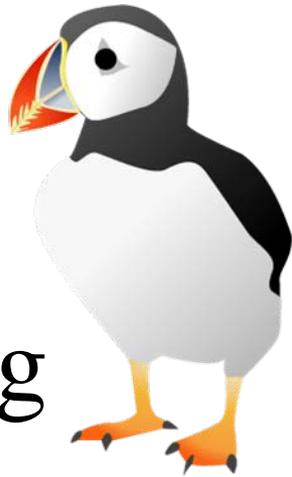


Language Box – Some cool stuff to do with EPrints

By Patrick McSweeney, University
Of Southampton

LanguageBox.EPrints.org



What is Language Box

- Language Box is a learning teaching repository
- It is a place on the internet for Language teachers to store and manage their teaching materials
- It primarily stores day to day teaching materials

LanguageBox.EPrints.org



It's Fully Buzzword Compliant

Pragmatic

Interactive

Novel

Inline Previews

AJAX

Interlinked

Tags

Hierarchical

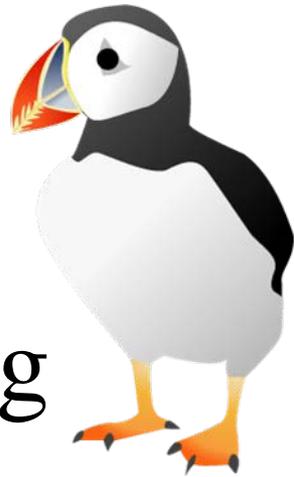
Feedback

Organized

Folksonomy

Community Engagement

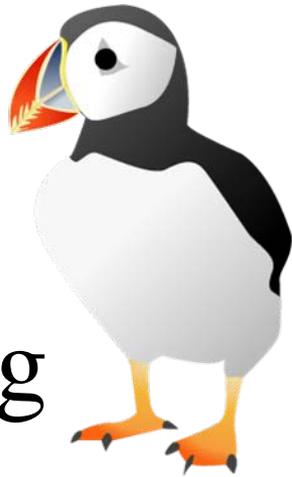
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Whys is that?

- Because it had to be
- Because it can be
- We made a mess of it once before...

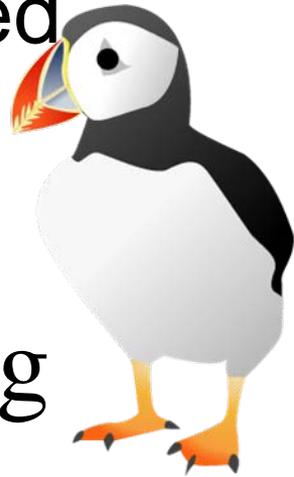
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Clare

- It was pretty much a default EPrints repository
- It used LOM ☹️
- People said it felt “Flat”, “Uninteresting”, “Over complicated”.
- **IMPORTANTLY:** it didn't really get used

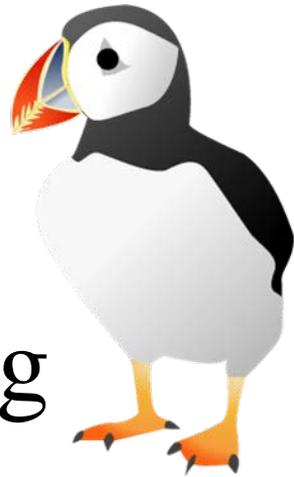
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



A Closer Look At The Problem

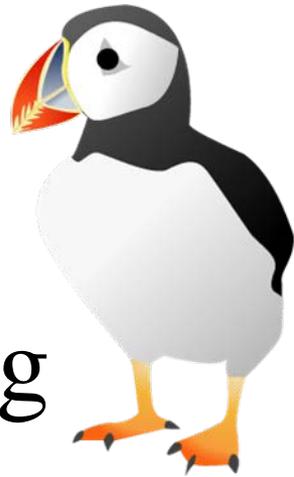
- It used LOM ☹️
- People don't use LOM
- People use Word and a photocopier
- People don't understand Zip files and XML
- The product didn't suit the target audience

LanguageBox.EPrints.org



The Solution

LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Build A Community Of People

- You need a user community if you want to get deposits without a mandate
- For that Community to exist each individual needs a identity
- Users need to be able to communicate with each other

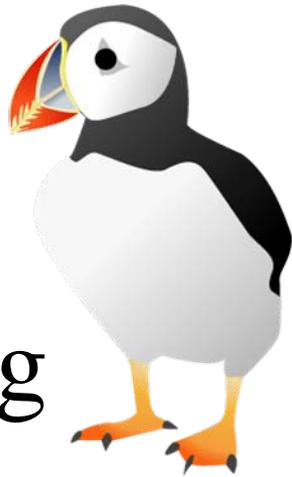
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Give Your Users Familiar Tools

- Don't unnecessarily inconvenience your users. Change the way you work to suit the way they work.
- Make your interfaces familiar

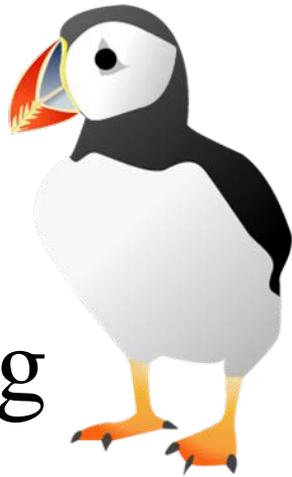
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Completely Reduce Complication

- 7 Field work flow and I wish it was less...
- No enforced formats. We will take whatever you've got
- Make it easy to organise

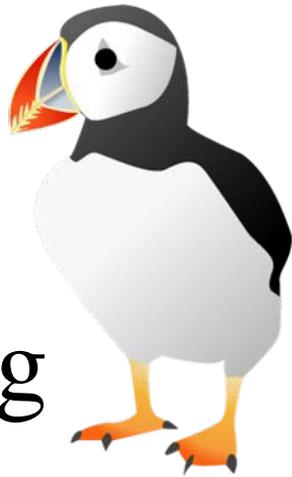
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Make It Easy To Find Things

- Search on every bit of metadata you've got in the simple search
- Have recommendations, derivations, activities

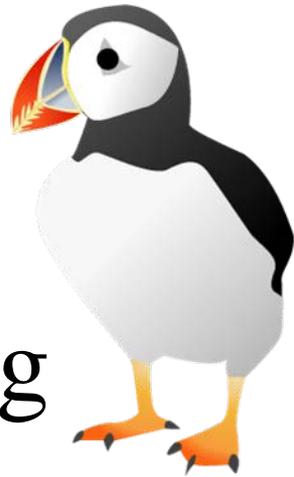
LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Give The Community A Voice

- Get suggestions at workshops
- Give them a comments system so they can talk to each other
- Give them a system so that they can talk to the people in charge.

LanguageBox.EPrints.org



What's in it for them?

- You have to sell this to them.
- They get an online space to store and organise their materials
- They can give links to their colleagues and students
- Make their stuff look good.

LanguageBox.EPrints.org



Where Next?

- We are spreading the love
 - More deployments
 - More publicity
 - More deposits
- EPrints plugins for you to use in your repository

LanguageBox.EPrints.org

