

## M7 - Hyperlinks

The hyperlink mechanism is the feature that defines “The Web” It is the feature that allows you to go directly from one page on any website to any other page on any other site anywhere in the world.

Every web page has what amounts to a unique address, often referred to as a “URL” or “**U**niform **R**esource **L**ocator”. Taking the Calendar House web site as an example, the full address is <http://CalendarHouse.org>. A Domain Name Server links the requesting computer to the web site host and searches for a file like “**index.html**”. The “index.html” file is the web site **Home Page**. Note that the “index” part is the important bit, the second part could be php , asp or some extension other than html if alternative programming is used.

Once the home page has been reached more hyperlinks enable the user to select other pages. On the Old Calendar House site example clicking on the “Welcome” menu item would use a hyperlink to take you to the local “welcome.html” page which has a full URL of <http://www.CalendarHouse.org/welcome.html> .

The actual html code to form a hyperlink is located within an anchor tag as below:

```
<a href "LLLLL">TTTTT</a>
```

Where “LLLLL” is the URL or local file to be connected to, and  
TTTTT is text to be clicked on which describes what the link is for.

Examples:

```
<a href "http://www.Southington.org">Go to the town website</a>
```

```
<a href "welcome.html">welcome</a>
```

Note that the visible text part (TTTTT in the description above) can be made to change color and/or become underlined by using suitable styling markup in the linked css file.

Check out the mini web site links by looking at “**ch\_index.html**” in Module 7.