Participatory journalism / citizen journalism

British Council Ukraine, 28 November 2006

Neil Thurman
The University for business and the professions

Successful blogs

1,092,000 visits / month (US users)
UNDER PRESSURE FOX CANCELS OJ BOOK, TV SPECIAL...

The Huffington Post
November 21, 2006
DELIVERING NEWS AND OPINION SINCE MAY 9, 2005

HOME THE NEWS THE BLOG EAT THE PRESS CONTAGIOUS FESTIVAL FEARLESS VOICES

A LOW MOMENT FOR FOX...
Norah O'Donnell: Say It Ain't So, Rupert. Murdoch "Badly Miscalculated The Public's Tolerance". CNN Poll: 55% Thought Book Was "Offensive," 30% Said "Inappropriate". Ron Goldman's Father: We Want To Say Thank You To Those Who Stood Up Against This Book...

THE BLOG

Early Advice for '08 Hopefuls: Beware the Consultants!
Getting rid of the consultants who have led them down the wrong path again and again should be the #1 item on the Democrats' '06-'08 to-do list -- at least getting us out of Iraq. And the Dems should start by kicking James Carville to the curb, once and for all. What's he -- irascible? -- incorrect? -- mean? -- insane? -- remiss about Howard Dean are all the proof needed that the time has come to send the Ayin Caloante the Political Consultants' Retirement Home. (Dream scenario: he gets a room with Bobo '10 for a '08 run.) While calling for

HUFFINGTON POST
November 21, 2006
DELIVERING NEWS AND OPINION SINCE MAY 9, 2005

HOME THE NEWS THE BLOG EAT THE PRESS CONTAGIOUS FESTIVAL FEARLESS VOICES

A LOW MOMENT FOR FOX...
Norah O'Donnell: Say It Ain't So, Rupert. Murdoch "Badly Miscalculated The Public's Tolerance". CNN Poll: 55% Thought Book Was "Offensive," 30% Said "Inappropriate". Ron Goldman's Father: We Want To Say Thank You To Those Who Stood Up Against This Book...

THE BLOG

Early Advice for '08 Hopefuls: Beware the Consultants!
Getting rid of the consultants who have led them down the wrong path again and again should be the #1 item on the Democrats' '06-'08 to-do list -- at least getting us out of Iraq. And the Dems should start by kicking James Carville to the curb, once and for all. What's he -- irascible? -- incorrect? -- mean? -- insane? -- remiss about Howard Dean are all the proof needed that the time has come to send the Ayin Caloante the Political Consultants' Retirement Home. (Dream scenario: he gets a room with Bobo '10 for a '08 run.) While calling for
Successful blogs

818,000 visits / month
(US users)

TX-23: The DCCC is In
by KTinTX
Mon Nov 20, 2006 at 08:41:50 PM PST

(from the diaries -- kos)

The DCCC is on the ground in TX-23 where we have a run-off against Republican Rep. Henry Bonilla. They have made amazing progress in getting Democrat Ciro Rodriguez to actually abide by their rules for this short election period seeing as he's low on cash and institutional support. In other terms, Ciro has actually been on the phone doing call time which in itself is short of a miracle, just to put it in perspective.

Meghan Gaffney as some will remember from Paul Hackett's race in OH-02 is there now as well as Adrian Saenz, the DCCC's National Field Director (who if I'm not mistaken is from San Antonio as it is).

There is a poll in the field right now to determine where things stand on that front.

The election date cannot be set earlier than this Friday from what we've been

Now in paperback! Order your copy (or copies) of Crashing the Gate today! Read the reviews.

[I]t is one of the two best books I've read in years about the Democratic Party, its myriad problems and challenges -- Charlie Cook, National Journal
TX-23: The DCCC is In

by KtinTX
Mon Nov 20, 2006 at 08:41:50 PM PST

(From the diaries -- kos)

The DCCC is on the ground in TX-23 where we have a real race on. The Republican Rep. Henry Bonilla. They have made amazing Democrat Ciro Rodriguez to actually abide by their rules. Period seeing as he's low on cash and institutional support has actually been on the phone doing call time which in itself is a miracle, just to put it in perspective.

Meghan Gaffney as some will remember from Paul Hacker's post there now as well as Adrian Saenz, the DCCC's National Press Secretary. I'm not mistaken is from San Antonio as it is.

There is a poll in the field right now to determine where the front.
Clashes break out in south Russian republic of Kabardino-Balkaria

Russian president Vladimir Putin has ordered the army to seal off the city of Nalchik. Clashes between gunmen and police have broken out in the capital of the southern republic where fighting appears to have started as a coordinated set of attacks.

→ Full story
85% written by its readers

50-200 articles submitted daily (70% published)
Use of message boards at ten UK news websites

- **DailyMail.co.uk** 1165 (Pre-moderated)
- **Guardian.co.uk** 1221
- **ThisisLondon.co.uk** 389
- **FT.com** 9 (Pre-moderated)
- **TheSun.co.uk**
- **Independent.co.uk**
- **TimesOnline.co.uk**
- **Scotsman.com**
- **News.bbc.co.uk** 0.116 (Pre-moderated)

Message board posts ('000s)
Formats for reader participation:

1. Polls
2. Message boards
3. Have your says
4. Q&As
5. Blogs
6. Reader Blogs
7. Comments on stories
8. Your media
9. Your stories
Inside Whitehall: Benedict Brogan's election blog
17.24pm 27th April 2005

He is in the privileged position of seeing the election campaign from the other side of the fence. And here, in his regular election blog, Daily Mail Whitehall Editor Benedict Brogan gives us an exclusive insight into the corridors of power...

Wednesday April 20

Is the Tory promise to put off council tax revaluation until after the next Parliament shamelessly opportunistic? You bet! But that’s the whole point - this is an election campaign and unless the Tories start creating more opportunities to win over voters, the next fortnight is a waste of time.

This morning’s main press conference proved that a well-timed sort of opportunism can work wonders. The Tories always said they would save a few surprises for the later stages of the campaign, and today they delivered what amounts to another tax cut.

Voters now know that if the Lib Dems get in, council tax will be replaced by a local income tax that will pocket most earners. They know that if Labour get in, council tax will be overhauled to reflect soaring property prices for householders in the Tory south and London watch out.

And if they return the Tories they know that neither of the above will happen. It’s simple, it’s audacious and it reflects that council tax is one of the most explosive issues in British politics. It’s gone up by 70 per cent.
DailyMail.co.uk message boards
-- 1,165,785 posts
John Peel: 30,000 emails from readers the day he died. 100,000 by the end of the week.
Search engines: your questions answered

John Battelle, publisher, journalist and author of The Search, responds to your queries

Wednesday October 5, 2005
Guardian Unlimited

Q: Given how important search engines are to many aspects of modern life, is there a case for some kind of government regulation to ensure fair play?  
Mavan  
John Battelle: I’d say not. Unlike, say, Windows, there are many viable choices for search engines, and market competition seems to keep them pretty honest.

Q: I am the editor of AskYourNeighbour.co.uk, which is one of the UK’s fastest-growing forums. We now have 2m pages on Google, which generates considerable traffic. But do you think websites can become too obsessed by their Google exposure at the expense of more traditional marketing methods?  
Graham Parker
Inside Whitehall: Blog

17:24pm 27th April 2005

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Inside Whitehall: Blog

Wednesday April 20

Is the Tony promise to put off council tax until after the next Parliament a sham or opportunistic? You bet! But that's the whole point of an election campaign and unless it creates more opportunities to win or to flog, it's a waste of time.

This morning's main press conference was a well-timed spot of opportunism complete with a promise by Mr. Brown that he would save every last penny for the next Parliament.

Voters now know that if the Lib Dems win, they will be replaced by a local income tax to be run by the Tories. They know that it is a tax that will be hated by hardworking people. They also know that the local income tax will be used to reflect on all those householder's in the Tory south and those with high property values.

And if they return the Tories they know above all else the Lib Dems will be replaced by a local income tax to be run by the Tories. They know that it is a tax that will be hated by hardworking people. They also know that the local income tax will be used to reflect on all those householder's in the Tory south and those with high property values.

The percentage of British homes with a pet has fallen from almost 56 per cent in 1990 to 48 per cent today. In some cases, children are even turning to virtual pets instead of the real thing. The falling number of children has contributed to this decline. What is more, even in those families with children, the demand for pets may not be as strong as it once was, since many children now prefer to immerse themselves in the world of computer games and TV programmes, the study [by Mintel] concluded.

Oh, come on. It's Friday.

George Jones, Andrew Gimson and Andrew Sparrow will be contributing to the daily diary, as they chase the three party leaders around the country, picking up on the speeches, slip-ups and stress.
I believe I can drive

AFTER 10 years travelling on London's public transport system, Sun man Toni Perry is finally learning to drive

November 8 2006

AFTER taking advantage of London's memorable public transport system for almost 10 years, constantly pacifying myself with the excuse "what use would a car be here anyway?" I finally had to succumb to the pressures of manhood and learn how to drive.

Upon starting my epic journey to the land of independent mobility, I discovered that there is actually quite a lot of things to consider and a lack of readily available information. So while I'm going to learn to drive for the sake of my own feet, I'm also biting the bullet for you lot too!

Over the coming months, I'll give you the low-down and the highlights of my experiences behind the wheel in a weekly blog - I believe I can drive.

BSM are the lucky people who have taken on the responsibility to teach me the ins and outs of this driving malarkey. The first thing I did was have a good look around their website for any useful information, and as luck would have it, there staring me in the face was just what any complete novice in the motoring world would need; a step-by-step guide!

It takes you through each step you'll need to complete, from an online application for your provisional plate, to what documents you'll need to...
'2 million people will spend a lifetime repaying debt'

Two million people have borrowed so much they are destined to spend the rest of their lives struggling to repay debt, Britain's biggest debt firm said... read

Trainspotter who put a railway in his garden to fool motorists into slowing down

As roadside features go, it is certainly an arresting sight. So much so that speeding motorists have for once been slowing down to check trainspotter Eddie Korn's front garden - complete with the 58ft railway carriage - is not a level crossing... read

Soldier's moving diary reveals plea to Blair to pull troops from Iraq

A soldier killed in Iraq wrote a poignant battle diary in which he implored Prime Minister Tony Blair to pull poorly equipped British troops out of the war, it was revealed... read
Buncefield oil depot fire.
Summer 2005

The BBC News website received:

* 15,000 images and
* 20,000 eye-witness accounts.
Saenz's story

My Story is a collection of features written by our readers. They allow us all to share in their Scottish heritage. You can join the discussion by adding comments below.

MY NAME is Michelle Elizabeth Lear Saenz, I was born in Baton Rouge, LA, but my heart was born in Scotland. I have always known this since I was little. It got stronger when my Uncle Larry served his mission for the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He went when the Prince of Wales got married the first time. The thing is my family think is either Irish or Scottish.

My mother does genealogy and did find that on her side and my dad's side we have Scottish blood. My grandma Lear's father name was Arnold, but he has Irish in him but me and my grandma Lear got his very bad temper which for us is good we protect our husband and family not afraid of standing when someone hurts us. Grandpa Arnold’s father is the one who came to the
“user generated content is not a ‘cheap alternative’ to conventional, traditional journalism . . . High editorial standards apply as much to material sent to us by our audience as it does to material generated by our own correspondents.”

BBC News website
### ‘Blogs’ at a selection of British News sites, April 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News site</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Comments?</th>
<th>Registration required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC News</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ‘Blogs’ at a selection of British News sites, November 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News site</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Comments?</th>
<th>Registration required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC News</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Becoming a forum for debate was an area that newspapers had to get into otherwise they’d get left behind”

Richard Burton, 2006  telegraph.co.uk
“It has partly been an attempt to keep them within the family because otherwise they’d and create their own blogs”.

Peter Bale, 2006
“Our science editor is keen to blog because he wouldn’t to
dress everything up as a tabloid idea”.

Steve Purcell, 2006
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News site</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Comments?</th>
<th>Registration required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC News</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“It’s the ‘tragedy of the commons’. If you create an open space there will always be someone who is going to abuse it.”.

Simon Waldman, 2006
### ‘Have Your Says’ at a selection of British News sites, April 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News site</th>
<th>Moderation</th>
<th>Registration required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC News</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News site</td>
<td>Moderation</td>
<td>Registration required?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fully</td>
<td>Reactively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBC News</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Registration is required to post directly to reactively moderated ‘Have Your Says’.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News site</th>
<th>Comment moderation</th>
<th>Registration required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC News</td>
<td>Fully</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News site</td>
<td>Comment moderation</td>
<td>Registration required?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DailyMail.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThisisLondon.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT.com</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotsman.com</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timesonline.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TheSun.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailyexpress.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailystar.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror.co.uk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian.co.uk</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Editors’ concerns / local constraints

1. Quality of contributions: Spelling, punctuation, editorial selection, accuracy & balance
2. Making user generated content initiatives pay
3. Uncertain legal environment
4. The management of the journalists involved in user-generated content initiatives.
5. The information systems involved in the eliciting, processing and publishing of reader contributions.
“[the reason people] buy a newspaper or a magazine is to read a well-crafted news story or feature”

Pete Picton, editor, *The Sun*

[10 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman]
“On any user-invited feedback there will only be about ten [different] points of view”

Mike Smartt, ex-editor, BBC News Website
“99 per cent of the blogs are extremely dull or are of very marginal interest”

Peter Bale, editorial director

[ 14 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
“a very, very high quality of exchange with readers”

Peter Bale, 2006
“[the contributors were]... a bunch of bigots who were shouting from one side of the room to the other.”

Martin King, editor, The Independent.co.

[ 16 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
“Our . . . Diana message board . . became invaded with abusers.”

Steve Purcell, 2006
2. **Local constraints**: Making user generated content initiatives pay
“We had to cut down the number ‘Discussions’ because it was too resource intensive.”

Tracy Corrigan, editor, FT.com

[ 13 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
“They just want to write their experiences...the question of getting paid isn't a major issue”.

Mike Smartt, ex-editor, BBC News Website

“We were getting 20-30 thousand page impressions / week from 220 users in our message boards.”

“Message boards are just like self-contained playgrounds, no-one wants to leave. The number of active users has been 10-12,000 for ever.”

Simon Waldman, 2006
“Generally people don’t want to advertise on talk boards, except perhaps travel.”

Simon Waldman, 2006
“But the number of people looking at [message boards] keeps growing and growing, and so it’s quite a vibrant part of what we are.”

Simon Waldman, 2006
Speaking sorrow: Nick Clarke
Anne Karpe Nov 24 06, 11:15am: Nick Clarke, who has died of cancer at 58, won the trust and affection of radio listeners everywhere with that soft, warm voice of integrity.
Comments (1) · ☐

A genteel faith?
Sue Blackmore Nov 24 06, 10:40am: I went to church on Sunday and the sermon was all fire and brimstone, albeit in its most polite form.
Comments (10) · ☐

A makeover is not enough
Shamit Sagar Nov 24 06, 10:07am: There is something a bit old-fashioned about how race and faith concerns are debated in Britain.
Comments (0) · ☐

Let’s have commonsense games, not an exorbitant festival of chauvinism
Simon Jenkins: The 2012 Olympics now belong to London, not the IOC. We should end the link with national pride and extravagance.
Comments (29) · ☐
“The initial story will more visits straightaway, but the community may have a higher number of visits over time”

Richard Avery, 2006
“When the bomb went off in Jeddah and we immediately got an eye-witness account contact us through the web site, which we then put on. That individual ended up being interviewed, I think, on BBC World, Radio 5 Live and World Service”

Richard Deverell, BBC News Interactive

[ 3 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
Saenz's story

My Story is a collection of features written by our readers. They allow us all to share in their Scottish heritage. You can join the discussion by adding comments below.

MY NAME is Michelle Elizabeth Lear Saenz, I was born in Baton Rouge, LA, but my heart was born in Scotland. I have always known this since I was little. It got stronger when my Uncle Larry served his mission for the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He went when the Prince of Wales got married the first time. The thing is my family think is either Irish or Scottish.

My mother does genealogy and did find that on her side and my dad's side we have Scottish blood. My grandma Lear’s father name was Arnold, but he has Irish in him but me and my grandma Lear got his very bad temper which for us is good we protect our husband and family not afraid of standing when someone hurts us. Grandpa Arnold’s father is the one who came to the
US unique users as a percentage of total unique users

Sources:

4. Local constraints: Uncertain legal environment
The Sunday Herald vs. Lord Robertson

£25,000 out of court settlement

Lord Fraser, McLetchie should reveal taxi expenses

By Paul Hutcheon, Scottish Political Editor

Lord Fraser, McLetchie should reveal taxi expenses

By Paul Hutcheon, Scottish Political Editor

Rebate row will mean ‘lame duck presidency’

Blair’s tenure to be ‘hard going’

By James Cusick, Westminster Editor

Everyone agrees global warming is wrecking our planet...

Everyone except those who can stop it on the summit which could change the planet
5. Local constraints: The management of the journalists involved in user-generated content initiatives.
“It is difficult to get journalists to do blogs when they are doing full-time jobs as well”

Tracy Corrigan, editor, FT.com

[ 13 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
“Giving somebody an open-ended, ‘have a bit of a rant’ brief doesn’t necessarily suit them professionally”

Richard Burton, editor, telegraph.co.uk

[ 7 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
6. **Local constraints:** The information systems supporting the processing and publishing of reader contributions.
“When John Peel died we had over 100,000 emails. Because we read and sub everything that we put up, we just couldn't cope.”

Pete Clifton, editor, BBC News Website
[ 8 November 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]
Send your tributes to Nick Clarke

The BBC journalist and presenter Nick Clarke has died of cancer. He was 58. What are your memories of him?

Nick Clarke worked for the BBC for more than 35 years. He started in television, but he'll be best remembered by listeners to Radio 4.

On both The World This Weekend and then The World At One, Nick's courteous yet forensic style of questioning earned him a fearsome reputation and a large, loyal audience.

Named Broadcaster of the Year in 2001, he also presented Radio 4's Round Britain Quiz and on occasions Any Questions.

A keen lover of cricket, Nick was also the biographer of another Radio 4 icon, Alistair Cooke.

How will you remember Nick Clarke? What was his contribution to broadcasting? Did you ever meet him? Send us your tributes and comments.

Nick's obituary

Published: Thursday, 23 November, 2006, 12:46 GMT 12:46 UK

Comments

Number of Comments: 2,390

Most Recent

READERS RECOMMENDED

All comments as they come in

Added: Friday, 24 November, 2006, 12:13 GMT 12:13 UK

As a devotee of both wato and letter from america imagine the joy nick clarke gave me (and no doubt countless others) when he wrote his wonderful biography of alistair cooke. nick brought intellect, integrity and calm professionalism to everything he did, and all without a hint of hubris, a truly lovely man. how we're going to miss him.
Thanksgiving Reading: Charity With a Bottom Line

Milton Friedman, meet Andrew Carnegie. As the season of end-of-year tax deductions gets into high gear, The New York Times's Stephanie Strom has taken a look at how free-market forces — as fiercely championed by Mr. Friedman, the late economist — are increasingly being incorporated into charitable ventures. The trend includes Google, eBay founder Pierre Omidyar and AOL co-founder Stephen Case, among others.

Click here for the full article, or see below: MORE »

Air France-KLM Starts Merger Talks with Alitalia

Air France-KLM said Thursday that profit rose 26 percent in its latest quarter, but shares of Europe's biggest airline tumbled after it announced tentative talks on a tie-up with Alitalia. Chief Executive Jean-Cyril Spinetta said Air France-KLM had begun discussions on a possible combination with Italy's unprofitable state-controlled national airline, as his company posted net profit of 374 million euros ($482 million) for the July to September quarter, buoyed by strong passenger traffic. MORE »

Editor's Note:
DealBook will be on a limited posting schedule through the weekend, picking up our regular schedule on Monday morning. Thanks for reading, and happy Thanksgiving.

For M&A, a Much-Deserved Holiday

For M&A, a Much-Deserved Holiday

Quantas Draws Interest from Buyout Firms

Bayer to Sell Chemicals Unit to Advent and Carlyle for $1.5 Billion

Bayer to Sell Chemicals Unit to Advent and Carlyle for $1.5 Billion

Kerkorian Seeks More MGM, Less G.M.

Kerkorian Seeks More MGM, Less G.M.

Kraawcheck Heading Out? Citigroup Says No

Kraawcheck Heading Out? Citigroup Says No

2:01 PM ▼ Comment (1)

Investor Tools

Find a Mutual Fund » Research Companies » Get Intraday Stock Alerts »

Investor Tools

Get DealBook by E-Mail

Sign up for finance news, sent before the opening bell.

Get DealBook by E-Mail

Lofty Expectations

Lofty Expectations

NYSE

For growing and mid-sized companies, we make it all possible.

Investment Banking • Sales & Trading • Research • Asset Management

Jefferies

May 2006

For growing and mid-sized companies, we make it all possible.

Here's the proof:

$1,768,125,000

Secondary Public Equity Offering

Joint Book-Running Manager

Investment Banking • Sales & Trading • Research • Asset Management

Jefferies
“I think most people do like to consume media as opposed to take part in it”.

Richard Withey, 2006

“[Readers] tend to be keener to send us things they’ve seen rather than actually [creating video themselves]”

Pete Picton, 2006
“In online communities, 90% of users never contribute, 9% of users contribute a little, and 1% of users account for almost all the action”.

Jakob Nielsen, 2006
Wikipedia has 68,000 active contributors, which is 0.2% of its visitors in the US.

Wikipedia’s most active 1,000 people—0.0003% of its users—contribute about two-thirds of the site’s edits.
“And I don’t know that we need more than 50, 10-20 people contributing”

Alan Revell, 2006

“that small number make it much more interesting for everyone else”

Simon Waldman, 2006
Conclusions

- High variance in reader involvement -- reflects legal environment & local personnel, technical & resource conditions
- Editors’ attachment to traditional standards not firmly fixed, inhibit less than local conditions.
- Many reader contributions even when tiny % read / published.
- Industry should capitalise on readers good will -- it’s a finite resource.
- User forums generate loyalty in niche groups, profitability unproved
- Sites with a public-service ethos / funding most open to user content
- User generated content initiatives often justified in terms of what they bring to the print or broadcast parent: but novelty will wear thin
- Sites should:
  - (1) more fully integrate their user contributions into their mainstream journalistic enterprise
  - (2) find ways of satisfying unmet and growing demand from readers to contribute & be published.
“We have this huge resource of opinion, of really quite vocal readers . . . so how do we get them in the paper? Because if we get their names in the paper they are more likely to buy it”

Stewart Kirkpatrick, editor, Scotsman.com
[ 20 December 2004, telephone call with Neil Thurman ]