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Earlier this year we launched an appeal. We wanted you to help us with our Linux Labs. We didn't want you to answer a few multiple choice questions; we didn't want plain numbers. We wanted you to help us write the reviews themselves.

So, via the medium of The big PC Pro Linux Labs wiki, hosted by our friends over at Memset, we set about building a collaborative Labs of the likes never seen before in the pages of the magazine.

The aim was to produce a piece of writing in the spirit of the subject matter at hand: and open source Labs about open source software. It was all very nice in theory, but we'd never done it before: never set up a wiki, never solicited contributions from readers, and never taken such material into account in writing editorial, let alone a piece as involved as a Labs.

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