

*Before we were ever different,
we were all human beings.*
(Mark Johnson)

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Playing for Change

[http://
www.playingforchange.com/](http://www.playingforchange.com/)

Playing For Change: Peace Through Music is both a movie and a multi-media movement created to inspire, connect and bring peace to the world through music.



Ten years in the making, the film involves over a hundred musicians, and is the result of the filmmakers' passionate commitment to the power of music in creating change and bringing peace to the world.

Mark Johnson and Jonathan Walls took to the streets in cities around the world to record and mix songs played by street musicians. They believe it's in the streets, rather than in concert halls or studios, where music can have the most powerful influence for connection and change:

When there's no separation between music and people – when music is just happening and people can walk by and it can affect them – then this is an opportunity for us to find a way to really bring people together.

Browse the various areas of the site, watch the videos and listen to the music – it's a wonderful place to spend some time! :-)

You can also find several videos On YouTube.



For example, an international performance of *Stand By Me*:

<http://tinyurl.com/5rnrv6>

And don't miss this inspiring interview with Mark Johnson plus a beautiful rendition of *One Love* :

<http://tinyurl.com/5vpt5o>

The associated 'movement' of *Playing for Change* was born during the filmmakers' visit to Gugulethu, a village in South Africa, where they were recording the African jazz group Tyhunsza, led by Pokie Klaas and Callender Mexico:

We asked, as we had all the musicians along the way, what can we do to give back to your communities – I mean, they let us into their homes, they fed us, they gave us their music, they told us their stories in the world. And Pokie said, 'the kids here, they really need a music, school – they need some hope. They need something that can give them some inspiration'.

So the film crew returned to Gugulethu, with other volunteers, and built a music school on the same spot where the band had played.

<http://tinyurl.com/6r22d5>

Their vision is to build hundreds of these music schools around the world and fit them out with recording equipment – and internet, so students in these schools can be connected with others around the globe through their music.

For more information, visit the *Playing for Change Foundation* website at:

[http://
www.playingforchange.org/](http://www.playingforchange.org/)

Two additional links for more information:

<http://tinyurl.com/6aqfeg>

<http://tinyurl.com/5jnbvu>



Happy Holidays!

At this end of 2008, it seemed appropriate to write about *Playing for Change* as our main article for this issue of Starlink.

We would like to wish all our Starlink readers a very happy holiday, whatever festivals or other significant events you may be celebrating in the next couple of months! :-)

We look forward to joining you again in February, with our first Starlink issue for 2009.



Till then, travel safely, enjoy the holidays - and may this holiday season bring you and yours the gifts of happiness and peace, as well as much fun and laughter!

Everywhere on this planet, people play music. Some may play to celebrate life, some may play to stay as far away from the grave as possible. The reasons for playing music may differ everywhere you go, but the human impact it has on all of our souls is something we share. I believe that when people watch this film, they will feel more connected to the human race and more inspired to help each other. Perhaps nothing can do more do connect a planet so divided by war, economics, religion and race than MUSIC!! As Bob Marley said, 'One great thing about music: When it hits, you feel no pain'.

(Mark Johnson)

Make Your World Happy

<http://makeyourworldhappy.blogspot.com/>

Nick Heap, a colleague of ours in the UK, maintains this blog. It has some very inspiring articles to read!

As Nick says, *When I was about eight years old, I saw the world, as it will be, full of happy people helping each other and having fun. Since then, I have been trying to help bring this about. I think everybody shares this vision somewhere and is doing their best to help.*

Starlink readers will also find a rich collection of inspiration and practical advice on Nick's website at:

<http://www.nickheap.co.uk/>

There you'll find more than two hundred articles and resources about developing people and organisations.

Thank you Nick for sharing your philosophy and these fruits of your 30 years as a facilitator of change, organisation development and communication! ☺



Social Edge

<http://www.socialedge.org>

Social Edge is a global online community where social entrepreneurs and other practitioners of the social benefit sector connect to network, learn, inspire and share resources.

Social Edge launched in June 2003 with the mission to:

- Connect social entrepreneurs, their partners and allies to discuss cutting-edge issues shaping the field
- Foster frank dialogue, mutual respect and a sense of community among all in the sector
- Promote learning from the best, promising and disastrous practices

Social Edge has become a site where social entrepreneurs, philanthropists and other practitioners of the social benefit sector connect to network, learn, inspire and share resources. The site strikes a balance between the visionary and the practical, with its spirited discussions and online workshops and features.



Social Edge has an audience of tens of thousands of social entrepreneurs around the world; it is particularly targeted at social entrepreneurs with limited access to other local resources and practitioners due to the nature of their work (e.g., international development) or their location (e.g., developing countries or in rural areas).

Every week, we host two online discussions moderated by experts in the field. This week's events are highlighted on the homepage. If you want to see previous discussions, they are grouped by category in the discussions section:

<http://www.socialedge.org/discussions>

You can also click on the tab located at

the top of every page (between "Blogs" and "Resources"), or you may want to check our Top Discussions (the most popular) in the right column of every page.

We also keep blogs, ranging from the inspirational to the practical.

<http://www.socialedge.org/blogs>

We even have podcasts if you want to listen to fellow social entrepreneurs from your computer (by clicking on the media player) or take Social Edge with you on the road (by downloading the audio file to your iPod).

<http://www.socialedge.org/blogs/not-to-be-missed/peace-corps-entrepreneurs>

You may want to check our resources, especially Expert Advice, where you can ask experts and fellow entrepreneurs the burning question you have about your own social benefit venture (you need to be a registered member to ask a question, though).

Qualitative Social Research Forum

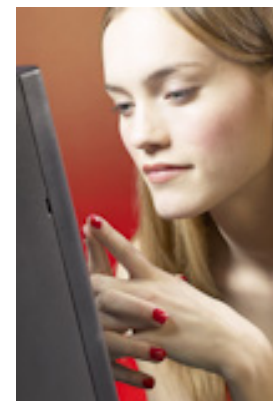
<http://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/index>

FQS is a peer-reviewed multilingual online journal for qualitative research, established in 1999. FQS Issues are published tri-annually.

In addition to issues of the full journal, selected single contributions and contributions from FQS Reviews, FQS Debates,

FQS Conferences and FQS Interviews are also published online immediately after they go through the peer review process.

FQS is an open-access journal, so all articles are available for free. You do need to register, however, if you would like to receive information about new publications as soon as they are posted online.



The Five Literacies

<http://www.thefiveliteracies.org>

An inspiring resource for leaders of all flavours, this website is well worth visiting, browsing and bookmarking.

As Richard Hames, owner of this website and author of *The Five Literacies of Global Leadership* says:



Five literacies leadership is not leadership as traditionally defined within organizations. More importantly it does not fit into the standard dogma created by contemporary leadership gurus.

Five literacies leadership is not a theory. It is not a model. Nor is it a tool, a method, or a system. So five literacies leadership cannot be learned or implemented in the manner of, say, Six-Sigma or the Balanced Scorecard.

On the contrary, five literacies leadership is an integral praxis. A philosophy of 'being'. People 'awaken' to the power of five literacies leadership. It requires a different kind of understanding. A different kind of learning. An advanced kind of personal development.

Five literacies leadership is not mutually exclusive or in competition with other leadership models. In the absence of a higher purpose, these have always tended to focus on managing people.

But five literacies leadership is not about managing – or even performance per se. It is about human intentions. Particularly the intention of purposeful collaboration to create better futures, where wealth, health and well-being are shared equitably.

Also, be sure to visit the huge collection of links Richard has collected :

<http://www.thefiveliteracies.org/index.php/eng/Links>

Richard also writes a blog called *The Hames Report: Reflecting on the Future of Everything*. You will find this at:

http://fiveliteracies.typepad.com/richard_hames/

It's a great read!

Scrabble ... and Other Games

<http://www.lionking.org/~timwi/progs.htm>

For Scrabble fans, there are many places where the game can be played online and there are also several software packages available for purchase.

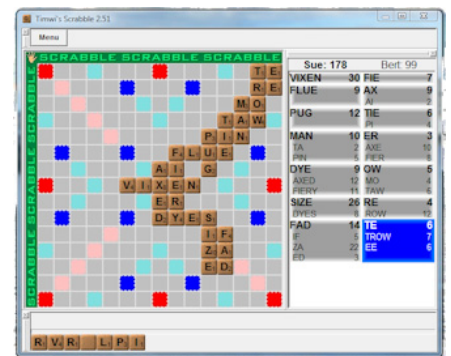


But if you're looking for some Scrabble fun, there's also a free Scrabble program that you can download from the above website to install on your computer.

We've tested it and it definitely doesn't contain any nasties! ☺ Simply extract the files from the zip file and save them to an appropriate folder on your computer.

It's a standalone program, so (another refreshing thing in these days of bloated software) doesn't make any changes to your Windows registry or anything else, and takes up very little room on your hard drive. (It's therefore also suitable to use on older machines.)

Arne Hiezman, based in Germany has developed this software and also offers a few other programs, although we've not tried these out. There's *Chocolate Chomp*, *Memory* (an adaptation of the classic "Concentration" game with paired cards) and a program for creating Mandelbrot and Julia fractals.



You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation. (Plato)

Beyond Intractability

<http://www.beyondintractability.org/>

In its subtitle, this site is described as *A Free Knowledge Base on More Constructive Approaches to Destructive Conflict*.

It contains a huge wealth of resources, and is well worth bookmarking. You will definitely not be able to mine all its riches in only one visit!

For example, there are essays and articles on 350+ topics, interviews with 70+ experts (including over 100 hours of audio plus transcripts), summaries of more than 500 books and articles, diagnostic checklists and user guides for many different purposes, online courses and other instructional or teaching materials.

Whew ... and that's a shortened list! ☺



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- ... inspiring and connecting people

My Child

<http://www.mychild.gov.au/>

This Australian government site is an excellent resource for families and all those who work with children.

It is about children, with the main focus being on early childhood learning and child care. You will also find helpful links to other information for families.

The site also summarises the roles and responsibilities of various government

departments and agencies involved with early childhood - information Australian Starlink readers may also find useful.

Visitors to the site can browse a wide range of information and will find links to a number of websites specifically related to children and early childhood.

There is also a search tool for finding a local child care service in your area.



A Gift for You!

We still have some charts to give away! :-) In honour of Starlink's thirteenth birthday last month, Starlink Extra announced birthday giveaways for our readers.

We're extending the offer, as we received no responses!

Simply visit our online shop at :

<https://www.bjseminars.com.au/shop/>

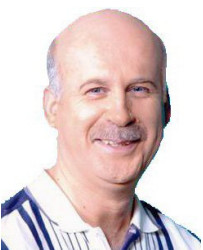
Then send us an email with the following information:

1. Which chart you would like as your gift
2. Why you subscribe to Starlink, in 25 words or less

Everyone who emails us by 19 December will go into the draw. Winners will receive an email from us, and your package will be in the post the same day. ☺



\$114 Spider



Reflections
CHRIS BENNETT

A little while ago I came home and discovered my indoor ducted heating system wasn't working.

I live in the Dandenongs (Melbourne, Australia) and when I stepped inside my home it felt like being inside a giant fridge. Cold. Really cold!

So I called the gas man to fix my heating problems. He arrived, on time, two days later - which was great because I was just thawing out.

'G'day, what seems to be the problem?' he asked.

'I don't know, I turned it on and no go. It's not working.'

'Right, I'll check it out for you.'

He walked around to the side of the house with his tool kit and began to dismantle the unit. He removed all the leaves and rubbish inside and around it. Then one by one he cleaned the jets.

As he cleaned the last jet he said, 'There's your problem.'

'Where?'

He held up the jet. 'Right there. See that?'

It took me a few moments to see what he meant, but then I spotted it. 'Oh yeah, now I see it!'

It was a tiny and very dead spider! It had obviously crawled in, got roasted, and its body had blocked the jet.

The gas man said 'It should work now.' Sure enough. He switched the heater on and it worked. Wonderful!

Then he gave me the bill.

One miniscule spider, may it rest in peace, had cost me all of two freezing days plus \$114!

Hmm, sometimes it's the little things that can make all the difference in the world.

