

Phone app which tells you where to find a new love or people who share your interests

- Scientists develop software to help you make friends
- App suggests places to meet like-minded people

By [Liz Hull](#)

UPDATED: 18:51 EST, 23 November 2011



Matchmaking by mobile: The software could pave the way for love

Imagine you are heading off to a restaurant when your phone buzzes and suggests a different eaterie where you might meet someone that shares your passion for art and literature.

Sound like the stuff of science fiction? Well, apparently not.

Scientists have devised software which will allow smart phones to do much more than keep you in contact with family and friends.

Very soon, they claim, phones will be helping users make new friends by suggesting places to go where people with similar interests are likely to congregate.

The system – named Jyotish after the Sanskrit term for Hindu astrology – creates a map of people's

movements by tracking the wi-fi and Bluetooth connections on their phones to within around ten metres.

Eventually the technology would be able to go one step further, by matching their identities to social profiles and spotting situations where they may encounter a potential love match or work client.

The software was devised by Boeing scientists to predict the movement of its work crews in their huge aircraft factories.

Researcher Long Vu gave 79 volunteers Android smartphones which were trackable.

They were used to create a log of users' movements, enabling Vu to create a mobile version of Facebook, whereby people in the same area created a 'hang-out event' for others entering the vicinity to join.



'A stalker's dream': The software formulates a log of users' movements, creating a mobile version of Facebook - something which has sparked concern among critics

But there are privacy and safety issues, said Peter Bentley, a computer scientist at University College London.

He told New Scientist: 'What if anyone could predict exactly where you will be and who you will be with? It is a stalker's dream.'

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All this technology that we have today and we still can't seem to communicate. Shocking. - MB, UK, 24/11/2011 15:16 ===== Spot on, it's an absolute disgrace. We never had any of this in my young day, but we were much much happier than the young people today.

- Mr Ellis, Tunbridge Wells, 24/11/2011 18:04

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Where can I order a one of those Guy Fawkes masks, hat and cape ... y'know, for 'the big day' (wink-wink).

- PC, Liverpool., 24/11/2011 17:20

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All this technology that we have today and we still can't seem to communicate. Shocking.

- MB, UK, 24/11/2011 15:16

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The ability of your smart phone to track your every movement is more frightening than the governments old proposal for ID cards. The number of Android apps these days that want access to GPS with no good reason is also frightening. People are sleepwalking into the biggest surveillance society ever, your phone is not your friend.

- z.phillips, wolverhampton, 24/11/2011 12:42

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Finding people who share your interests, which is probably possible to do, is very different thing from finding new love

- me..here..brighton, brighton, 24/11/2011 09:06

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You don't need scientists to develop software ! Thank you

- Letstalkcommonsense, Warwickshire, 24/11/2011 08:44

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How dumb, just cause you are in the same vicinity as someone else doesn't mean you will be attracted to them. This app is getting mixed up with conditional attractiveness (wish lists and social conditioning) as opposed to unconditional love (attracted)... attractive versus attracted...they are two different things. I think their app would be better at predicting divorces!

- Mike, Australia, 24/11/2011 06:31

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Simon and Garfunkel's "sound of silence" comes to mind.... People with nothing to say, taking all day to say it!!

- Terence, France, 24/11/2011 06:20

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People will be using apps to tell them how to use a lavatory next.

- Tom, UK, 24/11/2011 04:50

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If you cannot be bothered to make the effort to even talk to people instead of relying on your phone to tell you what to do and when to do it then you deserve everything you already have. Do not let this so called technology dominate your lives and actually live a little.

- Lucky Lulu - Proper Dogged Off, Berkshire, 24/11/2011 03:51

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