenter.com/pub/a/mac/2007/03/27/upgrading-apple-tvs-hard-drive.html>>

***Introducing Google Desktop for Mac

Giles Turnbull takes an in-depth look at Google Desktop for the Mac, putting the recently released OS X version of Google's desktop search product through its paces. Learn what Google Desktop can do for you, how it does it, and why it needs to install itself with high-level permissions on your system.

<<http://www.macdevcenter.com/pub/a/mac/2007/04/09/introducing-google-desktop-for-mac.html>>

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***A Chat with Nobu

Chris Stone interviews longtime Japanese Mac journalist Nobuyuki "Nobi" Hayashi. Nobi shares his thoughts on this year's MacWorld, gives hints for Mac developers wanting to cross the Pacific, and explains why Apple TV won't be the next big thing in Japan, but what might instead.

<<http://www.macdevcenter.com/pub/a/mac/2007/03/13/a-chat-with-nobi.html>>

Microsoft/.NET

***The Logic of Service-Oriented Plus 14 SO Tenets and Practical Principles

What exactly is service orientation, and what does it mean for the future of the software industry? What are the principles that should guide any developer using it? In this excerpt from Programming WCF Services, Juval Lowy explains what it's about and offers practical principles for its use.

<<http://www.windowsdevcenter.com/pub/a/windows/2007/04/10/the-logic-of-service-orientation-plus-14-so-tenets-and-practical-principles.html>>

***Logging with Custom Web Events

Every serious ASP.NET application requires logging. Jesse Liberty shows how to use the little-known ASP.NET Health Monitoring system to create a robust and extensible, yet minimal, logging system that will send email in a crisis and routinely log to a database.

<<http://www.windowsdevcenter.com/pub/a/windows/2007/03/13/logging-with-custom-web-events.html>>

Java

***Controlling Threads by Example

The methods people commonly think of for controlling threads were deprecated long ago, and are not safe to use. In this article, Viraj Shetty shows the appropriate techniques for starting, pausing, resuming, and stopping activities taking place in a multithreaded application.

<<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/2007/04/06/controlling-threads-by-example.html>>

***Using Groovy to Send Emails

Groovy is one of the more popular dynamic languages for the JVM. It has a familiar syntax, reduces large amounts of scaffolding code, and integrates seamlessly with Java. Learning Groovy means gaining access to all of the richness emerging in the dynamic language world while still leveraging the skills, infrastructure, and libraries you already have from the Java world. This is a quick tutorial showing how to send emails from Groovy using Java libraries.

<<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/2007/03/23/using-groovy-to-send-emails.html>>

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BOOK NEWS
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Copies of our books are available for your members to review -- send me an email with the delivery address together with the book you would like to review. When the review is published, please send me a copy or the url. I would also appreciate if you could send a copy to www.amazon.co.uk

Latest books available for review --

- [A+, Network+, Security+ Exams in a Nutshell](#)

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If you're preparing for the new CompTIA 2006 certification in A+, or the current Network+ and Security+ certifications, you'll find this book invaluable. Its concise easy-to-use format provides all the information you need to get ready for the exams, including the four new A+ exams -- the required Essentials exam and three elective exams that pertain to your area of specialization.

- [Beyond Schemas: Planning Your XML Model](#) (PDF Shortcut)

Have you ever wondered how to get started writing your own schema? As you prepare to create your schema, you must consider a number of factors. This guide explains each of those factors in detail and recommends an approach for documenting your schema development plan in an information model.

- [Checking Java Programs](#) (PDF Shortcut)

This Short Cut tells you about tools that will improve the quality of your Java code, using checking above and beyond what the standard tools do, including: Using javac, options, JUnit and assertions, Making your IDE work harder, Checking your source code with PMD, Checking your compiled code (.class files) with FindBugs, and Checking your program's run-time behavior with Java PathFinder.

- [Facelets](#) (PDF Short Cut)

This Short Cut begins with an explanation of what Facelets is, how it works, and what it will do for you. Then, it shows you how to install Facelets, and teaches you how to build Facelets templates, how to create UI components without writing a single line of Java code, how to create custom Facelets tags, how to integrate AJAX into a Facelets application, and more.

- [Ferret](#) (PDF Short Cut)

This Short Cut will show you how to quickly get up and running with Ferret. You'll learn how to index different document types such as PDF, Microsoft Word, and HTML, as well as how to deal with foreign languages and different character encodings. This document describes the Ferret Query Language in detail along with the object-oriented approach to building queries.

- [Head First PMP](#)

Head First PMP offers 100% coverage of The PMBOK® Guide principles and certification objectives in a way that's engaging, not tedious. This book helps you prepare for the PMP certification exam with a unique method that goes beyond answers to specific questions and makes you think about the big picture of project management. By putting project management concepts into context, you will be able to understand, remember, and apply them--not just on the exam, but also on the job.

- [Linux System Administration](#)

For experienced system administrators looking to acquire Linux skills, and seasoned Linux users facing a new challenge, this book offers practical knowledge for managing a complete range of Linux systems and servers. It summarizes the steps you need to build everything from standalone SOHO hubs, web servers, and LAN servers to load balanced clusters and servers consolidated through virtualization. You'll also learn to back up data and create shell scripts.

- [No Fluff, Just Stuff Anthology: The 2007 Edition](#)

The No Fluff, Just Stuff Symposium Series is a traveling conference series for software developers visiting 27 cities a year. No Fluff has put on over 75 symposia throughout the U.S. and Canada, with more than 12,000 attendees so far. Its success has been a result of focusing on high quality technical

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presentations, great speakers, and no marketing hype. Now this world-class material is available to you in print for the first time.

- [Release It!](#)

Everything changes after Release 1.0. The consultants leave; key developers get reassigned to new projects, and the wild and free environment of development gets replaced by change review boards and defect reports. And the public starts beating on the system. Your application needs to be ready to live in that environment--without you.

Out in the real world, your system may have to endure the huge traffic spikes of a Slashdot posting, or a sudden influx of international customers in the middle of the night, or enjoy such popularity that you can't even take it down for maintenance.

Other books on design and architecture only tell you how to meet functional requirements. They help your software pass Quality Assurance. But painful experience has shown that "feature complete" is not even close to "production ready."

With a combination of case studies and practical advice, *Release It!* will help you avoid the pitfalls that cost companies hundreds of thousand--sometimes millions--of dollars.

- [Schematron](#) (PDF Short Cut)

Schematron is a rule-based XML schema language, offering flexibility and power that W3C XML schema, RELAX NG, and DTDs simply can't match. You need Schematron and can't settle for other languages if you have to check rules that go beyond checking the document structures (i.e., checking that an element bar is included in element foo) and their datatypes. Schematron is the right tool for checking conditions such as "startDate is earlier than or equal to endDate."

- [Securing the Vista Environment](#) (PDF Short Cut)

"Securing the Vista Environment" takes you on a quick tour of the most significant security features in Vista, Microsoft's first revision of Windows in almost six years. You'll get background on threats and vulnerabilities that will make you think differently about security.

- [SQL Injection Defenses](#) (PDF Short Cut)

This Short Cut introduces you to how SQL injection vulnerabilities work, what makes applications vulnerable, and how to protect them. It helps you find your vulnerabilities with analysis and testing tools and describes simple approaches for fixing them in the most popular web-programming languages.

- [SQL Server Integration Services](#) (PDF Short Cut)

This Short Cut begins with an overview of key SSIS concepts, capabilities, standard workflow and ETL elements, the development environment, execution, deployment, and migration from Data Transformation Services (DTS).

- [Test Driven Ajax \(on Rails\)](#) (PDF Short Cut)

This Short Cut seeks fixes for the hardest situation in web development; proactive test cases for Ajax code. We survey existing techniques, and invent new ones. Our goal is heads-down programming, without repeatedly clicking on a web browser.

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- [Understanding MySQL Internals](#)

Although MySQL's source code is open in the sense of being publicly available, it's essentially closed to you if you don't understand it. This book provides a comprehensive tour of MySQL 5 that shows you how to figure out the inner-workings of this powerful database. You'll learn how data structures and convenience functions operate, how to add new storage engines and configuration options, and much more.

- [XQuery](#)

XQuery delivers a carefully paced tutorial that goes into the final 1.0 standard in detail. The book delves into critical advanced issues such as data typing and designing efficient query logic. Whether you're coming from SQL, XSLT, or starting from scratch, you'll learn about XQuery's support for filtering, sorting, and grouping data, as well as how to use FLWR expressions, XPath, and XQuery tools for extracting and combining information.

****Coming soon

- [40 Digital Photo Retouching Techniques with Photoshop Elements](#)
- [Access Data Analysis Cookbook](#)
- [Closeup Shooting \(Hard Cover\)](#) (*Rocky Nook*)
- [The Definitive ANTLR Reference: Building Domain-Specific Languages](#)
- [Devices of the Soul](#) (hardcover)
- [Flash CS3 The Missing Manual](#)
- [Fonts & Encodings](#)
- [Learning Dreamweaver CS3](#)
- [Learning Flash CS3](#)
- [Learning Illustrator CS3](#)
- [Learning InDesign CS3](#)
- [Low Budget Shooting](#)
- [Managing the Test People: A Guide to Practical Technical Management](#)
- [The Myths of Innovation](#) (hardcover)
- [Office 2007: The Missing Manual](#)
- [Programming Firefox](#)
- [Programming Flex](#)

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Conference News
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***Registration is now open for OSCON 2007, Portland, OR --July 23-27
Use code "os07dsug" when you register, and receive 15% off the registration price.
To register for the conference, go to:
<<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/58/register.html>>

***Registration is Now Open for Ubuntu Live, Portland, OR --July 22-24
Use code "ubu07dusg" when you register, and receive 15% off the registration price.
To register for the conference, go to:
<<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/60/register.html>>

***Register for Where 2.0, San Jose, CA--May 29-30
Use code "whr07dsug" when you register, and receive 15% off the registration price.
To register for the conference, go to:
<<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/56/register.html>>

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***Register for the O'Reilly Tools of Change Conference, San Jose, CA--Jun 18-20
Use code "toc07dsug" when you register, and receive 15% off the registration price.

To register for the conference, go to:

<<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/57/register.html>>

For complete conference information, go to:

<<http://conferences.oreilly.com/>>

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UPCOMING EVENTS (ORM = O'Reilly will be there)
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ORM*** NLUUG Virtualisation Conference, Ede, The Netherlands
May 10th the NLUUG (formerly Unix Users Group the Netherlands) will organise a conference about virtualisation. The program has been finalised and is available at <http://www.nluug.nl/events/vj07/>.

Some highlights of the program are Joanna Rutkowska (Blue Pill), Anil Madhavapeddy (Xensource) and Avi Kivity (Qumranet). Specifically for non-Dutch speakers there will always be at least one talk in English in each timeslot.

The registration form can be found at:

<http://www.nluug.nl/cgi-bin/vj2007-registration-en> (English) <http://www.nluug.nl/cgi-bin/vj2007-registration-nl>

General information about the conference can be found at:

<http://www.nluug.nl/events/vj07/>"

ORM***XTech Conference, Paris, May 15-18

The theme for this year's conference is "The Ubiquitous Web". As the web reaches further into our lives, we will consider the increasing ubiquity of connectivity, what it means for real world objects to connect to the web, and the increasing blurring of the lines between virtual worlds and our own.

Register now - <http://2007.xtech.org/public/content/register>

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YOUR BOOK REVIEWS
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Northampton Linux User Group reviewed

Running Linux - <http://www.northants.lug.org.uk/reviews/>

Linux in a Nutshell - <http://www.northants.lug.org.uk/reviews/>

Edinburgh Perlmongers reviews –

Perl Hacks - <http://edinburgh.pm.org/book-reviews/perl-hacks.html>

That's all for now.

Josette

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