How golf handicaps affect the maintenance of Voyager
(a Voyage around Voyager)

Long long ago in a far distant Galaxy there was a library system needing 3 upgrades to meet the requirements of the evil company supporting us........
Thus began an exciting adventure..... With thrills, danger, heart-stopping moments...
To this end our band of intrepid Librarians and Jedi Knights began their appointed task!!!!

Who we are?

- University of Hertfordshire
- 4 associate colleges sharing a catalogue
- Hosted server for the colleges
- Different IT setup for each institution
- Different skills
- Colleges were reliant on both Endeavor and the University getting it right first time

What needed to be done

- Upgrade from 2001.2 to 6.1
- New server, bigger, faster, more powerful and sexier than the last
- Newer version of Oracle including Unicode
- Distribution of new clients
- Maintaining our unique ethos
- Porting personalised reports and procedures
# Planning

- Started January 2006
- Target date of August 2006
- Range of people involved
- Problems encountered
- Problems solved
- Fall back position should everything go FUBAR!!!
Tailoring for associate colleges

- Bespoke routines to provide standard reports – renewal statistics
- New books list
- Automation of EDI – interesting?
- Automation of circulation notices – in progress
- Automatically emailed from server side to contacts at associate colleges

Lessons learned

- Never again!! With a new Voyager administrator
- Allow longer for testing both pre-upgrade and post-upgrade
- Make sure colleges can test things such as re-linking access tables, uninstalling and installing Oracle
- Make sure events are documented!

The Future…

- Has the Empire had its day??
- Automation of more routine tasks
- Online repository of local instructions
- Greater freedom to tailor our OPAC
- Ability to SSH to the server
- Library 2.0?
- Enhancing the role of FE libraries to keep pace with HE
Contact Details

- Nikki Herriott
- Systems Librarian, Hertford Regional College
- nherriott@hrc.ac.uk
- Angus Shaw
- Systems and Applications Manager, University of Hertfordshire
- R.a.shaw@herts.ac.uk