

PROGRESS REPORT:

1989: "THE YEAR OF INVENTION":



Toshiba held a **competition** to find the **best invention**. I could not enter it because I was not under-25 years of age.

(Picture: The LOGO used to advertise the competition).

August 1989: I took the idea to LENTA (the London Enterprise Agency). I explained I had designed a **shelter to help the Homeless**. I was advised to get a Confidentiality Agreement signed before any disclosure to a possible manufacturer. (I also tried 3 other 'enterprise' agencies, none of whom helped me).

August 1989: I went to a Patent Agent (a firm called Mark & Clarke, in Holborn, London).



(Picture: The mess of Building works outside the Patent Agent's office).

("You can't invent a design. You can recognise it, that is, with your blood, and bones, and eyes.")

Mr. Alan Clifford looked at my design for **the basic module**. He smiled. (Did he recognise it? Had he seen **something** like **it** before? I don't know). He seemed to like it! He tried to sketch it in his notepad several times- unsuccessfully. Then he suddenly **snapped**, saying: "**How wide is it? How high is it? Will it fit on roads?** I bet you haven't of that!"

I said: "**It's like a tube-train**" (Thinking: "It's as broad as it is long?") It could be a foot or so wider, a bit shorter; it needs more **head-room for comfort**; it would of course have the upstairs deck- as much space inside as a double-decker bus. It'd be great if its size does not have to be restricted to road widths. It's a sort of the middle-of-the-road thing!)

He said: "You obviously haven't considered road widths." **He sighed heavily.**

"Sizes could vary" I mumbled.

He looked at it again. "**It's too complicated to patent**" he said decisively.

(**What did they say to the inventor of the submarine?** They told Alexander Bell, the inventor of the telephone, that talking down 2-wires would never work. They said the flying machine would never work. Running the 4-minute mile was said to be 'an impossible dream' but more than 700 athletes have now done this...)

("Human progress is about overturning accepted **ideas**. People were content to light their homes with oil lamps until Edison came along...")

Mr. Clifford said: "I'll tell you something about patent." He picked up a heavy bundle of folders stuffed full of papers. "Look," he said "This is a German Patent application. This is an American application. This is the British. All these applications are for the *re*-design of a handy little metal pipe cutter for the DIY market. Notice how the drawings are all *slightly* different? See how this clever British chap has worked out how to alter the mechanism, by simply putting in this tiny wheel just here, so the cutter will operate slightly more efficiently? Now, if you had invented a way to make an even better type of metal pipe cutter, I could help you."

Mr. Clifford concluded, by saying: "I don't want to waste your money. Patent applications go on for years and years. I suppose **it is rather a fashionable item...** I suggest you Copyright it."

I felt despondent- rejected.

Will The Response Always Be: "**We don't waste pearls on swine**" ?

But afterwards, when I thought about what he had said, I realised he was saying:
No Such Thing Could Be Patented.

I then realised Patent would be **inappropriate**. The whole point of Patenting is to **limit production** to only licensed manufacturers. Patent would **defeat** my desire that **as many people as humanly possible get involved with the production of Modules**.

I decided to follow Mr. Clifford's kind advice. He's the **expert**.

("I'll pay the price and risk my reputation on a hunch.")

1/9/1989: 'Project it' was Copyright protected at Stationers Hall, in London (Registration Number B9/91834373). (The date of its conception was: 18/6/1989).

I did this to verify the date of its conception and my ownership of the design – and **to prevent it** being **Patented** by anybody else. (**Some unscrupulous companies actually use patent to stop good inventions coming onto the market**).

I Hereby Give My Permission: If you like the idea of Modules, please feel free to produce this kind of Module, without payment to me.

I took the idea to SHELL UK (see: Modern Building Materials).

I wrote to David Gilmour (of Pink Floyd fame) (their songs impart **a genuine desire to help the needy**). I was granted an interview, but when I arrived David was not there! His manager- Steve O'Rourke, greeted me. I was dismayed (and shocked by the ton of gold round his neck). **I explained my mission: "I've designed something to help the Homeless. I need some help getting it off the ground."** Mr. O'Rourke laughed, and asked me: "How much money do you need? £1 million?" Then, without stopping for breath, he said: "**How are we going to tell people about it?**"

My immediate thoughts were: **Why TELL people about it? Just make it ASAP!**

But before I could say a single word, 2 seconds later, I was manoeuvred out of the door and put out onto the street.

I wrote to David again.

The response: I was given permission to use the words from one of Pink Floyd's **songs** to help promote Project **it**:

"... NO MORE TURNING AWAY FROM THE WEARY AND THE DOWN-TRODDEN, AND THE WORDS THEY SAY..."

I took the idea to SIR TERENCE CONRAN because he is someone I greatly admire. As a fledgling designer, naturally I sought the opinion of "a design guru."

I wanted Sir Terence, who is widely respected, to **champion it**.

People would listen to him. Just think what could be achieved if he pioneered Modular Living!

He has what I lack i.e. access to the best **design studios**, CAD / CAM, a host of **manufacturers, retail outlets** (High Street stores & a **Mail Order catalogue**). **He offers customers 0% finance.** ("His **Habitat** stores made their name by selling **trendy**, well designed household **items to young couples...**") Sir Terence has so many contacts! A quick chat on the golf course and it could be done! A trusted employee could "just see to it."

I needed to ask him if he could work out **the best interlocking** technique i.e. "Could you please use your knowledge of Joinery - your carpentry skills... in the quest for **something better...**" i.e. How should these be shaped? I know they are **molded...**

July 1989: To affect a meeting, I sent Sir Terence "an intriguing letter."

(Not written by me! But by a friend - a journalist).

The gist of that letter was: "**Would you spend 2 minutes listening to a caveman who has invented bricks without straw?**"

THE HIDDEN MEANING:

"Are you the WISE man of the woods?"

"... ready or not, I'll give you this world.

**Nothing could disturb its peace,
give you everything you are looking for, and
even more..."**

The timing seems very appropriate to me. **Everybody is saying: "Go for it!"** (but no-one is **specifying what 'it' is!**)

There is no guarantee that any manufacturer taking up the idea, will use the idea **to provide affordable products-** there's always the very real risk a manufacturer will push the price up to make excessive profits so the product becomes **something only the wealthy can buy.**

Modules MUST be AFFORDABLE for those who need a STARTER Home...

In a bid to overcome this, I felt it was necessary to set Sir Terence **a simple test.** Prior to our meeting, I asked him to provide me with a blackboard (to assist me with the presentation of the design), and give me a bowl of lemon mousse (my favourite dessert i.e. to reward me for **safely delivering it into safe, capable altruistic, caring hands.** That is my task as I perceive it). If these items were provided, I would take this as **reassurance of his good faith.** And tell him everything I knew.

September 1989: Sir Terence granted me an interview.

On arrival at his offices (in Docklands), his secretary said: "He'll see you for 15 minutes."

Uh Oh! **The requested items were not provided.**

Surprisingly, we enjoyed an instant rapport... Sir Terence was welcoming, friendly! Sincere? Not at all austere. I gave him a copy of my (hand-drawn) design for the basic module. He glanced at it very quickly, smiling (*knowingly?*) **Then he pushed my design aside!**

He sat back in his chair, and began to talk. He said **he had designed a portable accommodation shelter** several years previously, after hearing that **poor people were 'living' inside his discarded wooden packing crates in the Middle East.** He said his idea had not worked. *Why?* He did not elaborate. (I suspect these had been made using the recycled wood).

Then he said: "You are not the first! **They started talking about the need for affordable homes in the 16th Century.**" (Oh! Only that long ago?)

(**Surely this nightmare** has been going on for 1,000's of years! **Since man lived in caves, man has wanted to find a better way! We NOW have the opportunity to achieve the very thing man has always desired.**)

Sir Terence reeled off names of 'famous' authors who have apparently written books on the subject, none of whom I had heard of. ("He's full of it, but he knows his stuff.")

Then, he started talking about Prince Charles! He referred to His Royal Highness as: "... **the champion of affordable homes.**"

Panic gripped me. I felt as though I was drowning! Prince Charles is a staunch supporter of **traditional** architecture- he loathes ugly 'modern' architecture.

(The Architects debate was in full swing when I met Sir Terence).

(Sir Terence did not know I had already written to Prince Charles who, charmingly? had not replied).

To quickly change the direction of this conversation, I made a snipey comment about how the architect's debate is getting us nowhere. Sir Terence laughed! And then he said *I* "would be a good person to **take on the architects!**"! **HORRORS.**

WAH! I don't want to take anybody on!

I only want this kind of Module to be made QUICKLY!

I only want to **DESIGN!**

I know I am being a baby but... WAH! I DON'T WANT TO BE CRUCIFIED!

(*"It's a thorny old problem."* *"Some are born to it. Some are chosen."*)

"You make your choices and you have to live with them.")

What chance would *I* have? I had to leave school at 14! I wouldn't get a beep in.

Only one *female* Architect managed to speak out- she tried to interject some **basic sense** into the indifferent debate- by **advocating the planting of trees to save people** the £20,000 fees paid to landscape architects- who **invariably use concrete paving** to cover the ground whilst planting **poisonous** berry bushes. **She was silenced** by an **extremely pompous**, older male architect.

ATTITUDE: "We know it all." *Ah!* I just wonder.

Would they KNOW HOW to Make BASIC MODULES ?

Sir Terence, still lecturing me, then congratulated me for the work I have done on it, and said I am to be applauded! **DOUBLE HORRORS!** "Fame is the food dead men eat." I have been a **recluse** for many years **because I prefer peace.** *I* am not a front man!

We briefly discussed 'Vulture Culture' i.e. about **how the market is controlled...**

EG. UK shops are stocked with **tons** of clothes etc., all made from **Polyester** derived from oil.

What a waste of resin!

(*"The man that invents a way to **recycle** fibres from clothes will make a fortune!"*)

Sir Terence then said: "**You've got to go where the money is.**" He suddenly looked tired, sad and defeated. I knew then 'the money-men' had got to him. **With mounting dismay**, I realised **I was too late** to persuade Sir Terence **to follow his heart** and stay with his **love of DESIGN.**

(I did not know Sir Terence was heavily involved with Docklands) (see: Docklands).

Sir Terence talked, and talked! And I am ashamed to admit- that **I fell asleep!** (Or did I fall into a coma, suffering paralysis?) (The sun was glaring in through all the glass windows. I had not slept the night before due to a crisis... I

had met Steve O' Rourke in the morning, and to pass the time before this appointment, I had made the error of drinking ½ a glass of wine, instead of eating at lunch-time - I can't drink alcohol- alcohol always makes me sleepy...) The next thing I can recall was his secretary coming in to complain: "**You have spent an hour** chatting. Other people are waiting to see you..."

I felt heavy-headed. I looked anxiously at Sir Terence. He smiled at me! I inwardly **cursed my extreme stupidity. I had wasted this precious time!** I had not managed to ask a single question! **WE HAD NOT DISCUSSED MODULAR DESIGN!**

Sir Terence walked me to the door. I was ½ way through the door when **he promised he would "seriously consider" my project.** I sensed I was saying good-bye to a great man, but one who was probably just as confused as I was- but we were on opposite ends of the spectrum. **I wanted so much to help him...** but all I had managed to do was to give him some drawings, without complete specifications, plus a pathetic **model** I had made- using unfired clay (which looked more like Fred Flintstone's house). (I also left behind some small objects I had made to demonstrate the difficulty I was having with the interlocking technique (without any explanation as to what these were, he must have thought I was mad? Why didn't he ask me?)

God! How many times have I wanted a proper model of a Module to instantly demonstrate what I am trying to describe? All done to scale etc. A **matchbox toy!**

Sir Terence then told me **he was launching a book to promote Hard-wood for DIY projects.** He insisted on giving me a complimentary copy (even though I tried to decline the offer because the book was too heavy for me to carry without a real struggle). He told me 10,000 copies of his book were at the printers awaiting distribution.

That night, despite lacking sleep (and food) I studied the DIY book. The book had a long list of contributors. There were **so many bad designs**, I wanted to cry. These people had achieved a "career" but I am (still) unemployed. **Frustration** welled up inside me. Without thinking, I scrawled comments on "his" DIY book alongside the offending illustrations. EG. **No! A child could fall through this 'banister!'** **No! Ceramic** tiles on a bathroom floor are **slippery!** This was very unprofessional of me

but then, I am not a professional. **All these 'experts' 'at the top,' LACKING attention to detail! Attention to detail is so important!**

"The **popular use of Hard Wood for DIY.**" How **ironic.** I had **designed it to provide an ALTERNATIVE so that RAINFORESTS need no longer be cut down.**

(How many TONS of wood are rubbished from **failed** DIY projects?)

Once the DIY book went on sale, I felt Sir Terence would not be able to credibly champion **it.** I sat up all night **soul-searching.** Sadly, and reluctantly, the next morning I returned "his" DIY book, **praying** Sir Terence would agree with my comments and change his mind about releasing the DIY book with his name on it.

DESIGN REJECTED:

2 days later, **Sir Terence Conran** sent me a short letter **rejecting Project it.**

He returned my **model** (broken- not surprisingly), but my design drawings were not returned.

I wrote back to **protest.**

I then received another letter, dated **13/9/1989** (and eventually, my drawings).

Amalgamating his letters, this is what **Sir Terence wrote:**

"Dear Gillian,

... Life has been particularly busy and stressful. I can assure you that many, many people have dreamed like you of the mass-produced house and innumerable ideas have been produced from the likes of Buckmaster Fuller to Charles Emmes. Nobody could be anything but impressed by your ingenuity and enthusiasm, but I am afraid **your project has 3 insuperable problems:**

1. Planning and zoning permissions and building regulations;
2. Cost of land; and
3. **Cost of infrastructure** i.e. **roads, drainage, water, gas, electricity,** plus telecom supply.

Also the financial institutions are unwilling to lend on anything unconventional, however cheap. **The other problem to be faced is the cost of a conventional brick-built house is probably cheaper at this time than any other form of construction.**

I remain convinced the answer to the conundrum that you pose is the mobile home or common caravan.

This is cheap, mobile and gives people a start in the place they want to be. Certainly not ideal,

but it could be a lot better with some of your ideas implanted.

I am not a defeatist but I am experienced realist. Although I know you will be disappointed and probably won't agree with the problems that I identify.

I do hope we might be able to use your talents in the future in some way. Conran Roche is considering a future involvement in Social Housing but probably more from refurbishment and rehabilitating aspect than by new buildings.

I am sure your passion could be used to see that our architects and planners think like human beings. I am returning all your material. I am not really used to signing legalistic documents when somebody brings me a project to look at, but let me assure you I will not exploit any of your ideas for low cost housing and **I will certainly not pass on any of your ideas to third parties.** Let me also tell you **I remain an enthusiast for the idea of low cost housing.** Best of luck, Yours sincerely, Sir Terence Conran."

"NEW HOMES? FORGET it." Uh?

"Something went **wrong** in our **communication** but that doesn't mean I should give up!" "This is not going to be the end of **it**, this I know. He's a nice bloke but..."

Project it was rejected for invalid reasons.

"YOU KNOW, it DOES DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE."

("Most people don't get a second chance to start over.")

"Couldn't we, just for the record, go through it again?"

(I am sorry Sir, if this upsets you. It isn't meant to. I'm just trying to *make it work*).

"Oh, see the light!"

"Let's get it straight. End the confusion."

Insuperable (means: "... impossible to overcome...") ?

1. UK Planning Permission rules do not ban Modular constructions.
Building Regulations (see Chapter 3).
2. **it does NOT require traditional infrastructure, or connection to the National Grid.** Hasn't he heard of mobile phones? **it would provide an ALTERNATIVE to having crumbling infrastructure + do away with all the**

problems associated with **conventional power** (see Chapter 6).

3. Councils used to **offer folks 100%** mortgages...

Bricks are cheaper? Because of the HIGH cost of BRICK-built houses, people need an AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE. The materials and labour would cost ? far less...

4. **What is the best way forward? Your answer is:** "a **MOBILE home** i.e. "...the common caravan." (see Chapter 2). **Are you sure? OK. Try moving 250,000 caravans, then get back to me, OK? WAH! it is a mobile home!**

Conundrum (means: "... a riddle, hard or **puzzling** question.")

The conundrum **begging an answer is:**
What will move it?

Did he understand it? Did Sir Terence think **it** was a structure made of **wood or metal?**

Don't we need more variety?

"Variety is the spice of life."

**"SOME WILL TAKE AN ETERNITY TO BELIEVE
it LENDS ITSELF TO EVERYTHING."**

("This bird aint lost **its song**.")

For a **world-class Designer** not to be willing to break with **convention... there must be something very wrong going on.**

(A few months after Sir Terence wrote to me, the following news story was released:

"CHIEF QUILTS: The founder of **STOREHOUSE PLC**, millionaire designer, Sir Terence Conran, is to take a back seat. Although still chairman, he has not been involved in running the company for 6 months. ½ year profits for the group have fallen from £23 million to £9 million. **Habitat is £2.5 million in the red...** Storehouse could actually be £500,000 in the red... Last night Sir Terence said: 'He had planned to retire- it seems an appropriate time to reduce my responsibilities'..." (Sir Terence then concentrated on restaurants, recommending, I believe, chips cooked in horse's fat. Yuk).

To my complete surprise, on **27/11/1989**, the executive director of **The Design Museum** (set-up by Sir Terence Conran), then wrote to me:

“Dear Gillian,
Sir Terence Conran asked me to look at your proposals. Let me say at the very beginning that I applaud your energy and initiative. I have been very interested in **low cost housing** since the beginning of my career. I also have this **messianic thing** about **new materials and systems.** **Personally, I can think of very little that is more important in the public domain.** One of the projects I am considering for the next few years is to build a **house of the future,** partly in response to the Prince of Wales challenge to architects. If I succeed in getting sponsorship, I would certainly like to talk to you about your ideas. In the meantime, best of luck! With best wishes, Stephen Bayley.”

(Mr Bayley then left the Design Museum and set-up his own design company called **IQ.** He then went on to become **The Creative Director of London’s Millennium ‘Dome.’**)



(Cartoon: Magazine for Architects, artist & date unknown).

“TOO MANY MEN HAVE FAILED BEFORE.”

31/12/2000: WAH! “... it SHOULD BE INTEGRATED BY NOW!”

They say to despair is a sin. I must be a sinner! I spent the Millennium trying hard not to cry at the sight of the **giant TENT** erected to **herald The New Age!** (Yes, *I do* have a *thing* about *it!*) “A **monumental reminder of man’s ignorance.** A **historic event** marred by the shallow, spurious Parties.”

I was left to struggle *with this* on my own.

I couldn’t stop wondering if only I had done this, or that, maybe **things** would have turned out **differently?**

Perhaps. Then again, perhaps not.

I’ve often wondered- has Sir Terence ever even **given it a 2nd thought?**

Maybe he sussed it after he wrote to me? He’s no fool. And he has had plenty of time to work it out...

Project it was ostracised unjustly. "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned?"

NO it has nothing to do with revenge. The sad truth of this matter is that **it should be HELPING PEOPLE, and SAVING LIVES NOW!**

Why isn't it? That is what really matters.

Most people would have given up after such a **stony** response, but there was *something* inside me that would not give up. Yes, I was **hurt**, but not *completely* broken. Whilst other people **cleverly avoid the issue**, manipulating the **GENERAL** situation to make money out of all the misery and suffering, because of all the troubles I endured (caused by people not behaving **honourably**), **I can't push it to one side and pretend it doesn't mean anything!** I tried to convince myself that **it just isn't** meant to be. But I simply do **not** believe that. Despite all the put-downs, **I still have the utmost confidence and faith in it.**

I had **designed it but** even *I didn't* fully **understand it!** When I first **visualised it-** I could see people at some near future time going in and out of **Modules**, leading their lives in an everyday kind of happier way- **but the rest was blank-** how to get **it** to that moment in time was totally beyond my comprehension.

(The difficulties caused by “**PRIOR DISCLOSURE**”: I just could not think of anywhere else I could go, to enlist help).

“Instead of trying to lose myself in bars or movies as most people do...”

Suddenly (possibly because of Steve O'Rourke's comment) I had **the overwhelming need to find the answers to some very important questions:**

What is the best material to use?

Can it be done?

Just what are the pro's, and the cons?

Has it been done before?

If so, why didn't it succeed?

What is impeding its progress?

What is GOING ON in “the big, bad world?”

I decided to do some research. ***I hadn't done any!*** (This was necessary for my education).

“The truth is out there somewhere...”

“If you don’t know what to look for, you look at everything. That’s how Science works. You guess, you make connections, then if it fits, you prove what you guessed in the first place...”

1990 – 1991: I studied Desk Top Publishing at the Artech, and put the Design drawings on disc.

1992 - 2005: I tracked **Key debates** (as well as I could. If I have missed anything vital, please let me know!) For the 1st time ever, I read newspapers. I didn’t buy them- by coincidence I just happened to come across most of the comments and information included in this book.

I somehow managed to scribble at the speed of sound; sorting 1,000’s of scraps & notes that filled many carrier bags. I put the bits (of *this puzzle*) **together** (thanks to Information Technology IT), somehow sensing this information was going to be needed.

My **fear:** *it* may **continue** to be a **misunderstood / forgotten / neglected solution**. I regard *it* as **‘insurance’ for human-kind**.

“A BOOK FOR EVERY SUBJECT?”

“They are only interested in the sex-lives of butterflies.”

1989 – 2005: I wrote to publishers and literary agents.

Some of their comments:

“I don’t think we could make your idea work. It’s a novel not enough people would buy.” “We wish you every success placing the work elsewhere.” “Regrettably, it is not quite right for our present list.” “It’s a bit too controversial.” “We only publish famous authors who have had books published before.” “You either have to be famous, or a criminal (infamous) these days to get a book published.” ***“If it’s about saving the world- we’re not interested.”***

(I did not describe my book as having anything to do with ‘saving the world.’ Their comment suggests to me other people, with similar concerns had approached them).

98% of the publishers I contacted did **not** reply.

I did try Richard Branson, but the Virgin Publishing Group told me: “We don’t publish books about the homeless.”

I asked ‘The Big Issue’ magazine to help with publication. They said they **were interested**, but I would have to pay £10,000 to cover the cost of production.

(I don’t have any money. I am not in receipt of a wage or welfare). (That I managed to do this book at all, is **thanks to a good friend** who supports me).

Researching was emotionally gruelling, yet illuminating. **I had no pre-conceived idea where my search would lead.** I kept expecting to find information that would show it is not feasible, but the reverse has turned out to be true.

I discovered:

- it offers even far greater viability and versatility than I ever imagined
- *it is perfectly* feasible... "Where there is a will, there is a way..."
- there is more than enough reason to do it
- other people have tried to do something similar- but got the mix wrong...
- if we manage to get it right, it has the capability to pull us out of the doldrums...
- it could **really help Humanity, advancing** man; quite possibly **helping** to ensure our future **survival for 1,000’s of centuries...**
- if we don't make it... **Catastrophe? That is how important it is!**

I hereby offer (a summary) of my Research as evidence to support the afore-mentioned statement.

"FACTS ARE FACTS": My research journal provides **indisputable proof that it could be done**. Indisputable evidence is required to assist and hopefully finally establish full feasibility for this vital concept.

This Journal contains **crucial (Educational & Reference)** information.

This is a Historic (TRUE) record for **CRITICAL REVIEW** purposes.

The record of my research contains some Copyrighted material, the use of which has not been specifically authorised by the Copyright owner. This material is presented under the provisions of Fair Use.

“... it is necessary for Social, economic and Environmental reasons.”

I am making such material available in my efforts to advance understanding of

Democracy, Economic, Environmental, Human Rights, political, Scientific, and Social Justice issues.

“**Better** late than **never.**”

Whenever possible the contributor's name has been accredited.

My **Compilation** is not plagiarism- it is artistic licence i.e. by **recycling** these comments etc., and **linking these together** to make a historic record... a **CLEAR/er picture emerges to help us find our way** (i.e. the *invaluable potential* will not remain **lost, confused and disregarded**).

I hope the originating authors find it in their hearts to forgive me for including their crucial and inspiring work in this journal.

Every effort has been made to ensure **accuracy.**

If anything is not in its correct context, the error is entirely mine.

My sincere thanks to the Media. Without their skill and diligence, this book would not have been possible. (I hope someone else does the follow-up).

2001: My much loved Apple Mac (computer) expired. I had to get another (2nd-hand). That computer broke 2 weeks later. The shop, despite the guarantee, refused to do a repair! I managed to get another- an IBM but that meant having to re-type my research again! I type only with 2 fingers.

SEPT, 2005: I gave my manuscript to a publisher, and paid to have this book printed to avoid heavy editing. After waiting for a year, I realised it wasn't going to be published (even though I had a 3 month contract). (Delays were caused by competitors trying to put the publisher out of business). So I produced a shorter version, hoping that could be produced quickly. Months later, I was still waiting... (My thanks to www.writersworld.co.uk for not giving up on me).

“... **it's BEEN A LONG TIME COMING!**”

“... it seems like an eternity...”

Now you know why.

I'm sorry, so very sorry I could not **make it happen, and things are this way.**

“... **it's** getting there slowly but surely.”

RESEARCH JOURNAL

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