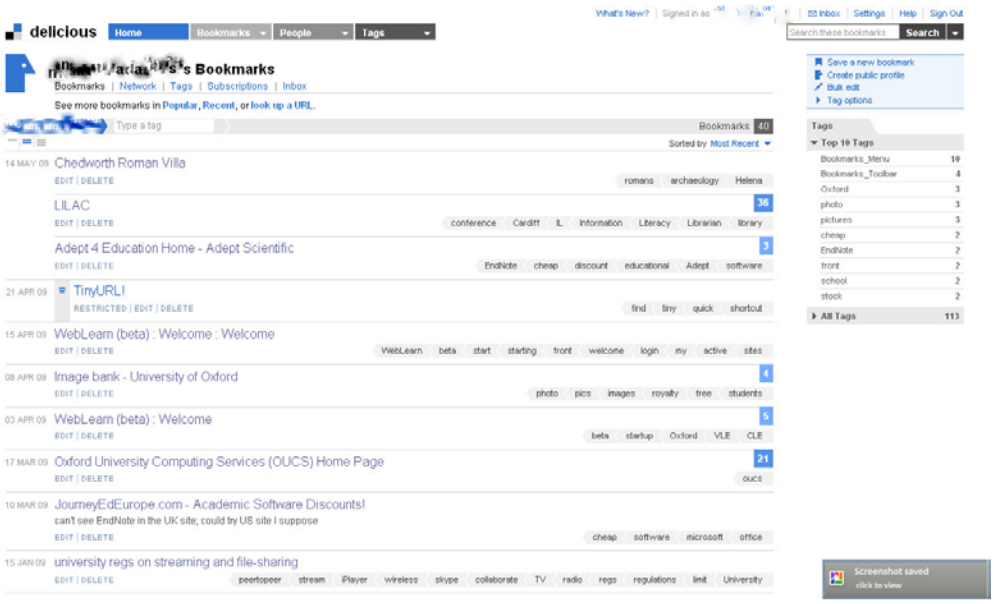

Social bookmarking

Purpose

Social bookmarking tools are an extension of the “bookmarking” or “favourites” features of your Web browser

Description

You can use social bookmarking in three main ways:

- Access your bookmarked links from any computer, not just the one on which you were working when you added the bookmark.
- Share your bookmarks with anyone else who uses the same tool. However, you can choose to keep some or all of your links private.
- Categorise your links by using “tags”: classifications that you can assign to help you retrieve links on related topics. If other people have used the same tag as you, then you can choose to see the URLs that they have associated with that tag.

Ways of using this tool

The tool is available inside your web browser, where it offers a list of the sites which you have bookmarked. You can search using tags, even when you cannot remember the actual name of a site.

Tool Guide
Oxford University Computing Services

Tools for Teaching

Creating bookmarks can be a useful activity in itself for practising research skills. In a student project group, research group or other such collaboration, bookmarking provides a way for a team to collate and share resources.

Many social bookmarking tools allow you to deliver the items that you bookmark into WebLearn or a web page as a newsfeed. The icon indicates that a newsfeed is available on a particular web site. If you use such an icon in your social bookmarking tool, it will give you the URL of the newsfeed (or you may need to Copy the URL from the browser's Address bar).

You can add a "News" tool to your WebLearn site: you Paste the URL from the newsfeed to make WebLearn display, for instance, the most recent 10 items that have been bookmarked.

Learn More

The Educause Learning Initiative's (ELI's) *7 Things You Should Know About...* series contains a useful guide to social bookmarking at http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7001.pdf.

Guides to setting up a News tool in WebLearn can be found at: https://beta.weblearn.ox.ac.uk/portal/hierarchy/info

Access

Social bookmarking services are usually free to use. Two of the most popular are:

delicious at: http://delicious.com/
diigo at: www.diigo.com

This document is part of a larger set aimed at introducing the reader to a wide range of technologies. Please visit this web page for more information: http://www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/ltg/

Your primary support for IT issues comes from your department or college. If you would like advice on using social bookmarking in learning and teaching at Oxford please contact OUCS.

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