COMPSCI 111 / 111G

Mastering Cyberspace:
An introduction to practical computing

Publishing online
• Blogs, Wikis

Publishing online

Information is available to the public
- Target audience
- Content
- Presentation

Privacy
- Respect other people's rights
- Concern with your own safety

Blog

Web log
- Website
- Posts are made in chronological order
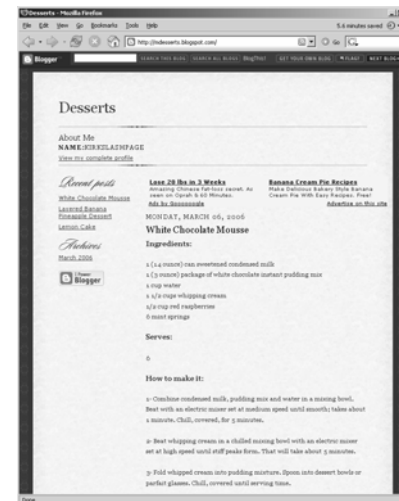- Very easy to use

Uses
- Online Diary
- Commentary
- Political, Cultural, Personal, Technical

Terminology
- Blogger - person that posts entries to a blog
- Blogging - writing posts to a blog

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blog

Examples

Social Issues

Political movements
- During war on Iraq
- Many viewpoints
- Editorial style

Advantages
- Gives people a voice

Dangers
- Providing too much information
- Children inviting wrong kind of attention

Wiki

Created by Ward Cunningham in 1995 to discuss design patterns

Description
- Simplest online database that could possibly work
- A content pool that can be easily edited

Anyone with appropriate access can edit any page
- Easy to use
- Easy to edit

Web pages that anyone can edit

Wikipedia launched 2001 – now worlds biggest wiki
- http://en.wikipedia.org

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki

Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages
- Creates a central pool of content
- Everyone can contribute
- Easy to use
- Quick to develop material

Disadvantages
- No quality control
- Anyone can contribute
- Information changes rapidly
- Vandalism a possibility

Making wikis work

Contributing
- Everyone takes responsibility
- Everyone adds content
- Contribute in different ways

Self-moderating
- Cooperate
- Maintain high quality

Tools
- History
- Recent changes
- Reverting to a previous version
- Delete content

Can you trust wiki information?

No

Yes

Maybe

Media is never objective

Media "accuracy"

Analysis of polls conducted in US June 03 - Sept 03.

- **48% - evidence of links between Iraq and al Qaeda had been found**
- **22% - weapons of mass destruction had been found in Iraq**
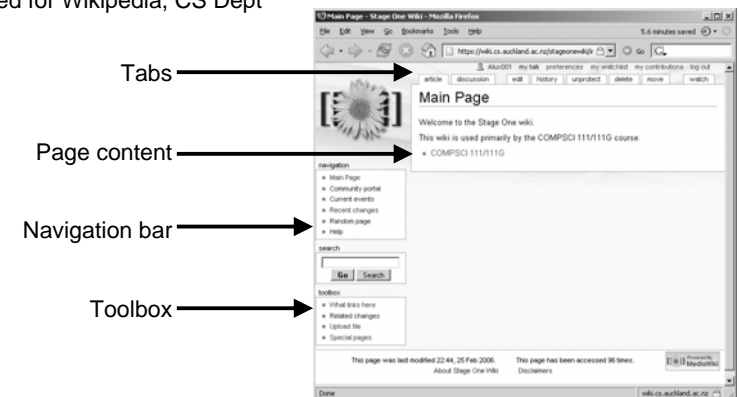- **25% - world public opinion favoured the US going to war with Iraq**

Misconceptions (of 3 listed)		FOX	CBS	ABC	NBS	CNN	Print	PBS
None		20%	30%	39%	45%	45%	53%	77%
1 or more		80%	71%	61%	55%	55%	47%	23%

**http://www.pipa.org/OnlineReports/Iraq/IraqMedia_Oct03/IraqMedia_Oct0
3_pr.pdf**

MediaWiki

Free Wiki software
- Appealing interface
- Simple security model
- Used for Wikipedia, CS Dept

Tabs

Page content

Navigation bar

Toolbox

Stage one wiki

Set up for COMPSCI 111 / 111G
- Anyone can read the wiki
- Must log in before editing
- Main pages are protected

Purpose
- Students can collaborate
- Create / compile resources for the COMPSCI 111 course
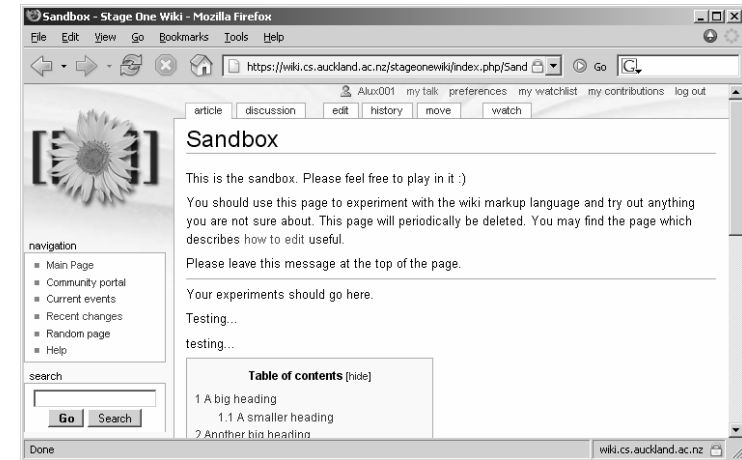- Tool for the COMPSCI 111 community

Use
- Encouraged to contribute
- Not required to contribute (after Lab 02)
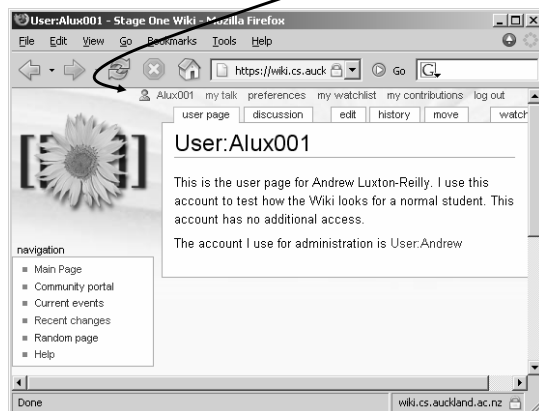
Sandbox

An area to experiment and play
- Can test out things in the Sandbox
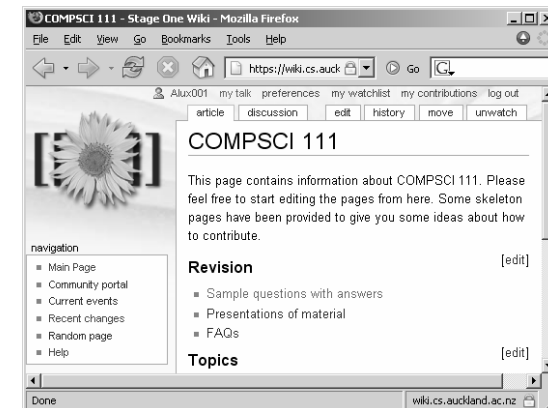
User page

A page is set aside for each user
- Click on user name to access the user page
- Same as any other page in the wiki
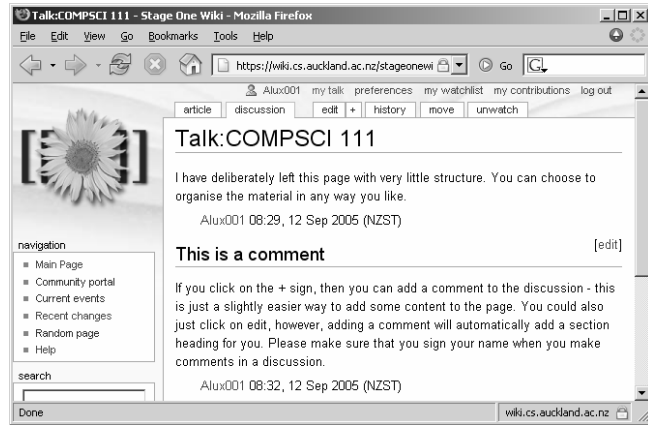
Articles

Main content of the wiki
- A single page is an article about a topic

Discussion page

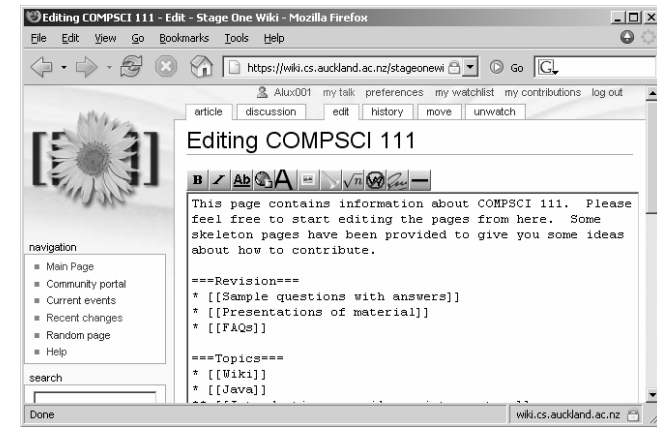**Each page in the wiki has an associated "talk" page**
- Allows users to discuss content of a page
- Can write comments, ask questions etc. without disrupting article

Editing a page
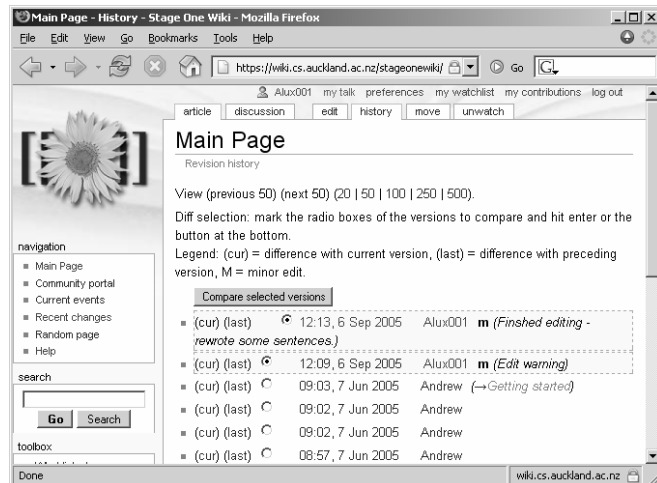
Simply click the edit button and start making changes.
- Always preview and read the page before you save changes
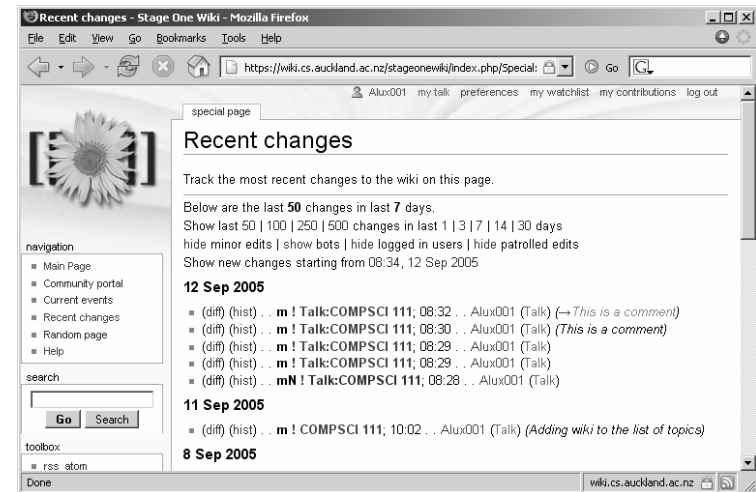
Tools: History of a page

Use this to compare different versions
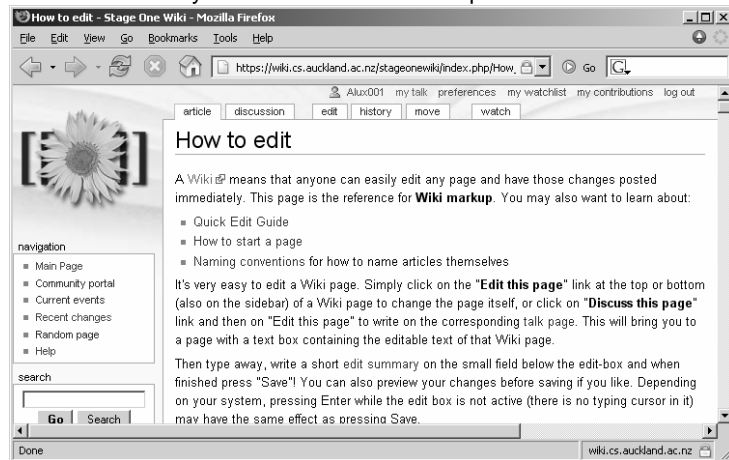- Easy to see what has been added/removed/changed

Tools: Recent Changes

A list of all the recent changes made to the wiki

Markup

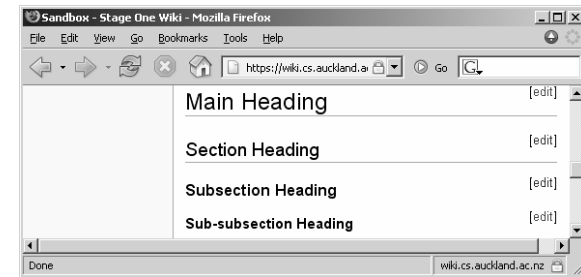**Wikis use their own markup language, sometimes called wikimark**

- Also accept some HTML markup
- Different wiki systems use different markup

Headings

Four different levels of heading

```
= Main heading=
== Section Heading ==
=== Subsection heading ===
==== Sub-subsection heading ====
```

Paragraphs

A single line break is ignored
A blank line starts a new paragraph

```
This is the sandbox.
Please feel free to play in it :)


You should use this page
to experiment with the wiki
markup language and try out
```
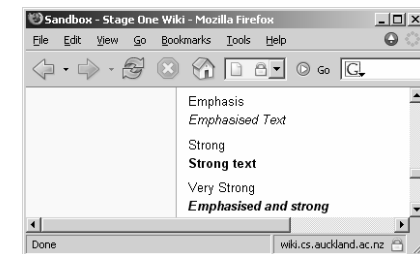
Character Styles

Emphasis
```
''Emphasised Text''
```

Strong
```
'''Strong text'''
```

Very Strong
```
'''''Emphasised and strong'''''
```
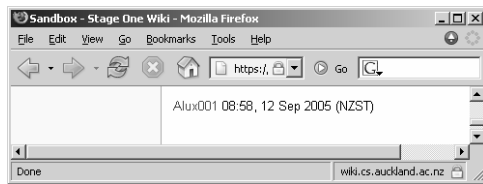
Inserting a link to author

Using three tilde characters inserts the username

   ~~~

Using four tilde characters inserts the username and time/date

   ~~~

Links

Adding an internal link (to another wiki page)

```
[[Name of Page]]
```

Adding an external link (to a page outside the wiki)

```
http://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz
```

Adding an external link (to a page outside the wiki), but displaying text for the link

```
[http://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz CS Dept]
```

Lists

Ordered List

```
#item
#item
```

Unordered List

```
*item
*item
```

Definition List

```
: term ; definition
: term ; definition
```