

O'Reilly UK User Group Programme

NEWSLETTER

Issue 06-07

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HIGHLIGHTS

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O'REILLYGMT

NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

BOOK NEWS

- Books for review
- Coming soon

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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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BOOK NEWS

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Is your group interested in reviewing our books?

If so, send me an email with the delivery address together with the book you would like to review. I will arrange for a free copy to be sent to you or the reviewer as soon as possible. When the review is published, please send me a copy or the url. I would also appreciate if you could send a copy of the review to www.amazon.co.uk

Latest books available for review –

- [Adding Ajax](#)
- [Adobe Photoshop CS3 One-on-One](#)
- [Dreamweaver CS3: The Missing Manual](#)
- [Essential ActionScript 3.0](#)
- [Excel Hacks, Second Edition](#)
- [Low Budget Shooting \(Hard Cover\)](#) (*Rocky Nook*)
- [Manage It!](#) (*Pragmatic Bookshelf*)
- [Network Warrior](#)

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NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND
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General News

[Why Do People Write Free Documentation?](#)

Results of a Survey Writing documentation is a thankless job when you're getting paid for it, so why in the world would people voluntarily do it for free? Andy Oram wondered just that, so he conducted a survey. Now he's here to present the results and some conclusions he's drawn.

[David Pogue: Now a Badass](#)

Gizmodo recently received over 100 entries to a challenge to make the NY Times tech guru (and O'Reilly author) cool. Sorry, the contest is over, but here's the photos.

[Site Licenses for Our Books Now Easier to Find](#)

Allen Noren explains how there is now a "Buy PDF Site License" on each catalog page for content we offer as a PDF.

[Create Create Your Own O'Reilly Shirt, Mug, or Poster](#)

In just three easy steps you can create a one of a kind shirt, mug, or poster adorned with your favorite O'Reilly animal. Create yours now!

[User Group Members Receive a Special 30% Discount on O'Reilly Learning Courses](#)

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 #3 of the enrollment process. Each course comes with a free O'Reilly book and a 7-day money-back guarantee. [Register online.](#)

Open Source

[An Introduction to Haskell, Part 1: Why Haskell](#)

Most programmers spend most of their life writing programs using imperative coding. You tell the computer what to do in a step-by-step fashion. Haskell is a horse of a different color, it encourages functional programming. Don't know what that is? Adam Turoff explains all in the first half of an introduction to Haskell.

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[Good and Bad PHP Code](#)

Kevin Yank discusses examples of good & bad PHP code, and how he tests people applying for programming positions.

[A Holiday Gantry Web Application](#)

Ruby on Rails may get all the attention as a quick and easy way to implement CRUD-type screens, but there are similar packages available for other languages. Phil Crow shows how Gantry, a Perl-based CRUD generator, saved Christmas.

[Creating MyTube with Flex and PHP](#)

Flex is Adobe's answer to the problem of finding a multi-platform environment for rich browser applications. Jack Herrington highlights some of the power of Flex by showing how you can combine it with PHP to produce a quick and easy video blogging site.

Digital Media

[dekeBytes: Palettes Aren't Panels \(Vampires Aren't Zombies\)](#)

Deke McClelland Explains "With the release of its CS3 products, Adobe has once again ever so slightly shifted its official marketing and documentation language. The newest casualty? Palettes. Palettes no longer exist. The word 'palettes' has been struck from the Adobe lexicon. Those things that were palettes are now 'panels.'"

[Joe Schorr on iPhoto to Aperture](#)

Many photographers have scores of valuable images stored in iPhoto libraries. As Aperture becomes incorporated into the workflow, what's the best way to move those pictures to the Aperture environment? And what if you want to share your Raw files with both iPhoto and Aperture? In this podcast, Joe Schorr, senior product manager for Aperture, explains all of the inside tricks for working with both iPhoto and Aperture libraries.

Mac

[WWDC Keynote: Oh Boy, Just What I Always Wanted](#)

Learn about the new features announced in Leopard, Safari for Windows, and the way iPhone development is going to work. Daniel Steinberg reports from this year's WWDC keynote.

[iPod Mic Shootout](#)

Apple finally added "CD-quality" recording to the iPod. But how good is it really? Recording engineer Mark Nelson plugs in three leading add-on mics and records voice and guitar to find out.

[Hit-and-Run: Launching AppleScripts with Keyboard Shortcuts](#)

AppleScript automation is one of OS X's most useful features, and it can be made even better with the use of keyboard shortcuts. Jochen Wolters examines three ways to assign a keyboard shortcut to an AppleScript, and digs in to FastScripts and Quicksilver in this detailed tutorial.

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Microsoft/.NET

[Managing Printing in Your .NET Application](#)

The .NET Framework makes it easy to support printing. In this article, Wei-Meng Lee shows you the basics of printing in .NET 2.0, including how to configure page setup, print multiple pages, preview a document before it is printed, as well as let users select a printer to which to print.

[Implementing and Understanding DHCP](#)

Setting up DHCP on tens, hundreds, and even thousands of computers can be daunting. Here's how to do it easily with Windows Server 2003.

Java

[Agile Database Refactoring with Hibernate](#)

Your data model was near perfect when your application was first written. Since then, it has...evolved. In this article, we will show readers how to upgrade their faulty schemas and data models without affecting existing applications or processes.

[Using the Lucene Query Parser Without Lucene](#)

This article shows how to use the Lucene Query Parser to build search capability into your application, adapting it onto a legacy database rather than using the entire Lucene package.

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Conference News
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Conference News

[O'Reilly TOC Conference](#)

June 18-20, 2007

San Jose, CA

Use code "toc07dsug" when you register, and receive 15% off the early registration price.

[O'Reilly Open Source Convention 2007](#)

July 23-27, 2007

Portland, Oregon

Use code "os07dsug" when you register, and receive 15% off the early registration price.

[Ubuntu Live](#)

July 22-24, 2007

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Portland, Oregon

Use code "ubu07dsug" when you register, and receive 15% off the early registration price.

O'Reilly Energy Innovation Conference

August 22-24, 2007

San Francisco, CA

Use code "ei07usrg" when you register, and receive 15% off the early registration price.

O'Reilly RailsConf Europe

September 17-19, 2008

Berlin, Germany

A. Use code "re07usrg" when you register, and receive 15% off the early registration price.

B. Ad a conference banner (attached) on your front page and get a free book from O'Reilly.

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*** [DebConf 2007](#), 17-23 June – Edinburgh, UK

DebConf is the Debian Project's developer conference. In addition to a full schedule of technical, social and policy talks, DebConf provides an opportunity for developers, contributors and other interested people to meet in person and work together more closely. It has taken place annually since 2000 in locations as varied as Canada, Finland and Mexico.

*** [Hack Day](#), 16-17 June, Alexandra Palace, London

“Expect U.K. Hack Day to be substantially similar to what we did in Sunnyvale last September, including physical, mental, and psychic sustenance. As before, you need to sign up in advance because space at the venue--especially space on the wireless network at the venue--will be limited, and we want the experience to be outstanding for everyone. “ – Kent Brewster

ORM*** [WebTech 07](#), 29/30 June - Varna, Bulgaria

4th Internet technologies conference will take place in the bulgarian seaside at city of [Varna](#). The conference as in the previous 3 years will focus on new technologies in web programming, open source and everything that stands for IT (Internet Technologies). During the two days event visitors will be acquainted with many aspects of these technologies and will be introduced to the future plans for development. Main themes are going to be programming languages as PHP, Perl, Python, the .Net technology and many more which you will be able to see in the schedule section.

ORM*** [LUG Radio](#), 7-8 July – Wolverhampton, UK

LUGRadio Live is a popular community-driven fun and social two-day event, run by the team who produce the [LugRadio](#) fortnightly Linux and open source radio show, that is focused on Open Source, free software and related technologies. It brings together a range of speakers, exhibitors, BOFs, events and more in a memorable two day extravaganza that is sure to rock your socks off. In its third year, LUGRadio Live is sure to beat the last two years that have proven incredibly successful and placed LUGRadio Live as *the* event to attend in the Open Source and free software calendar.

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ORM*** [Guadec](#), 15-21 July - Birmingham, UK

GUADEC (pronounced GWAH-DEC) is an acronym for the GNOME Users' And Developers' European Conference. Held annually in cities around Europe, GUADEC is the largest get together of GNOME users, developers, foundation leaders, individuals, governments and businesses in the world. Presentations are given by software developers, business leaders and users who are involved in Open Source, Free Software and of course, GNOME. These combine with many practical sessions and discussion groups which set the direction of the GNOME project. It also aims to attract new developers and contributors, as well as serve as a meeting point for corporate interests and allow us to showcase some of the latest technologies.

***No Fluff Just Stuff eXchange 2007 - August 29th-31st, London, UK

The No Fluff Just Stuff (NFJS) Software Symposium is the premier technical java/agility conference held throughout the US. Skills Matter and Big Sky Technology (the NFJS founders) have partnered to bring NFJS to Europe and are organising the first ever NFJS eXchange "<http://www.nfjs-exchange.com/pcd/1133>" www.nfjs-exchange.com Attend hands-on lectures on Java and Groovy, ESB/SOA, Ajax, Web Services, Agile Software Development and Architecture at this highly intensive 3-day event, aimed at senior Java Developers and Architects who want to learn and understand how things work in practice.

No Fluff Just Stuff means:

- Only real industry experts are allowed to speak!
- All topics are strictly technically focused - no vendors talks or spin
- An informal atmosphere where attendees and speakers can come together, discuss issues and learn from each other.

Speaker line-up:

- Ben Hale, Senior Consultant at Interface21
- Brian Sletten, Forward Leaning Software Consultant
- Dan Haywood, Lead Developer of the Naked Objects IDE
- David Geary, Co-author of Core JSF
- David Hussman, Agility Instructor/Mentor
- Dean H. Saxe, Managing Consultant at Foundstone
- Geert Bevin, Creator of the Rife Application Framework
- Graeme Rocher, Founder of the Grails Project
- Joe Walker, Developer and consultant, Getahead Ltd.
- Neal Ford, Application Architect at Thoughtworks, Inc.
- Scott Davis, Author of GIS for Web Developers and JBoss at Work
- Ted Neward, Author of Server-Based Java Programming and Effective Enterprise Java
- Venkat Subramaniam, Founder of Agile Developer, Inc.

For O'Reilly readers only, quote NFJS-ORE607, and receive £50 off the current price. Early bird discount ends July 15th. Space is limited. Registration is accepted on first-come, first-served basis. Register early to guarantee your attendance. For more information on NFJS eXchange, visit: "<http://www.nfjs-exchange.com/pcd/1133>">www.nfjs-exchange.com

ORM*** [Profoss](#), 9-10 October - Brussels, Belgium

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Profoss is geared towards IT professionals. People behind Profoss are IT professionals and will take care to position Profoss as a reliable source when you need information about Free and Open Source Software for your enterprise. The theme of the first event is [Asterisk](#), the open source telephone system, that brings the flexibility needed to replace old and expensive PBX systems.

A more complete list of events can be found on www.oreillygmt.eu

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YOUR BOOK REVIEWS
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NEEI reviewed Linux Kernel in a Nutshell
in Portuguese: <http://neei.uevora.pt/node/356>
in English: <http://neei.uevora.pt/node/357>

Durham Computer Society reviewed –
AJAX Hacks - <http://compsoc.dur.ac.uk/reviews/AJAX-Hacks.html>
Linux Kernel in a Nutshell –
<http://compsoc.dur.ac.uk/reviews/Linux-Kernel-Nutshell.html>

Nordest Perl Mongers reviewed –
Dynamic HTML –
In English -
http://www.varlogarthas.net/blog/2007/06/dynamic_html_the_definitive_re.html

That's all for now.

Josette