Koha : history

Chris Cormack

Kiwi, involved in Koha since 1999, Koha Release Manager for Koha 1.0, 3.4, 3.6, CatalystNZ

1999-09: the origin

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Some kiwis and a y2k bug

➔ HLT Horowhenua Library Trust, in New Zealand

➔ has a system with a y2k bug

➔ Need low prices

➔ Need to work on a dialup line

➔ Easy to use for volunteers

(reference : http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/1638)

1999-09: the origin

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Katipo, (a « web company ») start working on a full web ILS

➔ Work start on sep, 99

➔ Limited functional requirements (no serials, no acq, …)

➔ Not full web in fact : circ was a vt100 app

➔ Agile development before Agile methods exists !

➔ Team leader : Chris Cormack

2000-01: the origin

1st version delivered on time

➔ HLT goes live with koha 1.0.0 on 2000, january 2nd

➔ 1st full-web ILS

Katipo is not a product vendor company

➔ Releasing Koha as OpenSource

2000-09: First version released

1st public release after :

- ➔ Some sleep for the developers

- ➔ Some bugfixes for the software

- ➔ Some work on the web for the rest of the world
  www.koha.org Website, Project created on SourceForge

New developers :

- ➔ Glen Stewart (1st patch not from Katipo)

- ➔ Steve Tonnesen (web based circulation)

2001-05 : non english newcomers

1st non english developer (& maybe library) : Pawel Skuza

1st french developer & user: Paul Poulain (in 2002-01) & Dombes Abbey

2002 : the expansion

➔ **Koha 1.2 released**

➔ **Wiki launched**

➔ **Bugzilla launched**

➔ **2 major problems to fix**

  ➔ Translating Koha : Move to HTML::Template decided

  ➔ MARC standards : Adding MARC support decided (1st sponsoring outside from HLT -Nelsonville Public Library-)

➔ **17th committer at the end of the year**

2002 : the need for a structure

International software, hacked « 24/7 », by ppl all around the world. It's time to add some organization !

First elected team

➔ Kaitiaki : our Guardian : Pat Eyler

➔ Release Manager : for the next version 1.4/2.0 : Paul Poulain

➔ Release Maintainer : for the current version 1.2 : Chris Cormack

➔ QA manager : Ingrid, then no-one

➔ Doc manager : Nicolas Rosasco

2003-2005 : strengthening the software

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New functionalities like

➔ MARC support (incl authorities)

➔ Serials

➔ Stats

➔ Advanced OPAC

➔ Bulkimport

2003-2005 : New team

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Team elected in 2003 :

➔ Kaitiaki : Rachel Hamilton

➔ Release Manager 2.4/3.0 : Joshua Ferraro

➔ Release Maintainer 2.2 : Paul Poulain

➔ QA manager : Pierrick Le Gall, then no-one

➔ Doc manager : Stephen Hedges

2006-2007 : road to 3.0

The SQL MARC structure is limited, and can't deal efficiently with large size catalogues (+300k items)

➔ **Deciding to move to zebra**

First KohaCon in France (KohaCon06)

➔ **3 days user conference (more than 120 attendees, in Paris)**

➔ **5 days hackfest (15 developers from 4 countries, in Marseille)**

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Changing tools :

➔ **Moving from sourceforge/CVS to savannah/CVS then git**

➔ **Mailing lists on lists.koha.org**

➔ **French website (www.koha-fr.org)**

2008-2009 : Why Open Source is stronger

In 2008-2009, Koha faced a trouble. In a few words :

➔ In 2007, LibLime bought Katipo Koha activity & domain name

➔ A company called PTFS does some business in US around Koha. LibLime cries for danger

➔ Something happens at LibLime and they don't share any more

➔ A lot of LibLime developers resign

➔ LibLime announces « LibLime Enterprise Koha », hosted only, source-code is not shared, the community no longer has access to Koha.org domain & tools

➔ PTFS buy LibLime. It's now PTFS/LibLime (early 2010)

2008-2009 : Why OpenSource is stronger

Open Source is better (for users) because :

➜ No-one can « steal » the software. It's a « common good » That's a huge guarantee for libraries/users !

➜ The software evolution doesn't depend on a single company success or decision !

Consequences of this crisis :

➜ For users (libraries) : nothing (Maybe a delay in releases)

➜ For developers : well, frankly, we spent a lot of time dealing with those problems that would have been better used in hacking. But we have learnt a lot of things.

2010 : back to hacking

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End of the crisis

➔ Decision to move to koha-community.org, with all our tools (Jan 2010)

➔ KohaCon09 in USA (Texas), KohaCon10 in New Zealand (Wellington), KohaCon11 in India, KohaCon12 in UK

➔ ptfs-liblime and community relationship still not normalized : we've some contacts with one of the developer at PTFS/LibLime, but They walk their way, and the rest of the community walks their way

➔ At least 90 libraries have switched from Koha, support by PTFS to Koha, support by someone else last year (see http://www.librarytechnology.org/libwebcats/)

2010: back to hacking

2010 and 2011 workflow changes

➔ Monthly IRC meeting

➔ Well defined patch workflow

➔ QA manager position filled !

➔ Many new contributors

It's time for a new start : the team is highly motivated, there are exciting things to do, there are more and more users that uses Koha

2011: versions 3.4 and 3.6

Koha 3.4 was the 1st "time based release" (april 2011)

- ➜ Normarc support (welcome Magnus !)

- ➜ Fast add (add catalogue record from the circulation interface)

- ➜ Switch from H::T::P to T::T for template (presentation)

- ➜ Item removed from bibliographic MARC record

Koha 3.6 (oct 2011)

- ➜ Easier analytics record

- ➜ 365 bugfixes & improvement from 3.4

2012: version 3.8 and 3.10

Koha 3.8 (april 2012)

➔ Hourly loans

➔ Firefox offline circulation module (KOCT)

➔ New staff interface

➔ 130 enhancements (+ fixes)

➔ 71 different developers

2012: version 3.8 and 3.10

Koha 3.10 (nov 2012)

➔ Plack on OPAC & staff interface

➔ Responsive design OPAC

➔ 160 enhancements & new features, 433 fixes (since 3.8.0)

➔ Enhancement description document is 43 pages

2013: version 3.12 and 3.14

Koha 3.12 (may 2013, Jared Release Manager)

- ➔ Patron self-registration

- ➔ Link between subscription & acquisition

- ➔ Branch-limited authorized values

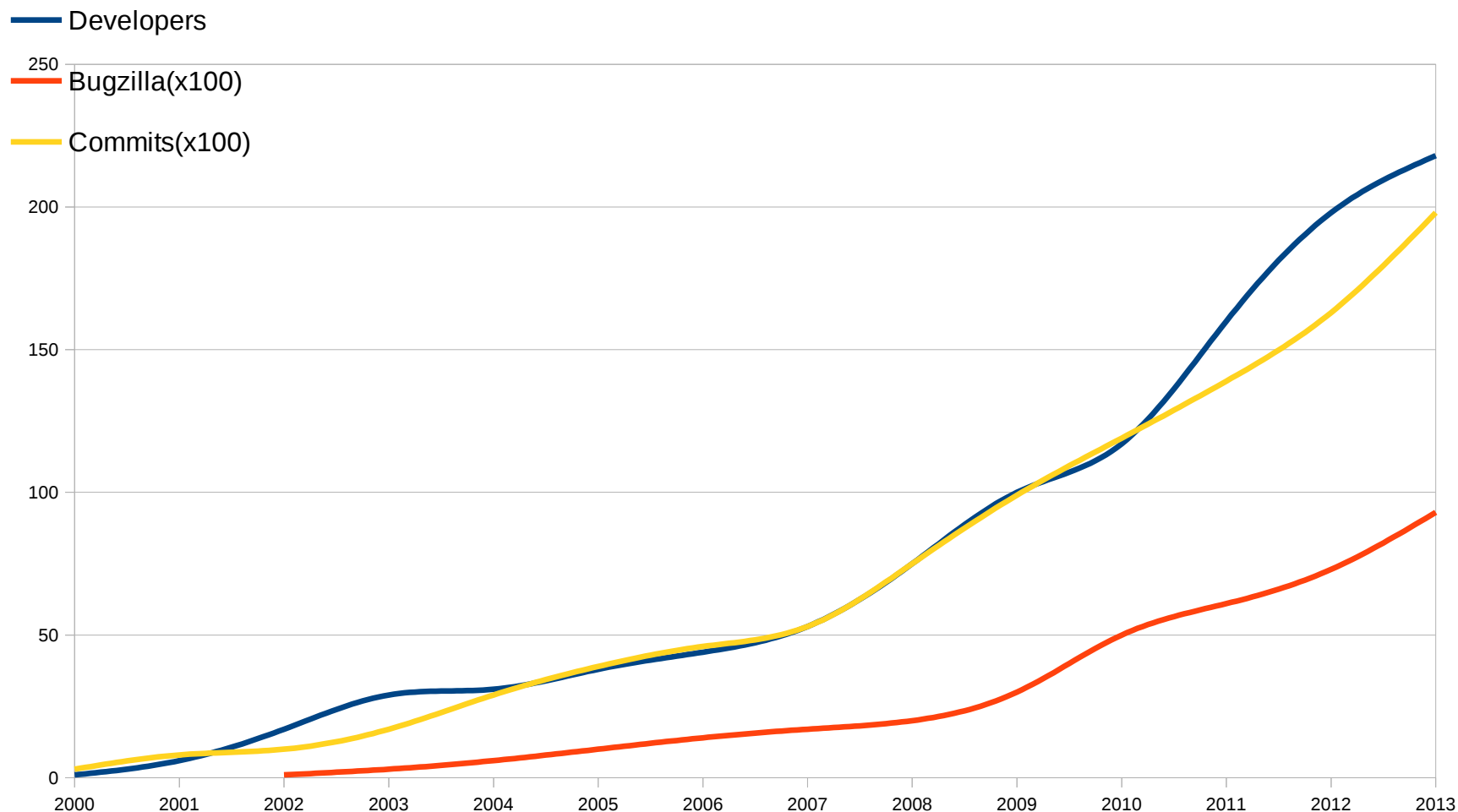**Koha 3.14 (Nov 2013, Galen Release Manager)**

- ➔ Course Reserves

- ➔ Bootstrap theme for OPAC

- ➔ New offline circulation module

2013 Trademark decision

IPONZ decision

➜ **Liblime/PTFS trademark application rejected**

➜ **Costs awarded to Te Horowhenua Trust and Catalyst**

➜ **Trademark awarded to Te Horowhenua Trust**

2014: version 3.16 and 3.18

Koha 3.16 (May 2014, Galen Release Manager)

➔ Different templates for notice types, eg 1 for email, different for sms

➔ Experimental Plack support for OPAC

Koha 3.18 (Nov 2014, Tomás Release Manager)

➔ End of fiscal year rollover of open funds and orders

➔ On - site checkouts

➔ Automatic renewals

➔ SRU download

2015: Koha 3.20 and 3.22

Koha 3.20 (May 2015, Tomás Release Manager)

➔ Batch editing of records

➔ Discharge notice generation and management

➔ Several holds related preferences moved to circulation matrix

Koha 3.22 (Nov 2015, Tomás Release Manager)

➔ Full plack support

➔ ElasticSearch

➔ Browse interface

➔ Rest API (maybe)

Lots more patches from Africa?

Fireworks

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10 years in 10 minuts.

A video, made for KohaCon10 in New Zealand

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tl1a2VN_pec