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Blurring the boundaries between our physical and electronic libraries

Original Citation

Walsh, Andrew (2010) Blurring the boundaries between our physical and electronic libraries. In: Handheld Librarian Conference 2010, 17th-18th February 2010, Online.

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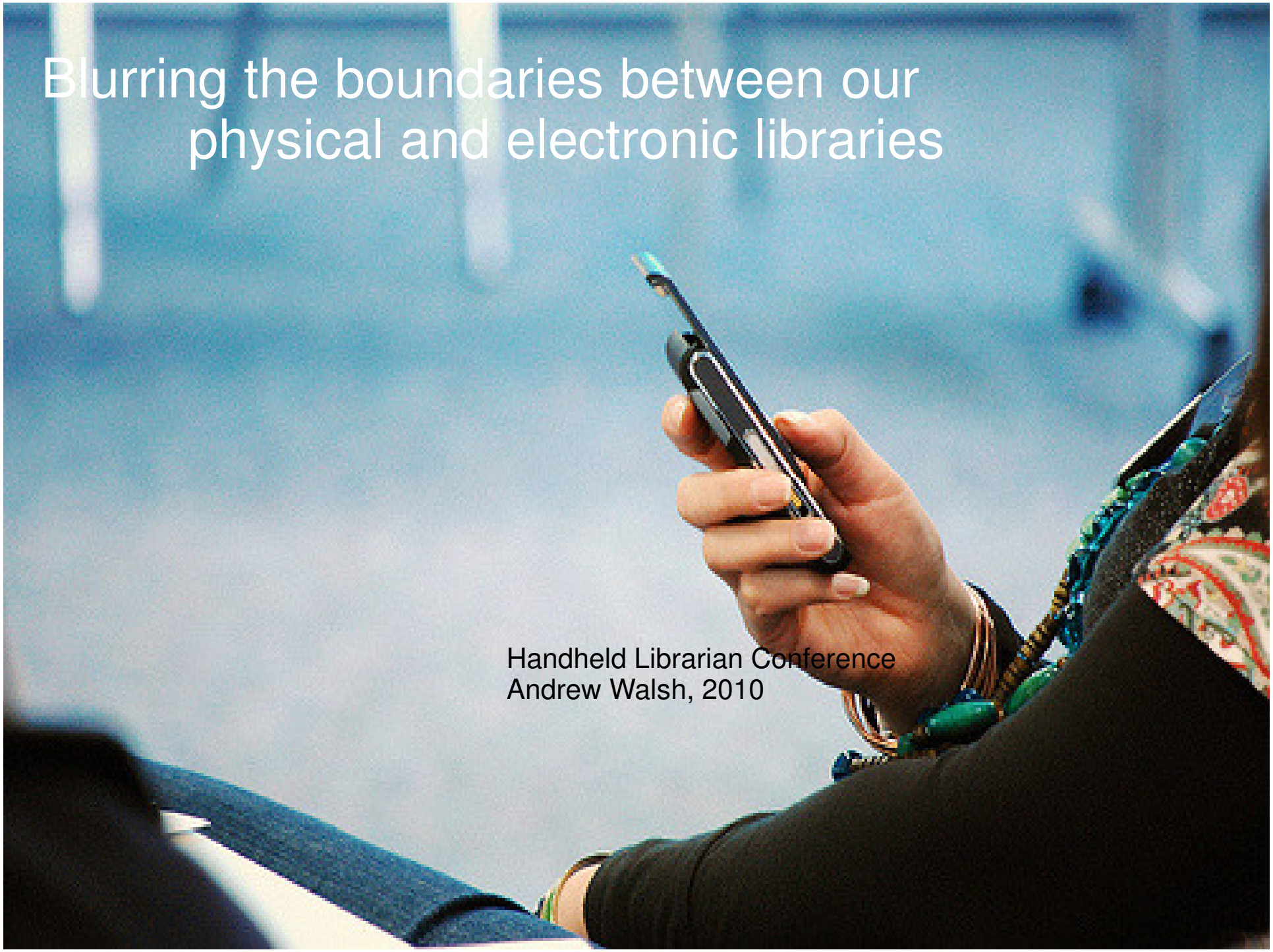
Blurring the boundaries between our physical and electronic libraries



Handheld Librarian Conference
Andrew Walsh, 2010

The next 20 minutes

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- Why ‘blur the boundaries’
- Locating technologies
- ‘Smarter’ objects
- RFID for more than just circulation

Why? A little bit of magic

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http://www.flickr.com/photos/7933170@N03/2631820657/ - by photographer padawan *(xava du).

Why? To keep our physical libraries…

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Are we becoming glorified computer labs and meeting places?

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Why? To keep our physical libraries…

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Are we becoming glorified c

Why? To keep our physical libraries…

Quick poll!

Do you think your physical library directly impacts on student achievement?

YES/NO

Why? To keep our physical libraries…

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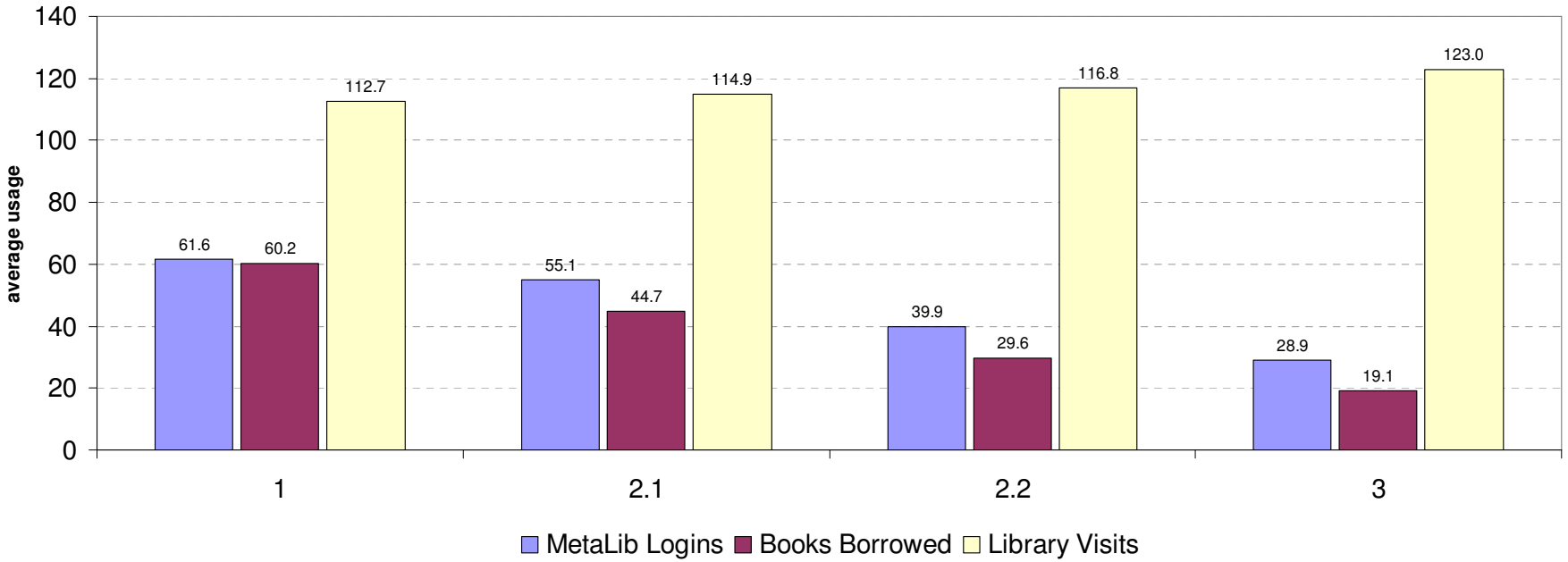
Library Usage v Final Award – All Honours Courses



What is the physical library for?

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http://www.flickr.com/photos/michaelsphotos/430442919/ - mstephens7

Personalising the library environment

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- Typical ‘mobile friendly’ library services
- Podcasts; SMS services; Mobile friendly web pages
- What about the user moving through the library?
- Annotating the physical resources;
- Augmenting the physical reality;
- And more….

Photo from http://www.flickr.com/photos/przemion/296458630/ - przemion

Locating technologies

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- GPS
- WIFI / Bluetooth / Active RFID Triangulation

"…in large indoor environments such as libraries … location awareness can become a crucial determinant of superior quality of service, deriving from the ability to locate the co-ordinates of a person or an object with reasonable accuracy at all time, and this provide spatially-aware services."

Giaglis et al (2002) *On the potential use of mobile positioning technologies in indoor environments.* In: ereality:constructing the eEconomy, pp. 413-428. Bled: Slovenia

A few examples…

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Erewhon
(Oxford)

Image from http://mobileoxford.posterous.com/

A few examples…

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Technology enabled campus (Durham)

Image from http://tel1.dur.ac.uk/wiki/doku.php

A few examples…

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- SmartLibrary
  Oulu University Library

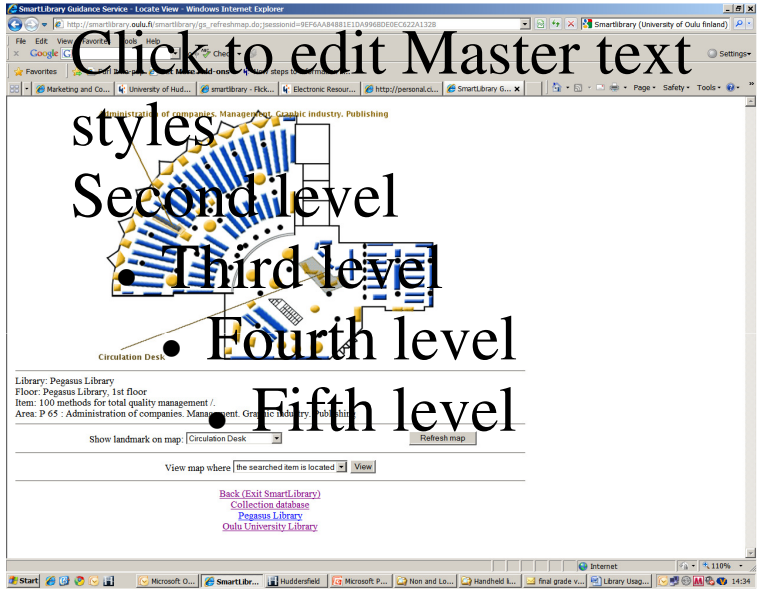

Image is desktop screenshot from Smartlibrary service…

A quick poll…

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Has anyone used these locating technologies within their own libraries?

If so, which?

1) GPS
2) WIFI mapping
3) Bluetooth
4) Something else…

‘Smarter’ objects?

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- QR codes and similar
- RFID tags

QR codes

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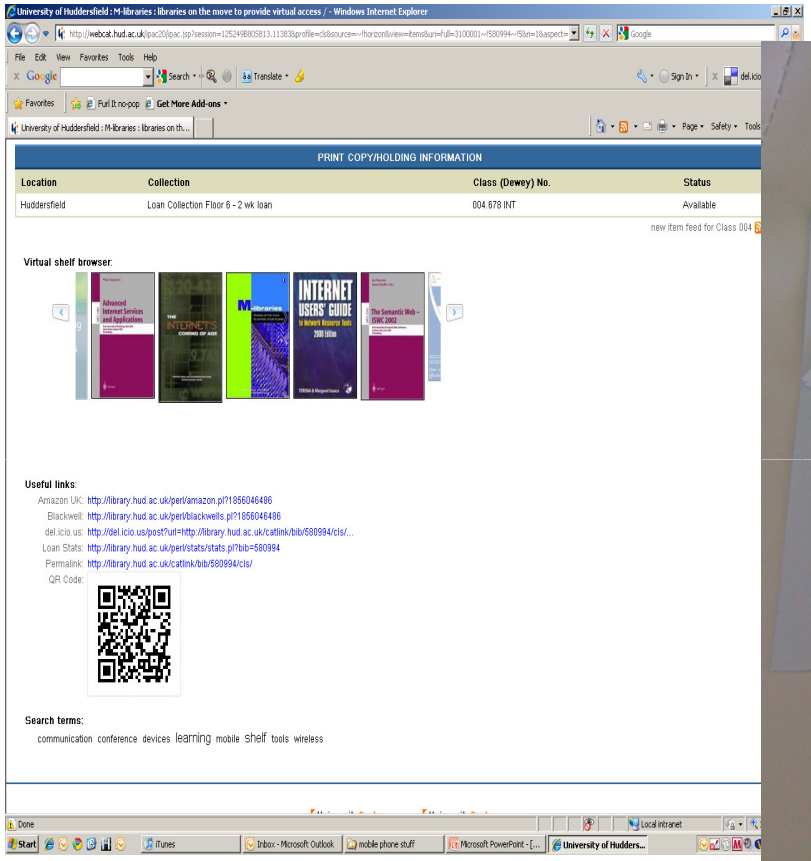

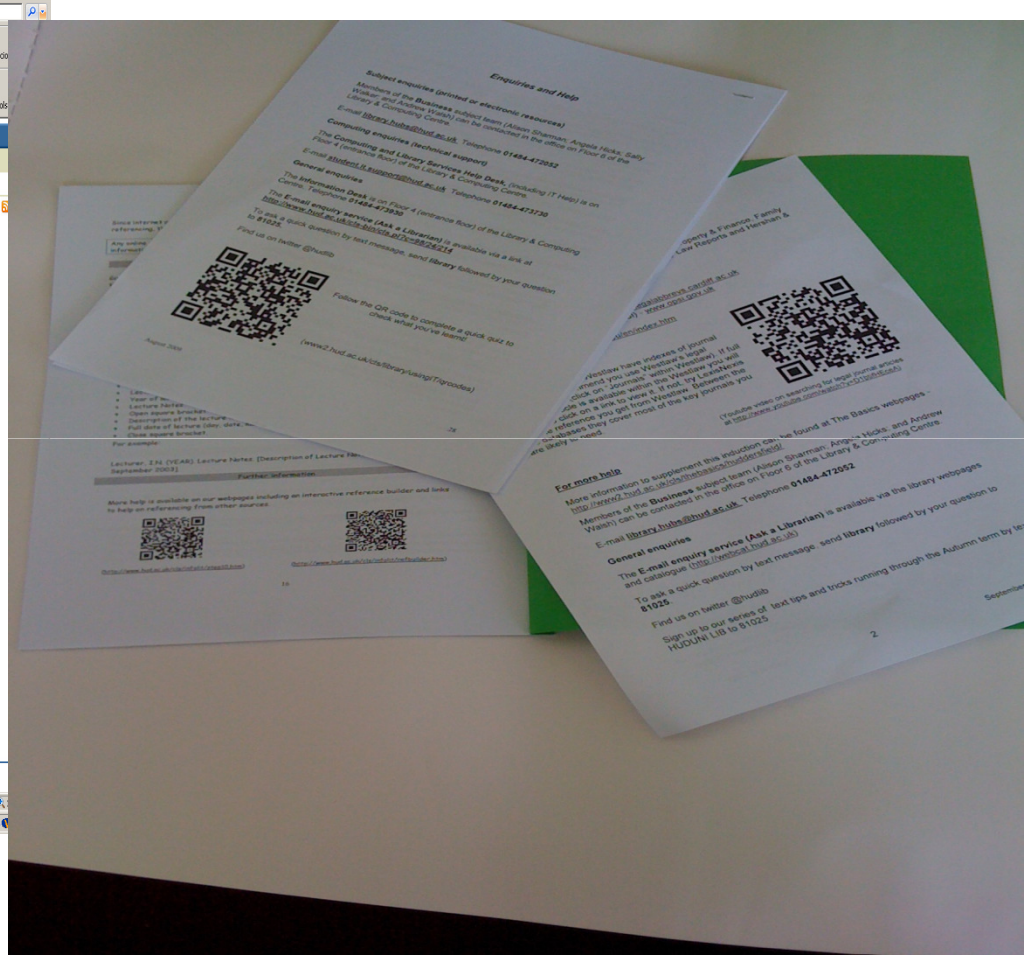

Inspiring tomorrow's professionals

QR codes

I'm also available electronically –
http://englishlegal.notlong.com/
What's the strange picture for?
It's a QR code. QR code readers can be downloaded free for most camera 'phones from the internet (just Google QR reader and the model of your 'phone). They then translate a QR code image and prompt your 'phone to do something – in this case go to a webpage containing the full text of the book.

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July 2009 Volume 65 Number 6
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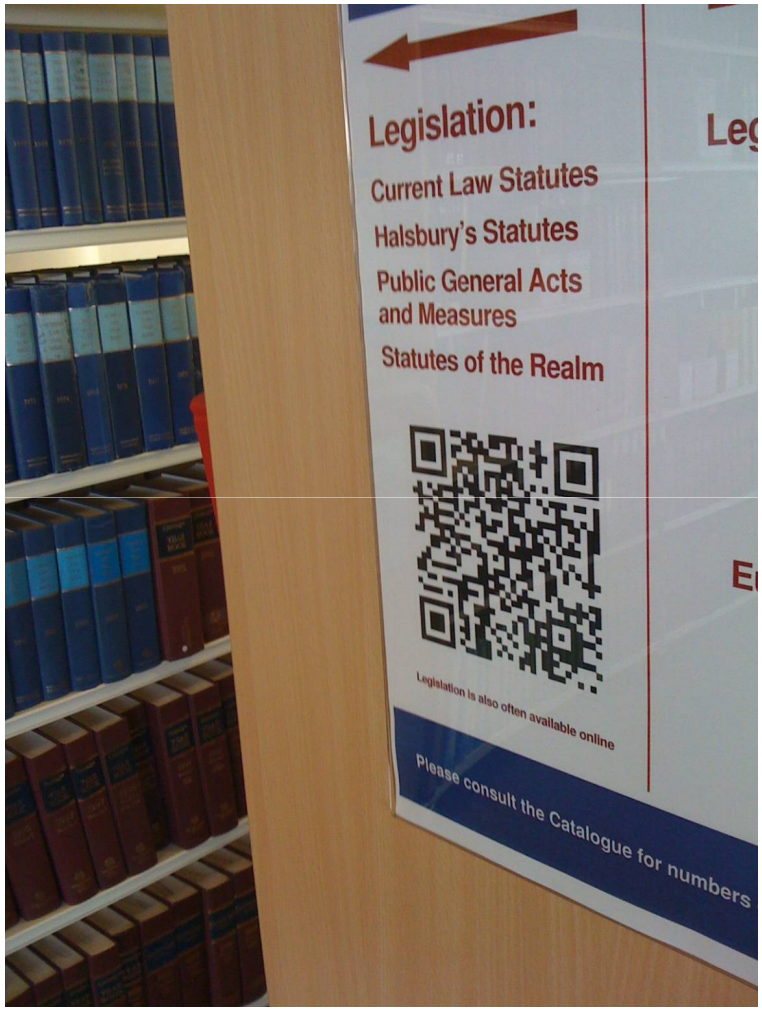
Magistrate
Essential reading for magistrates
MEDICAL
Medico-Legal Journal
VOLUME 77 PART TWO
ISSN 0025-8172
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY
VOL. 72, NO. 4
JULY 2009
THE MODERN

QR codes


Legislation:
Current Law Statutes
Halsbury's Statutes
Public General Acts and Measures
Statutes of the Realm
Legislation is also often available online
Please consult the Catalogue for numbers

when requested. Then press Finish
MONITOR
Insert Coins
Insert Notes
Present Card Here
Finish

Awareness of QR codes

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- Before we started – 8% recognised a QR code

- After a full academic term – 22% recognised one.
(but another 11% volunteered they were familiar...)

RFID Tags

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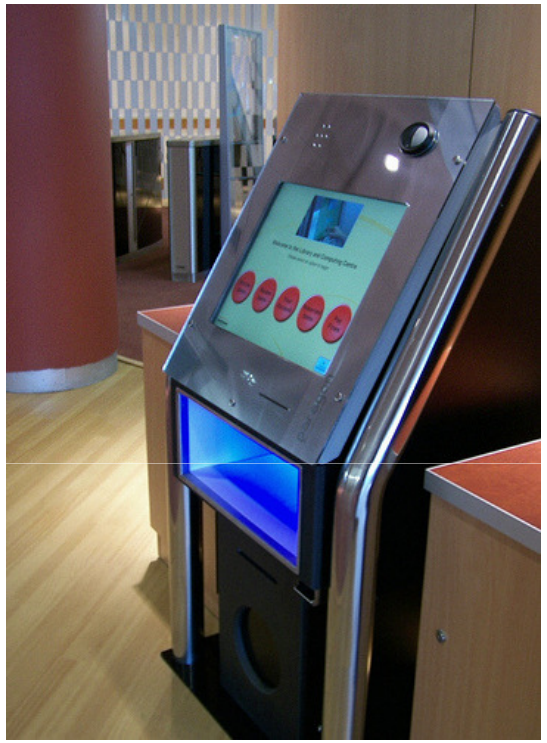

In our library, they're in:

- Every book
- Every DVD / Video
- In fact, almost all stock
- AND - every library card

But all we use them for is stock control and print credit.

RFID tags

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Could be used for....

•Book recommendations

•Comments on books

•Recommend this book to others

•Personalised help

•Social Networking

•Directed messages from the University

Summary

So how can we bring that little bit of magic into the library?
•Could use software on handheld devices to locate users.
•Could use QR codes, or RFID tags to interact with users as they move around.

"Research which sought to make full use of all cell phone hardware and software capabilities in tandem would be creating a service which did not have a true analog in the physical library ... The development of such a platform provides the library with a way to be an instrumental part of the students' life."
Hahn, J. (2008) Mobile learning for the 21st Century Librarian. *Reference Services Review,* 36(3), pp. 272-288.