Barry Evans

Biography

Barry's professional background is technical and managerial. He is also endowed with an artistic background and nature coming from a family of writers, artists and artisans. He has been working in the Information Technology industry for more than 20 years and spent twelve years at British Telecom between 1995 and 2007. From his working experiences he has identified a real need for people to challenge the horrors of wage slavery, bullying and mind numbing boredom to reclaim zest for life whatever they are doing. He has discovered that human potential and good business practice can be complimentary. He argues that honesty and integrity are intimately entwined in the deep structure of both.

Because of his confidence in the value and ingenuity of people he has been a strong advocate of Agile with its pragmatic, minimal process, people based approach since he discovered it in the 1990's. He has implemented Agile and coached the coaches ever since. He is a qualified NLP trainer who uses NLP as a practical tool to facilitate communication and learning by enabling people to shift perspective and challenge ingrained habits.

He has a broad base of professional and life experience having spent the first part of his working life in people facing jobs in the public sector before taking a year out to travel and work in Australia and then becoming interested in technology. Initially he was a programmer harnessing the beauty of logic to solve business problems and then a manager/coach solving the more difficult problems of human interaction in the Information Age.

Although he is originally from Ireland he has worked in Europe, the USA and Australia. He is based between Cher in France, where he renovated a 200 year old cottage and states it was a generative learning experience, and the West Midlands in the UK, where he has fallen in love with the unexpected beauty of the countryside and the warmth of the people.

He is married with two children.

To date he has written three books dealing with professional and personal ethics (see next page) and there are two more books in the Trousers of Reality series in production with projected delivery dates of 2013 and 2014.

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Bibliography

The Trousers of Reality: Working Life

The first book in the Trousers of Reality series. The aim of the book is to provide a course in applied thinking. It is full of thought exercises, practical tools and links to further study. It deals with the idea that all knowledge and skill is interconnected at some level. The more deeply it is connected the more universally useful and less partisan it is. Early in the book the idea of the deep structure of knowledge is introduced. The Trousers of Reality suggests that the deep structure is continually being uncovered by skilful questioning and striving in many fields, particularly Science, Philosophy, Art and Ethical Living. It suggests that the processes of thinking are inspiration, context and balance. It show how these bring flexibility of mind and the ability to move between creative and critical states.

New ways of thinking and new tools are often hijacked by vested interests and by wishful thinking so The Trousers of Reality advises using systems thinking and Occam's razor when in doubt. The Trousers of Reality examines humanising tools such as Agile, NLP, theory of constraints and Lean. It proposes and introduces new concepts such as nexus based thinking that can be used for effective decision making and management both inside and outside the workplace. The basic thesis of the book is that the tools of logic we use should be applicable in our private, public and working lives and that we can develop a set of effective tools for dealing with ourselves and other humans regardless of context.

Agile Exposed

A candid look at Agile methodologies, how they are being used and abused. The book takes a look at the origins of Agile and takes a critical snapshot of the various methodologies.

As an experienced Agile coach and advocate of ethics and humanity in the workplace Barry uses this book as a plea to those involved to be honest about the capabilities of Agile so that its benefits can be properly realised in situations that desperately need what they bring.

The Ingenious Engine of Reality

The second book of the Trousers of Reality Series. Although it picks up where the "Trousers of Reality: Working Life" left off it is also a stand alone read. Following the theme of the deep structure of knowledge this book was initially entitled "Managing Knowledge". It gives and accessible introduction to the recent findings of Neuroscience and asks how we can apply it exciting insights to our education, employment and personal development.

Where the first book focussed on inspiration, context and balance, this book focusses on filtering, intersecting and connecting knowledge. The ingenious engine of reality maintains that we all have subjective models of reality and that we need to use these processes to ensure we are not fooling ourselves.