

My 2020 year in review

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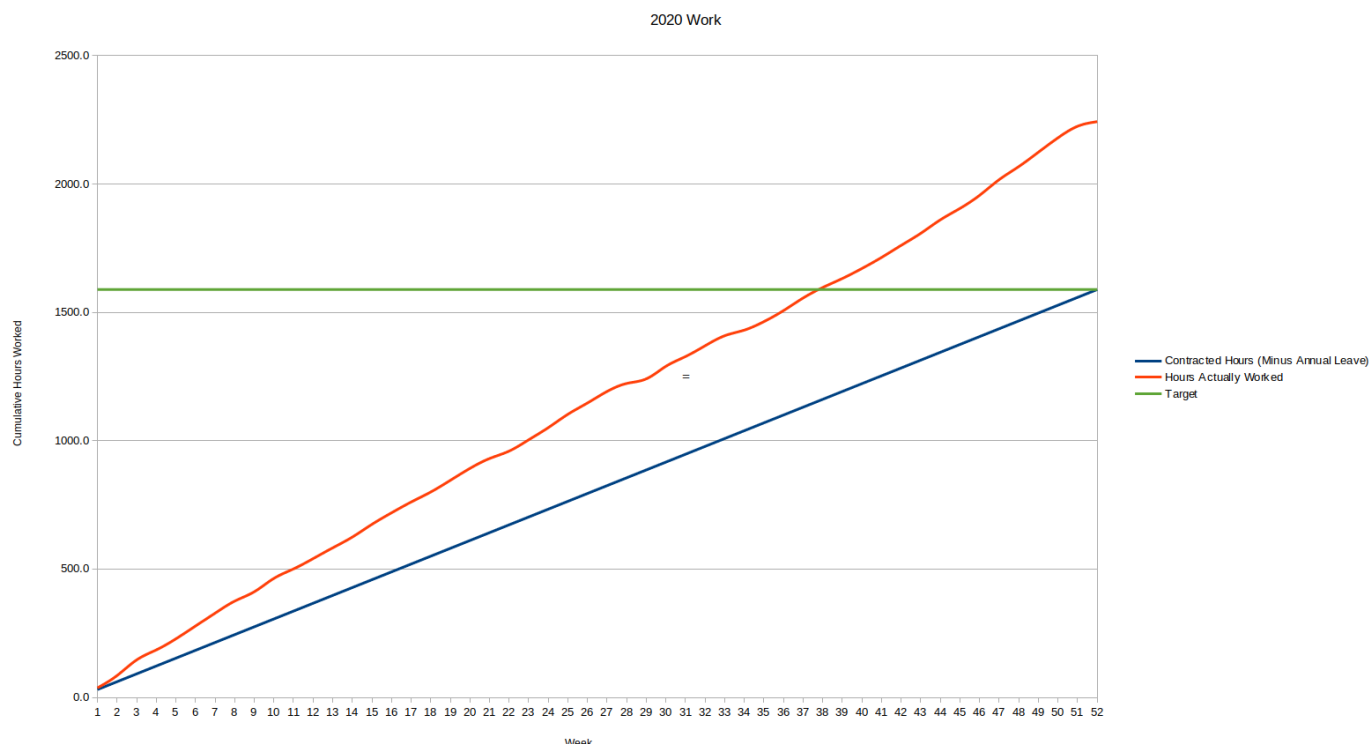
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I wrote, last year, that 2019 was pretty bad for me. Little did any of us know of the grimness that 2020 would bring with the coronavirus pandemic. I have spent almost all of this year “shielding”, which can feel somewhat isolating, although I am fortunate to live with my wife, which ameliorates this greatly. I only venture out every day to walk Toby, the fifteen-year-old Jack Russell terrier whom we adopted from the rescue shelter, two days before going into lockdown. Most problematically, I have not been able to have a battery of required hospital tests that could make me feel a lot better, because the risk is too great. Before lockdown started and the pandemic struck, I also began to suffer from serious depressive symptoms. These were not linked to the pandemic – although that would have been reason enough! – but were rather a result of the medications that I must take for my autoimmune conditions. This has, obviously, made this year even tougher. Writing about some of the good things can, every year, feel a little like bragging/showing off. It actually helps me to feel good about what I’ve done, though, and to take stock of what I have achieved.

The work schedule this year has been hectic to say the least. I will update this graph when the year is done as I still have some hours to add to it, but the green and blue lines represent the hours for which I am contracted, minus annual leave. So, that is: if I had precisely hit the green line or kept pace with the blue, I would have worked all the hours for which I am contracted and taken all my annual leave/College closure days. The red line is the hours I actually worked. The demands of pivoting to online teaching, while I am Birkbeck’s Strategic Lead for Digital Education, stacked up. The work on COPIM also took a lot of my time. Perhaps most worryingly, my time tracking points to having spent 79 full working days this year answering email.



I had some successes that I want to highlight for attention. In particular, my work package on COPIM launched [Opening the Future](#), its project to convert university presses to OA business models. This really does represent a way that existing presses could move to OA. If it has widespread uptake, it could be the most significant thing I do in my entire academic career. I also released a music track with one of my all-time musical heroes, Jon Fugler, of 90s electronic band, Fluke. This – [Night Train](#) – was dream-come-true territory. Of course, the sadness is that there are no nightclubs in which to hear it played. [Close Reading with Computers](#) was also republished this year, in an open-access format. OLH was “highly commended” at the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers and won Small Digital Publisher of the Year at the Association of Online Publishers. I was elected a Fellow of the English Association.

Books

2022 [Eve, Martin Paul, *The Digital Humanities and Literary Studies* \(Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022\)](#) [submitted]

Eve, Martin Paul, *Warez: The Economic Artforms and Illicit Crafts of the Pirate Topside Scene* (New York, NY: punctum books, 2022) [two weeks left until it's submitted]

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2020 Eve, Martin Paul, and Jonathan Gray, eds., *Reassembling Scholarly Communications: Histories, Infrastructures, and Global Politics of Open Access* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2020) [[Download](#)]

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2020 Eve, Martin Paul, 'Violins in the Subway: Scarcity Correlations, Evaluative Cultures, and Disciplinary Authority in the Digital Humanities', in *Digital Technology and the Practices of Humanities Research*, ed. by Jennifer Edmond (Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2020), pp. 105–22 [[Download](#)]

Other Articles / Media/ Interviews

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Conference Papers/Events

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Eve, Martin Paul, 'Doing It to Ourselves: Pandemic-Proofing Humanities Scholarship' (presented at the CHASE Virtual Encounters, Birkbeck, University of London, UK, 2020)
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Eve, Martin Paul, ‘A New Funding Model for Open-Access Monographs’ (presented at the The 15th Munin Conference on Scholarly Publishing, Norway, Online, 2020) [\[Download\]](#)

Eve, Martin Paul, ‘Opening the Future: Revenue Models for Open-Access Monographs’ (presented at the OPERAS Conference: Opening Up Social Sciences and Humanities in Europe: From Promises to Reality, Online, 2020)

Eve, Martin Paul, and Joanna Taylor, ‘Interview on Close Reading with Computers: Textual Scholarship, Computational Formalism, and David Mitchell’s *Cloud Atlas*’ (presented at the New Books Network, University of Manchester, UK, 2020) [\[Download\]](#)

Eve, Martin Paul, Heather Staines, Emily Farrell, and Vivian Berghahn, ‘OA Books and Business Models’ (presented at the University Press Redux, University of Cambridge, UK, 2020) [\[Download\]](#)

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