From eco-anxiety to an inspiring future

Part 2 - Paul Fillingham Design thinking













the future I was promised...

- Informed by science fiction on TV, comics and books
- In the world of Steve Zodiac or Thunderbirds the future involves riding hover scooters, battling against natural disasters and technological adversity
- Parallel universes of Lost in Space and Dr Who
- Futuristic factual programmes like Horizon and Tomorrow's World
- My first experience of watching colour TV involved an episode of Star Trek



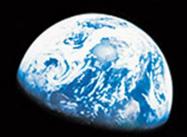
1968 - a great year for film...

- Kubrick released his cinematic masterpiece '2001 a Space Odyssey'
- Roger Vadim released 'Barbarella' starring political activist Jane Fonda
- Apollo 8 Astronaut, William Anders aimed a camera at the Earth





earthrise...



'The most influential environmental photograph ever taken'

Galen Rowell

paradigm shift...

- Earthrise image obliterates all of the sci-fi futures
- Fundamental change in underlying assumptions and patterns
- But not enough to bring about fundamental change in my academic bias!
- Studied fine art at Leeds Polytechnic
- Followed Bauhaus tradition of multidisciplinary art practice
- Provocative, politicised, avant garde artwork
- Lecturer Jeff Nuttall author of Bombculture (1968) introduced the work of William Burrows and Edward De Bono
- Re-patterning and provocation fundamental to design innovation



fast forward to the future...

- Home computing 1984
- Desktop publishing 1988
- Digital art direction 1990s Raleigh and Boots plc
- Noughties eCommerce web development Retail and financial sectors
- 2010 est. thinkamigo to develop digital projects for creative sector
- UNESCO, AHRC, Arts Council England, BBC, Heritage Lottery Fund
- Learned about audiences and experience mediated by technology
- Digital lit collaboration Guardian Award, Teaching Excellence 2015
- Mobile and social technology ever pervasive extends into real world



digital lit collaboration



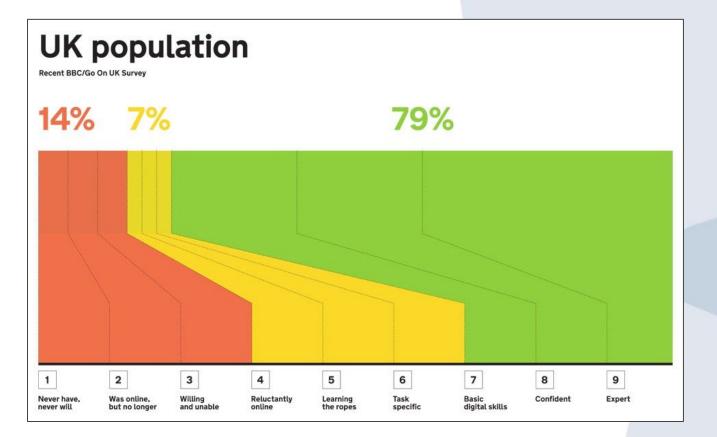


the present...

- User research and service design
- Supporting unified service provision across digital.GOV estate:
- Department for Education
- Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency
- Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
- Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
- Also; digital pensions, fin-tech, legal and professional service sector
- Graduate, Post-grad and staff portal research for UEA



digital inclusion scale...













In another of our guest blogs from the Traffic Commissioners, they explain why they're moving away from paper licensing applications.



design principles...

- Agile production, user research, conceptual models
- Government Design Guidelines (GDS) and pattern libraries
- Focus on digital inclusion and accessibility
- Supporting channel shift between digital and physical domains
- Holistic, user-centred approach to design
- Consider the needs of different cohorts today, tomorrow and distant future



tools and methodologies...

- Practical exercises to help you develop a design roadmap
- Split into 3x teams
- Work through the exercises
- Opportunity to 'show and tell' your work and ideas to the wider group



defining a problem statement...

- Each team select an idea from this morning's session
- Think about the core problem that your idea will resolve
- Write this as a single sentence
- This 'problem statement' will form an overarching objective for our other exercises



thinking hats...

- Introduction to Edward De Bono's 'six thinking hats'
- Lateral thinking involves different modes of thought (mindsets)
- Aligning thinking hats with six stages of agile workflow
- Agile collaborative design methodology commonly used in software development and service design





blue hat...

- Represents blue sky, strategic thinking
- Provides focus
- Encompasses our problem statement and the goal of our key stakeholders



stakeholder map...

- We know WHAT your overarching objectives are
- Now it's time to map out WHO your stakeholders are
- These can be individuals, groups, clients, owners, producers, third parties, anyone with some sort of influence over a product, service or community
- The stakeholder map is a method for defining and discussing the operating environment for your 'design'



personas...

- Getting to know your users, members and affiliates involves various research methods, ie; face-to-face interviews, surveys, contextual enquiry
- Useful to define user types as personas these are anonymised stereotypes that have attributes of real people - what are their interests, motivations, fears, personalities, social connections, etc...
- Wearing your red hat create three realistic personas who might experience your design, product, service, environment, etc



user experience lifecycle...

- The length of a service lifecycle is variable vary eg; a passport application may last a few weeks whereas a pension product may last a lifetime
- Draw a horizontal (time)line and mark key touch-points where your personas come into contact with your service
- Think about the context in which these interactions take place (WHERE and HOW)



moments of truth...

- Optimising the user experience (UX) involves reducing pain-points and friction within the product lifecycle, whilst increasing positive engagement
- Procter and Gamble describe the various stages of brand engagement as 'moments-of-truth' - this model has been appended by Google and Amazon
- ZMOT (Zero moment refers to the search phase Google)
- FMOT first moment is conversion
- MOT Gap (a critical inflection point described and mastered by Amazon)
- SMOT second moment represents the experience of using the service
- TMOT third moment describes how a user becomes an influencer



moments of truth...

- Annotate your lifecycle with 'moments of truth' remember that the user experience may be different for each of your personas
- ZMOT
- FMOT
- MOT Gap
- SMOT
- TMOT



sketching and stories...

- We use sketching and prototyping exercises to develop and validate design ideas.
- Iterative design involves zooming-in on a small section of the user journey rather than the wider perspective - it's how incremental gains are made
- Lateral thinking involves generating many ideas even if they are outlandish
- To increase the number of design options we can reframe the design problem by thinking how it might be resolved in the future
- Putting ALL practical/ physical constraints to one side, how would a design problem be resolved if you could do ANYTHING you wanted

future trends and risks...

- The black hat involves framing the service in terms future trends and risks
- You can use SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats) analysis to map the things that might influence your design
- Do an analysis for what might happen in 5 years, then again for what might happen in 25 years
- This exercise will help us create a design that is future-proof and sustainable



design iteration...

- Agile workflow is based on a virtuous design cycle which makes iterative improvements through process optimisation and increased engagement
- The yellow (or golden) hat represents the goals and analytics that we use to measure success
- The criteria for success is a balance between meeting the needs of the key stakeholder (usually the product owner) and meeting the needs of the user (client, citizen, etc). We also align output with our strategic goals
- How would you measure success for your design?



design thinking framework - summary...

- Problem statement
- Stakeholder map
- Thinking hats
- Personas
- Lifecycle
- Moments of truth
- Design variants
- Trends and risks
- Value driven design iteration



useful links...

Virtual whiteboard with templates for user research and design conceptual models. Free and paid service available; www.miro.com



