

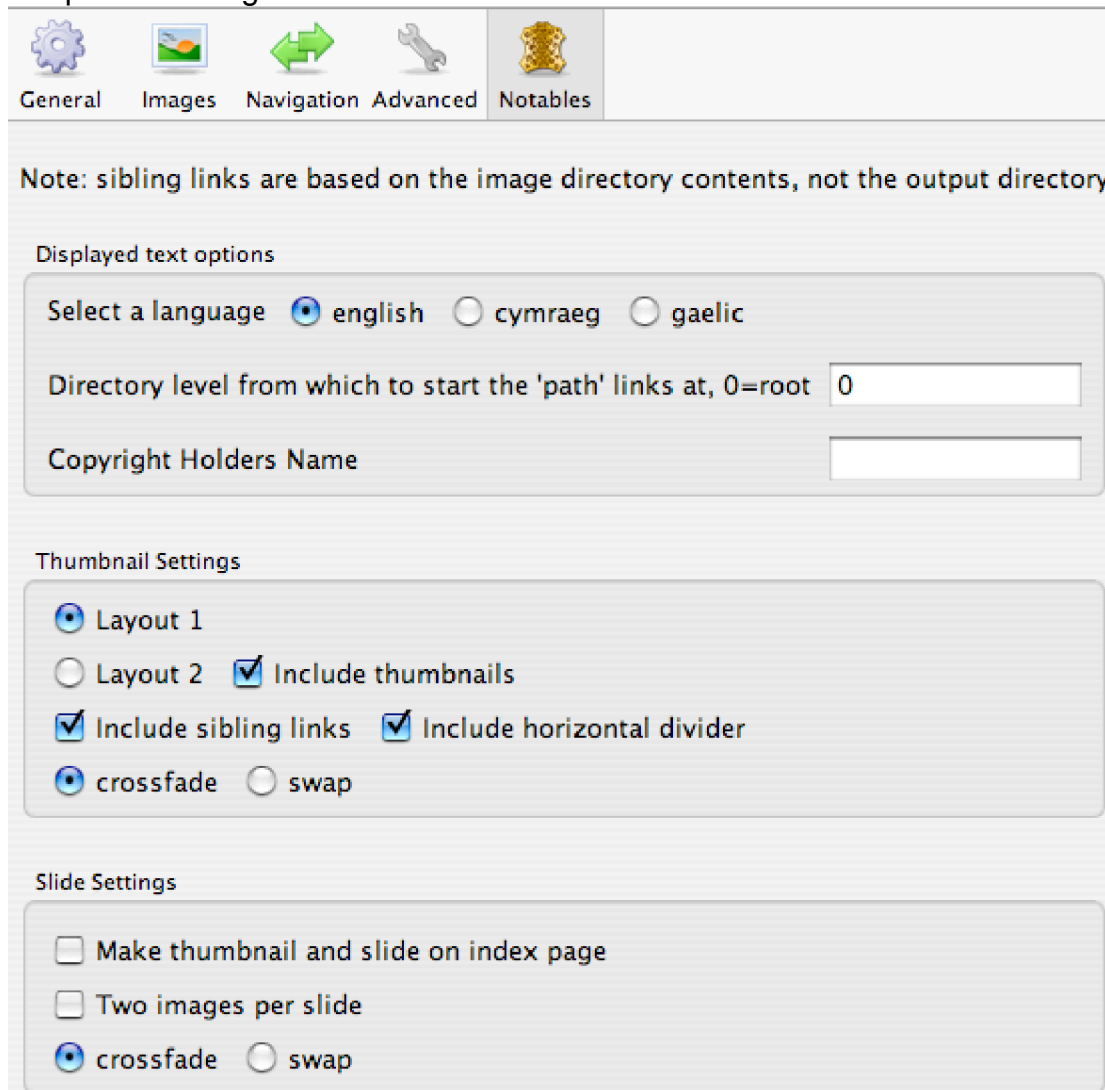
Building a complete web site with the Notables skin – Part 1

Preparation.

The first thing to do is to arrange your web site content so that JAlbum can be used to process all of the pages. Each type of content should have its own top project directory and project settings file, the actual content then being arranged in sub-directories.

For my site I have an enclosing directory for all the JAlbum image files, with project level directories and project settings for links, my pages, photos and restored photos. The enclosing directory also contains a text file (navlinks.inc) that is used to hold the navigation links for each page generated for the web site.

The skin specific settings are shown below



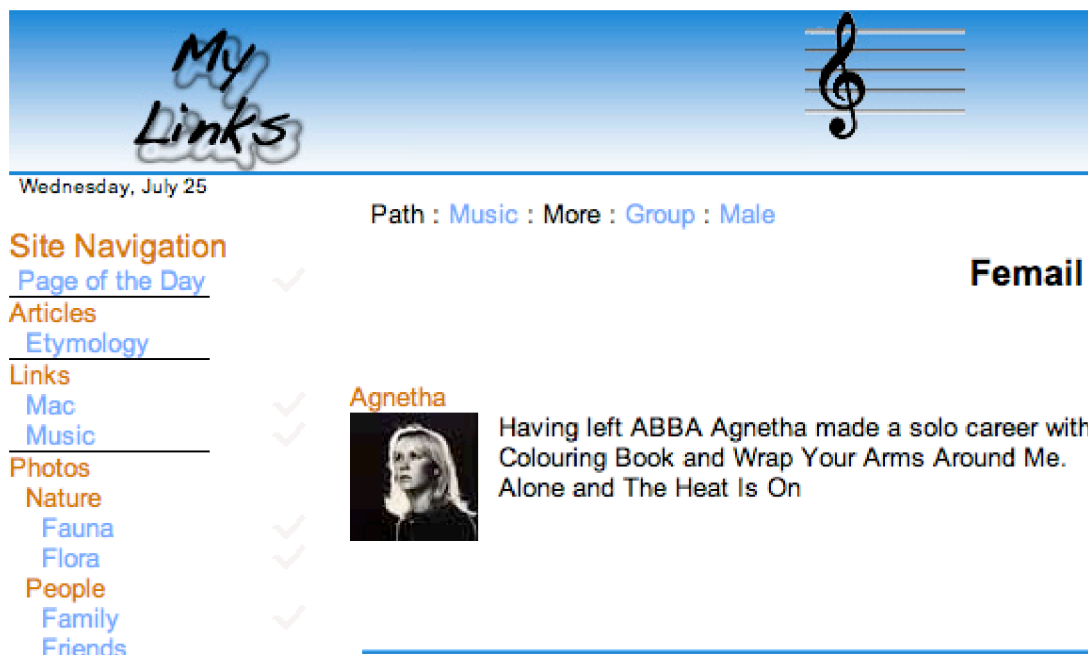
The screenshot shows the 'Notables' settings panel in JAlbum. At the top, there are five tabs: 'General' (gear icon), 'Images' (landscape icon), 'Navigation' (green arrows icon), 'Advanced' (wrench icon), and 'Notables' (gold crown icon). Below the tabs is a note: 'Note: sibling links are based on the image directory contents, not the output directory'. The settings are organized into three sections: 'Displayed text options', 'Thumbnail Settings', and 'Slide Settings'. In 'Displayed text options', there is a 'Select a language' section with radio buttons for 'english' (selected), 'cymraeg', and 'gaelic'. Below this is a text input field for 'Directory level from which to start the 'path' links at, 0=root' with the value '0'. Another text input field for 'Copyright Holders Name' is empty. In 'Thumbnail Settings', there are radio buttons for 'Layout 1' (selected) and 'Layout 2'. There are also checkboxes for 'Include thumbnails' (checked), 'Include sibling links' (checked), and 'Include horizontal divider' (checked). At the bottom of this section are radio buttons for 'crossfade' (selected) and 'swap'. In 'Slide Settings', there are checkboxes for 'Make thumbnail and slide on index page' (unchecked) and 'Two images per slide' (unchecked). At the bottom of this section are radio buttons for 'crossfade' (selected) and 'swap'.

The main settings that affect page layout are described below.

The directory level from which to start the 'path' links at, 0=root.

This is set to reflect the number of sub-directories being used. By adjusting this value the current web page can show where it is in relation to the Site navigation bar.

Associated with this is the option to include sibling links. The picture below shows that the page, made using layout 2, is the result of clicking the music link and that there are two other pages of related content – Group and Male artists.



The screenshot shows a web page with a blue header. On the left, the text 'My Links' is written in a stylized, handwritten font. On the right, there is a musical staff with a treble clef. Below the header, the date 'Wednesday, July 25' is displayed. A breadcrumb path reads 'Path : Music : More : Group : Male'. On the left side, there is a 'Site Navigation' menu with categories: 'Page of the Day', 'Articles' (with sub-items 'Etymology'), 'Links' (with sub-items 'Mac', 'Music'), 'Photos' (with sub-items 'Nature', 'Fauna', 'Flora'), 'People' (with sub-items 'Family', 'Friends'). On the right side, there is a 'Femail' section. Below the navigation, a thumbnail image of a woman is shown with the name 'Agnetha' above it. To the right of the image, text reads: 'Having left ABBA Agnetha made a solo career with Colouring Book and Wrap Your Arms Around Me. Alone and The Heat Is On'.

Layout 1 is the option for a conventional photo album whilst layout 2 is intended for use with other types of content. In the example above the include thumbnails option has been selected. For layout 1, in the General settings tab, columns must be set to 6 and the rows must not exceed 10 (unless the style sheets are modified).

For layout 2 the columns can be any number but rows must still not exceed 10.

Include horizontal divider results in a line separating the content blocks of the page into clearly delineated areas.

The option for two images per slide page allows the slide page to switch between two different images.

To complete the construction of pages the Navigation settings will also need to be set for the type of page layout required.

There are also additional text files that can be included to add to or change the content of the generated pages. What they are and how they are used is described in the help file that comes with the skin.

The end result is that all the pages, regardless of content, follow the same style and hence appear fully integrated into the web site.

Building a complete web site with the Notables skin – Part 2 A Photo Album.

The Navigation settings can be set as your preferred choice, I use link to scaled-down images only and make slides. In the General settings, columns must be set to 6 and rows to 10 or less.

The screenshot shows a configuration interface for the Notables skin, divided into three sections:

- Displayed text options:**
 - Select a language: english, cymraeg, gaelic
 - Directory level from which to start the 'path' links at, 0=root:
 - Copyright Holders Name:
- Thumbnail Settings:**
 - Layout 1, Layout 2
 - Include thumbnails
 - Include sibling links, Include horizontal divider
 - crossfade, swap
- Slide Settings:**
 - Make thumbnail and slide on index page
 - Two images per slide
 - crossfade, swap

For my photos project directory I have a directory structure that looks like:

```
photos/  
  nature/  
    fauna/  
      image1.jpg  
      ...  
      image10.jpg  
      logo.txt  
    flora/  
      image1.jpg  
      logo.txt  
  places/  
    logo.txt (this sets the logo/banner for places index page)  
    canada/  
      logo.txt  
      niagara_falls/  
        image1.jpg  
    cornwall/  
      logo.txt (this sets the logo/banner for all sub-directories of cornwall)  
      eden_centre/  
        image1.jpg  
      gaia_centre/  
        image1.jpg
```

The directory starting level is set to 2, as the site navigation links (set by the file navlinks.inc) are to pages that are generated by the 2nd level directories e.g. fauna, flora, canada and cornwall.

Layout 1 is selected and I have opted for a cross-fade effect rather than a swap for the thumbnail pages.

All of the pages under the Photos section of my web site have been built using these settings.

An example of what the logo.txt file contains is shown below:

```
<%  
logo = "<img src=\"\$resPath/images/logo/my_photos.jpg\" alt=\"my_photos.jpg\" width=\"200\" height=\"80\" />";  
logo += "<span class=\"logoCentre\"></span>";  
logo += "<span class=\"logoRight\"><img src=\"\$resPath/images/logo/places.jpg\" alt=\"places\" width=\"200\"  
height=\"80\" /></span>";  
out.print(logo);  
%>
```

It replaces the skins default logo/banner with images as specified for both the directory containing the file and any pages generated for files up to one level deeper.

An example of what the navlinks.inc file contains is shown below:

```
<li><span class="sectionName">Photos</span></li>  
<li><span class="sectionName">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Nature</span></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/nature/fauna/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Fauna</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/nature/flora/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Flora</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/nature/phenomenon/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Phenomenon</a></li>  
<li><span class="sectionName">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;People</span></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/people/family/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Family</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/people/friends/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Friends</a></li>  
<li><span class="sectionName">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Places</span></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/canada/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Canada</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/cornwall/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Cornwall</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/jersey/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Jersey</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/leicester/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Leicester</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/local/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Local</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/london/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;London</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/staffordshire/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Staffordshire</a></li>  
<li><a href="<%= locationOffset %>../photos/places/wales/index.html">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Wales</a></li>
```

locationOffset is a skin variable that calculates the offset, from the root directory, for any individual index page. Everything is relative to the enclosing directory that holds the individual projects/albums, hence the reason for each link starting with a ../

I use the non-breaking spaces to add an extra level of indentation to the links.

Building a complete web site with the Notables skin – Part 3 Restored Photos Album.

The Navigation settings are link to original via scaled-down images, copy originals and make slides. In the General settings columns must be set to 6 and rows to 10 or less.

The screenshot shows a configuration window for the Notables skin. It is divided into three sections:

- Displayed text options:** Includes a language selection (radio buttons for 'english', 'cymraeg', 'gaelic'), a text input for 'Directory level from which to start the 'path' links at, 0=root' (set to '1'), and a text input for 'Copyright Holders Name' (set to 'Robert Marshall').
- Thumbnail Settings:** Includes radio buttons for 'Layout 1' (selected) and 'Layout 2', a checked checkbox for 'Include thumbnails', an unchecked checkbox for 'Include sibling links', a checked checkbox for 'Include horizontal divider', and radio buttons for 'crossfade' (selected) and 'swap'.
- Slide Settings:** Includes an unchecked checkbox for 'Make thumbnail and slide on index page', a checked checkbox for 'Two images per slide', and radio buttons for 'crossfade' (selected) and 'swap'.

For my restored photos project the directory structure looks like:

```
restored_photos/  
  maternal_ancestors/  
    image1.jpg  
  paternal_ancestors/
```

The directory starting level is set to 1, as the site navigation links point to pages that are generated from the images at the 1st level directory e.g. maternal_ancestors and paternal_ancestors.

Layout 1 is selected and I have selected a cross-fade effect rather than a swap for the both the thumbnail and slide pages. Two images per slide has been checked.

Two processing stages are required to make the final web pages.

First, using a temporary project directory with the same settings, the unrestored images need to be processed. Use the same file names as for the restored images. All that is required from this project are the generated images from the slides directories. This will make the unrestored images the same size, and apply the same effects, as the restored slide images.

Next, using the restored images, make the album proper. Now in each of the slides directories create a new directory called "before" and place the appropriate unrestored images, from the temporary project's slides directories, into them. Now when a slide page loads it will show the "before" image and then change to the normal slide image. A cross-fade effect on the slides makes the image appear to morph from unrestored to restored.

The Restored Photos section of my web site has been built using these settings.

Building a complete web site with the Notables skin – Part 4 Content aligned alternatively left and right on a page.

The Navigation settings are link to scaled-down images only, make slides is unchecked.

The screenshot shows a configuration window for the Notables skin. It is divided into three sections:

- Displayed text options:** Includes a language selection (radio buttons for 'english', 'cymraeg', 'gaelic'), a text input for 'Directory level from which to start the 'path' links at, 0=root' (value: 1), and a text input for 'Copyright Holders Name' (value: Robert Marshall).
- Thumbnail Settings:** Includes radio buttons for 'Layout 1', 'Layout 2', 'crossfade', and 'swap'. 'Layout 2' is selected. Checkboxes for 'Include thumbnails', 'Include sibling links', and 'Include horizontal divider' are all checked.
- Slide Settings:** Includes checkboxes for 'Make thumbnail and slide on index page' and 'Two images per slide', both of which are unchecked. Radio buttons for 'crossfade' and 'swap' are present, with 'crossfade' selected.

My links project directory structure looks like:

```
links/  
  mac/  
    applications/  
  music/  
    femail/  
      agnetha.jpg  
      agnetha.txt  
      agnetha_link.txt  
    group/  
    male/
```

The directory starting level is set to 1, as the site's navigation links point to pages that are generated from the 1st level directory e.g. mac and music.

Layout 2 is selected and I have used a swap effect rather than a cross-fade for the thumbnail pages. The slide settings are not important as they are not used (no slide pages are made).

Now, using the standard JAlbum technique of associating a text file to an image I can write about a subject within the those text files. I also use another text file, filename_link.txt, that is used to turn the image into a link to, say, a page in an external web site.

Examples of the text file contents follow, both contain standard html code.

imageName.txt:

More people have heard there music than they may realise as Tangerine Dream have written the music for many films.

 Firestarter, Shy people, Sorcerer (released under a different name in the UK) and Wavelength to name but a few.

 Tangerine Dream are Edgar Froese, Jerome Froese and Chris Franke along with, at different times, Peter Baumann, Steve Schroyder, Steve Jolliffe, Klaus Krieger and Paul Haslinger.

 If I had to choose a best band then TD would probably be my choice and my favourite track, just for its title, would be 3am At The Borders Of The Marsh From Okefenokee.

imageName_link.txt

Building a complete web site with the Notables skin – Part 5 A page for an article.

The Navigation settings are link to scaled-down images only, make slides is unchecked.

The screenshot shows a configuration window for the Notables skin. It is divided into three sections:

- Displayed text options:** Includes a language selection (radio buttons for 'english', 'cymraeg', 'gaelic'), a text input for 'Directory level from which to start the 'path' links at, 0=root' (value: 1), and a text input for 'Copyright Holders Name' (value: Robert Marshall).
- Thumbnail Settings:** Includes radio buttons for 'Layout 1' and 'Layout 2' (selected), a checkbox for 'Include thumbnails' (unchecked), checkboxes for 'Include sibling links' and 'Include horizontal divider' (both checked), and radio buttons for 'crossfade' and 'swap' (selected).
- Slide Settings:** Includes a checkbox for 'Make thumbnail and slide on index page' (checked), a checkbox for 'Two images per slide' (unchecked), and radio buttons for 'crossfade' and 'swap' (selected).

My article pages project directory structure looks like:

```
my_pages/  
  etymology/  
    etymology.jpg  
    etymology.txt  
  another_article/
```

The directory starting level is set to 1, as the site's navigation links point to pages that are generated from the 1st level directory e.g. etymology.

Layout 2 is selected and I have unchecked the include thumbnails option. The image, e.g. etymology.jpg, is used only so that JAlbum has something to work with – it does not appear on the generated web page.

I have used a swap effect for the thumbnail pages, this makes further sections of the article appear to load instantly. The slide settings are not important as they are not used (no slide pages are made).

Now, using the standard JAlbum technique of associating a text file to an image I can write about a subject within the those text files. The page layout, section headings etc. are all controlled by the html content of the text file and the css layout and style files provided with the skin.

For more information on using this skin either see the help file provided with the skin or post a message/email me.