

The life and trials of an Internet junkie

By Robert Puddy

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my cybernet life story, the life and trials of an Internet junkie

I sat here this morning in front of a blank screen desperately trying to think of a subject for my next article. It wasn't only the screen that was blank, my mind started to wander away from the screen and on to random thoughts about Internet life in general and peoples names and the stories of how I got to know them started to pop in to my head.

When I realised here was my article with out the people I was thinking about my Internet experience would be less enjoyable and less profitable.

So this is going to be my cybernet life story, the life and trials of an Internet junkie.

I started the same way everyone else did bought a computer with a modem.

(actully I bought it with money but it had a modem installed) never used the modem for nearly a year figured if I started to log on to the Internet it would end up costing me a fortune in telephone charges. Only finally used it when the 12 months warranty was nearly up needed to make sure it worked before the warranty ran out. Guess what it had a fault the manufactures sent the wrong modem cable.

Got that one sorted out and then because I now had an ISP I started to use the internet, well I surfed around aimlessly, and I was right cost me a fortune in telephone charges.

Then I noticed my ISP allowed me to have my own web site (free of course) so I built my first web page. What do you reckon happened next, got bombarded with spam about how I could earn 1 million in 2

weeks just by following a simple masterplan that would only cost me \$50.00 if I purchased it today right now. Fell into that one several times, is all this sounding familiar getting a feeling of deja vous.

Ok now we have set the scene, where does the making friends come into it.

One of those emails told me about this super duper new hosting company that would not only host my site but provide me with products of my own complete with the sales pages for each product. So I could start making money right away, plus they would pay me, all I had to do was get other people to sign up and I could earn a monthly income forever.

Wow lead me to it signed up right away uploaded the sales pages they sent me started to send out free ads submitted to FFA pages free classified sites. Zilch, nothing, (accept a credit card bill)

I stopped in my tracks something was wrong here what should I be doing that I wasn't, this was a good product great sales pages written by experts it had to sell.

Then I noticed that one of the free extras you got was membership to a marketing forum called the Internet Warriors, in desperation decided to log in and take a look.

BINGO here was all the information on what worked and why. What didn't work and why, I found people here who were willing to take me by the hand and tutor me for free.

I found out that free classifieds and FFA sites used to work but not any more, paid solo ads, and writing your own articles were the way to go. Writing my own articles "phew" could I do that, Yes I could well I could try at least.

Wrote an article around one of the many affiliate programs I had joined "search engine commando" and called it the price of spamming the search engines. Now where to submit it, I decided to go straight for the jugular and submitted it to Inside Office one of the premier newsletters on the net.

About two weeks later I got home from work turned on the computer to check my email, and was totally gobsmacked there was a string of emails from SEC with the subject line "YOU HAVE MADE A SALE". There were 24 emails all telling me I had made a \$24.95 commission on sales of SEC.

There were another 10 emails in my in box asking me questions about SEC and where could they get it, also in there was my copy of Inside Office with my article headline in the subject line.

I was in print, I had made money and I was hooked for life.

That article produced sales and enquiries for a whole week, I actually got people signing up for my newsletter, I was an Internet warrior.

So I wrote another article about another affiliate program, submitted it to Inside Office again. Nothing Zilch never got published. Annoyed but determined I submitted it to Internet Day another high profile Internet ezine.

Bingo not only was it published it made sales just like the other one did, but best of all I got an email from one of the biggest names in internet marketing Joe Robson.

Joe told me what a great article it was and thanked me for the great tips in it (kept that email)
I replied to Joe asking him if I could use his comments as a testimonial, he agreed and I proudly put it at the top of my WebPages. Subscriptions to my newsletter tripled overnight

Went back to the warriors forum and started taking heed of what was being said, even chipped in with a few comments of my own. Now those people, who were so willing to help, people like. Teresa King, Diane Hughes, Paul Meyers, Patty Baldwin, Heather Coleman, Ian Noakes, Gary sergeant, Pamela Heywood all know who I am. I get emails from them asking my opinion, inviting me to participate in joint ventures. Thanking me for info I have given them.

I am one of those people whose replies are read by the newbies in the forum.

Is this just boasting on my part, NO I'm proud of that but the reason for telling this story is to get you to realise you have got to get involved, make contacts, make friends, make a name inside the circle of people who can set you on your way. Then give back that help to the people coming in later.

All those contacts and the people that listen to what I have to say, make me money.

At least some of those names above are not only mentors they are customers and business partners.

I guess what I am trying to say here is sometimes it's not what you know but who you know that counts.

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