

# Tim Berners - Lee Biography

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# Contents

[Tim Berners - Lee Biography.....2](#)

[Introduction.....2](#)

[CEO Eric Schmidt Quote.....3](#)

[Berners – Lee Education.....3](#)

[Places of Work.....3](#)

[Myriad Awards and Honours.....4](#)

# Tim Berners-Lee Biography

## Introduction

This article contains quotes from Sir Timothy Berners-Lee, where he was educated in addition to where he has worked up to the time of producing this document.

## CEO Eric Schmidt Quote.

Novell CEO Eric Schmidt said in *Time*... "If [computer networking] were a traditional science, Berners-Lee would win a Nobel Prize."

# Berners-Lee Education

[Emanuel School](#) London: 1969-1973

Thoughts from Berners-Lee: Emanuel School was programmed to send people to Oxford,

The Maths teacher at Emanuel, Frank Grundy, who conveyed the excitement of the subject with a twinkle of his eye. He could make numerical approximations in his head, faster than we could work it out longhand, and would throw in a teaser question in his conversation to puzzle anyone thinking that they might have figured the subject out.

[Queen's College](#) Oxford: 1973-1976. BA Hons, (I) Physics.

Unlike most people at Oxford, I had one tutor for almost all the work. John Moffat has a very rare talent for being able to understand not only the physics itself, but also my tangled misguided attempts at it, and then showing me in my terms; using my strange symbols, and vocabulary, where I had gone wrong. Many people can only explain the world from their own point of view.

## Places of Work.

In 1976, Tim Berners-Lee: graduated from Queen's College, at Oxford University in England. While there, he built his first computer with a soldering iron, TTL gates, a M6800 processor, and an old television. He spent two years with [Plessey Telecommunications Ltd](#) (Poole, Dorset, UK), a major UK Telecom equipment manufacturer, and working on distributed transaction systems, message relays, and bar code technology.

In 1978, he left Plessey to join D.G Nash Ltd (Ferndown, Dorset, UK), where he wrote among other things a typesetting software for intelligent printers. In addition, a year and a half was spent as an independent consultant. Including a six-month stint from June – Dec 1980 as consultant software engineer at [CERN](#) the European Particle, Physics Laboratory:

Geneva Switzerland: While there, he wrote for his own private use, his first program that stored information, which included using random associations. This was a Notebook program named [ENQUIRE](#) the idea being from, 'Enquire-Within-Upon-Everything', the program allowed linking, each node had a title, a type, and a list of Bi-directional typed links. 'ENQUIRE' run on Norsk Data machines, under SINTRAN-III. It was never published; this program formed the conceptual basis for the future development of the World Wide Web.

From 1981 until 1984, Tim worked at John Poole's [Image Computer Systems Ltd](#) having technical design responsibility. Work there included real time control firmware graphics, and in 1984, he took up a Fellowship at CERN to work on distributed realtime systems, for scientific data acquisition, and system control. Among other things, he worked on FASTBUS system software, and designed a heterogeneous, remote procedure call system.

In 1989, he proposed a global hypertext project, becoming predestined to be the universal named World Wide Web for eternity. Based on the earlier 'Enquire' work, it was designed to allow people to work together, by combining their knowledge in a web of hypertext documents. He wrote the first 'World Wide Web' server, 'HTTPD' and the first client; World Wide Web: a What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get [WYSIWYG](#) This work was started in October 1990, and the program World Wide Web, was first made available within CERN, in December, and on the Internet at large; by the summer of 1991.

Through 1991 and 1993, Berners-Lee continued on the design of the Web, His initial specifications of URI's, HTTP and HTML: were refined and discussed in larger circles as Web Technology spread. In 1994, Tim joined the Laboratory for Computer Science [LCS](#) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology: [MIT](#) In 1999, he became the first holder of the [3Com Founders Chair](#). He is Director of the World Wide Web Consortium, that co-ordinates Web development worldwide, with teams at MIT, [INRIA](#) in France, and at Keio University: Japan. The Consortium takes as its goal, to lead the Web to its full potential, ensuring its stability, through rapid evolution, and revolutionary transformations of its usage. The Consortium is found at [W3C Consortium](#).

The Universal Resource Locator (URL) was created in 1994 by Tim Berners-Lee (<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1738>) URL's are an addressing system that gives each Web page a unique location for example: <http://www.pammies.com/berners-lee-bio.html> is the URL address of the article that can be found on the website [www.pammies.com](http://www.pammies.com). The page reference on the site is [berners-lee-bio.html](#).

Information from the [Living Internet](#) Timothy Berners-Lee, the British mastermind of the World Wide Web, is among 43 new fellows elected to the distinguished UK scientific body. Timothy Berners-Lee was also awarded an OBE in 1997 in recognition of his invention and subsequent development and designing of the World Wide Web. His work has revolutionized communication via the Internet, enabling universal access to information placed on the Web.

## Myriad Awards and Honours

- [Prix Ars Elec-1995](#)
- [Fellow DCS 1995](#)
- [ACM Sys \(Joint\)](#)
- [Awarded O.B.E 97](#)
- [MCI Inn 1997](#)
- [Duddell Medal 97](#)
- [IEE Award 1997](#)
- [Fellow IEE 1998](#)
- [Eduard Rhein 1998](#)
- [Stibitz Award 2000](#)
- [Computer Museum](#)
- [Whittle Medal 2001](#)
- [Parsons School Des](#)
- [Paul Evan Peters](#)
- [Essex University](#)
- [Southampton Uni](#)
- [Southern Cross Uni](#)
- [Open University](#)
- [Columbia Uni](#)
- [Oxford University](#)

## More Awards and Honours

Certain websites disallow linking to their site for security reasons. The URLs below to allow legitimate access using your browser.

Kilby International Awards 1995 (<http://www.kilby.org/>)

Electronic Frontier Foundation 2000 (<https://www.eff.org/> )

MacArthur Foundation Fellow 1998 (<http://www.macfound.org/>)

Fellowship of the Royal Society 2001

([http://www.theregister.co.uk/2001/05/14/bernerslee\\_finally\\_gets\\_credit\\_due/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2001/05/14/bernerslee_finally_gets_credit_due/))

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