



The case for slower software

A letter to our readers | Ledger & Lane | Autumn 2026

Every year we write to the people who read us, to explain what we published, what we got wrong, and what we want to do next. This year the theme chose itself: almost every story we ran was, in some way, about the cost of moving too fast.

What we published

We ran forty-two long-form pieces this year, fewer than last year and longer on average. The ones you read to the end were the slow ones: a six-month investigation into hospital scheduling software, a profile of the last typesetter in Bergen, and an essay on why the best tools feel boring.

Readers told us the same thing in different words. They do not want more. They want the thing that is worth their evening.

What we got wrong

We published a correction in March that should have been an apology. A source we trusted had misremembered a date, and we did not check it against the archive. We have since added a second reader to every piece that cites a primary document.

■ The work of an editor is mostly the work of slowing someone down at the right moment.

What comes next

Next year we will publish less often and send more letters like this one. We are hiring a fact-checker, opening our archive to subscribers, and printing a small annual edition for the readers who asked for something they could keep on a shelf.

Thank you for reading slowly with us.