Suggested chapters

There are three main connected areas of the book

- Philosophy (or opinionated rants) a great deal of good IT management is making decisions in situations of limited information. in such situations a strong coherent thread of explanation is very useful. I may not have all the facts but the best approach is usually ... perhaps we could call this heuristics.

- SoHo-solo. This is the traditional computer how-to section, with lots of configuring computer systems. Elsewhere I liken this to ensuring that your head chef is able to cook well at home first. If an IT manager is not able to run a relatively simple but complete set up first then, like a head chef why do we think he can run a busy restaurant ?

- deeper meat this is discussing the sort of situations we only get when actually trying to run the restaurant, I learnt to cook a risotto from a Jamie Oliver cookbook, which was fine, but it would take ages, slowly softening the rice then adding the ingredients. THen I started reading more widely (as well as trying differing quality risotto in differing quality restaurants). FOr the life of me I could not figure out how restaurants could prepare me a risotto in ten minutes - it took me an hour standing over the pot. And then I found the trick. what you do is you cook a large amount of arboritto rice as a base and as it reaches al-dente take it off the heat and cool it, store it in the frige and there is a base that you can whip out and throw into a pan add a little stock and then muchrooms or asparagus or whatever.

  There are a lot of similar tricks in IT management. THings that even with the base skills of cookery are not cleanly obvious. Just dont order fish on a monday.

I think deeper meat needs to follow maturally out of each SoHo section, as sidebars or similar

SoHo from scratch

- Installation, packages and more how to install, how to manage packages, create own, use of jails?

- firewalls, connectivity, IPv6 ipfw, ethereal to monitor, talking about NAT and non Nat routers and ADSL IPv6

- DNS, getting a domain name, DHCP, miniature network, IPv6 having a seperate colo machine

- Disks and stuff, NFS, ZFS and more zfs might be fun

- email first set up, a sensible plan, postfix and mailscanner, issues over locking

- disaster recovery install from scratch, mirroring principles

- software deveoplemtn principles much bigger topic

- managing software development see above

- Xwindows how to, fonts, and remote access

- web server, python alternatives WSGI etc apache, wsgi,

- SQL and ORMS, yafwf, fabforce5 the ORM debate, the use of SQL

- Cabling and hardware (the darko slot) Simplest approach

- printing CUPS, netowrk printers, keeping it simple

- time pretty much done

- samba, rdekstop, exchange v alternatives, dealing with windows, vba vbscript com etc

- mobile computing and email and calendars why is windows the best solution

- multimedia streaming,

- websites - how to manage one, user experience, funnelling, monitoring effects public facing websites, ecommerce

- sysadmin darko again

- wiki use wikipedia

- bugzilla and programmer mgmt - progmgr

- OpenERP, tryton as python based extendible ERP platforms the rest of the business needs