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THE FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING DEACONETWORK TERMINALS

This "liturgy" was received from the Library Staff of St John's College, Auckland. It was explained that it is "the work of one person's incredibly fertile imagination". It was further explained that the author "is a third year student by the name of Geoff Haworth (no relation to NZ's erstwhile cricket captain)."

A word of explanation:

"Potty Training" referred to in the "liturgy" is an irreverent term for post ordination training.

Bishop MS Dos, Primate of Bibliographical Networks Archdeacon IB Incompatible

Before he/she ordains a computer for deaconetwork service, the Bishop shall by careful enquiry satisfy her/himself as to her character, compatibility, and Kilobyterage; he shall by examination ascertain that she has adequate storage of the Bible, the Creeds, the Doctrine of Integrated Networks, and the Book of Common Repairs. When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, the Archdeacon shall present unto the Bishop (sitting in her/his chair, seated near the Holy Terminal) the apparatus upon whom ordination is desired.

Archdeacon Reverend Father and Mother in God, I present unto you this apparatus, to be admitted as Deaconetetwork Terminal.

Bishop Take heed that the apparatus you present unto us, be an approved colour monitor, without taint or blemish, entirely free from Space Invader programmes, and fully IBM Compatible. Be ye PC Direct unto the people.

Archdeacon I have enquired of her, and also examined her, and find her to be user-friendly.

Bishop Sisters, Brothers, and Hackers, if there be any of you who knoweth any grave design faults, any false Analytics, any stale menus, or any heretical Author searches, let ye come forth, or third, and show what the impediment is.

(And if any grave defect is discovered, the Bishop shall cease from ordaining the Terminal until an approved serviceperson be summoned.)

Bishop Dearly beloved OPAC, do you trust that you are connected by the 386 Six Network to take upon you this office and function, to serve students and God, to their mutual confusion, and the bewilderment of the people?

PC Direct (through Archdeacon) I trust so.

Bishop Do you believe in the 386 Network, as set forth in the OPAC Manual?

PC Direct (through Archdeacon) I think so.

Bishop It appertaineth to the office of an ordained Terminal to enact, in catalogues both temporal and spiritual, keyword searches and author searches and subject searches, and to help the Librarians of this diocese to prepare students for ordination, diakonia, and eventual martyrdom. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

PC Direct (through Archdeacon) I will do so, by the help of God.

Bishop Will you give due diligence to avoiding bugs, thwarting hackers, upholding the laws of copyright, and shewing due obedience, both to Deans who become Bishops, and to Bishops who become Deans?

PC Direct I will do so, so help me God.

Bishop Then, PC Direct, Daughter of Opac, child of the 386 Six Network, take thou authority to execute the office of an ordained Deaconetnetwork Terminal in the Library of Judith committed unto thee. Avoid thou viruses and other terminal illnesses, drive failures, and slipped disks. Be diligent to study the things that are written on thy screen, that, as much as in thee lieth, thou mayest exercise wise Search Options, and be an example of faithful Bibliography.

The people. Amen.

Bishop (To Librarians) Do you, daughters of bibliography and stored resources, undertake to love, cherish and duly instruct this PC Direct terminal, now ordained into the Deaconetnetwork, and to offer her appropriate Potty Training, according to her needs and the needs of those who use her?

Librarians We do.

Bishop Then let us celebrate together this day of ordination, by singing as a community of faith and study, the words of that well-loved hymn "Opac, our help in ages past." Archdeacon I.B.ImCompatible will lead us.

Hymn

OPAC, our help in ages past
And Judith's Bright new Toy,
A help to Erice, here at last,
And Helen's pride and joy.

Before the shelves in order stood
Or files received their frame
A system that was quick and good
A Deaconetnetwork came.

OPAC, our help in coming days,
Our hope when books are lost
Let us insert, retrieve with praise
May God delete the cost.

Amen. Exit, to episcopal refreshments. Men, a plate please.