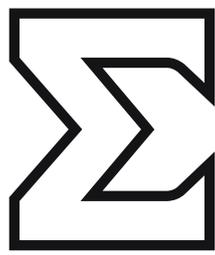


THE SOCRATES SURVEY 2011



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THE EQUALISER THE ROKER REPORT FOOTBALIGLOBE
GO! GO! OMIYA ARDIJA WE ARE GOING UP! MODERN-FO
TOTTENHAM SPURS IN HISTORY THE ARSENAL COLUMN S
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RELEASE THE KRAKEN! MODUS HOPPER RANDOM
THE TIRELESS MIDFIELDER UNITED RANT FOTBOLLSKANALEN
BITTER & BLUE FISTED AWAY BARRY LANDY'S DOWN IN TH
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Foreword

Jealousy, spite, hypocrisy, exploitation - welcome to football blogging in 2011.

Those aren't my words, they're yours as members of the blogging community in the comments received on this, our first Socrates Survey of football bloggers and podcasters.

The main source of contention comes from our relationship with commercial media and, of course, money. For me, the start point came in July when the *Huffington Post* launched its UK edition. Given its online presence, it's unsurprising that news of the launch of the *Guardian Sports Network* soon followed. More, no doubt, will be on their way soon.

Even before the UK launch, the *Huffington Post* was and is subject to class action suits and blogger strikes in the US. How long before we see similar activity here?

The run-in between Gav from *Les Rosbifs* and *TeamTalk* over his Steve McClaren interview and the resulting Twitter-storm that followed marked a new low in the relationship between bloggers and the established media. It also highlighted how we still have a long way to go to fulfil the aims of **Socrates**.

The purpose of Socrates is for bloggers to get together, network, eat a few balti pies, and improve ourselves through our shared experience. We also want to help bloggers engage with those in football, the media and other interested parties and to legitimise blogging as a source of news and comment.

Starting in 2009, the London Socrates event, hosted by *Picklive* (then *Football3s*) attracted around 20 to 30 bloggers. Our most recent London event in October (our 10th) was attended by over 70.

The first Socrates event in Scotland in November 2011, organised by Scott Johnston from *thefootyblog.net*, reached the room's 40-person capacity within days of its announcement. More events in Scotland are to come in 2012 we understand, along with proposed events in Bristol, Oxford and the North East. And of course there will be more London events too.

On the field, 2012 promises to give us much to talk about - Team GB at the Olympics, the European Championships in Poland and the Ukraine, and the ramifications of Manchester City winning (or not winning) the Premier League. All of which will bring more and more people into our world. What their hopes and expectations are from blogging and podcasting is anyone's guess. One thing we're pretty sure of is that Socrates will be here to ask them.

Graham Sibley
Socrates Panel
December 2011

Summary

The survey was completed by 86 bloggers and podcasters.

For simplicity, for the remainder of the report, blogging and podcasting will be referred to simply as 'blogging.'

The key points raised :

- 50% have considered giving up in the last 12 months
- 80% in their third year considered giving up
- Almost 50% are producing more content than last year, with 30% producing less
- 60% give at least half a working day per week to producing content; almost 40% give more than a whole working day per week
- 90% provide content for sites other than their own
- 75% write for other independent blogs
- Over half in their second year contribute to superblogs, with over 40% of their output going to websites other than their own
- Over half in their third year write for small independent commercials.

When asked their opinion on providing free content to commercial websites:

- Just over 20% see commercial initiatives like GSN as a positive thing for bloggers
- Over 60% believe providing free content for commercial websites will improve one's profile
- Over 70% agree that providing free content damages the chances of paid work for bloggers and journalists in the future
- A majority believe that providing free content to commercial websites devalues the work of bloggers.

Optimism

We asked if those taking the survey had considered giving up blogging at any time over the previous twelve months.

The result was exactly 50/50.

An interesting pattern emerged, though, once the figures were broken down by the amount of time they had been a blogger (Figure 1):



The numbers show that while bloggers are full of optimism in the first year (only 20% considering giving it up), by the time they are in their third year their optimism crashes (80% considering giving up). This perfectly backs up anecdotal evidence that most bloggers have a period of work of about three years before stopping.

Output

Figure 2. How many hours a week, on average, do you devote to producing content?

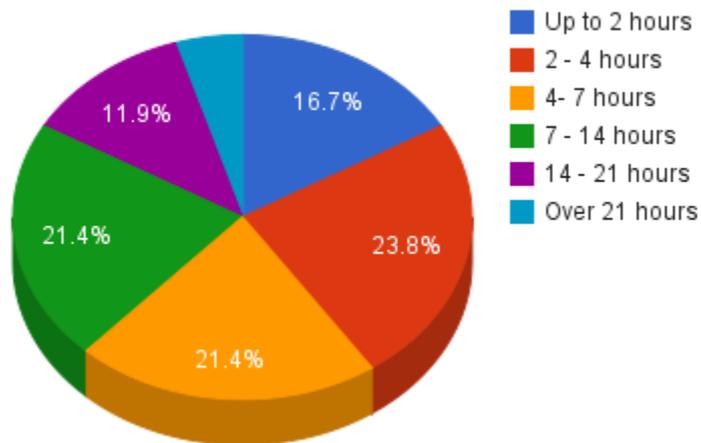


Figure 3. Are you personally producing more or less content than you were 12 months ago?

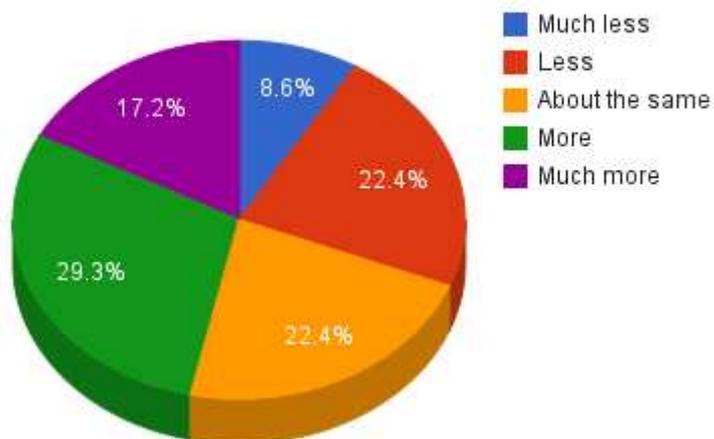


Figure 3 suggests that while more than half of bloggers may have considered giving up (this chart doesn't include those optimistic first years) the overall output is increasing.

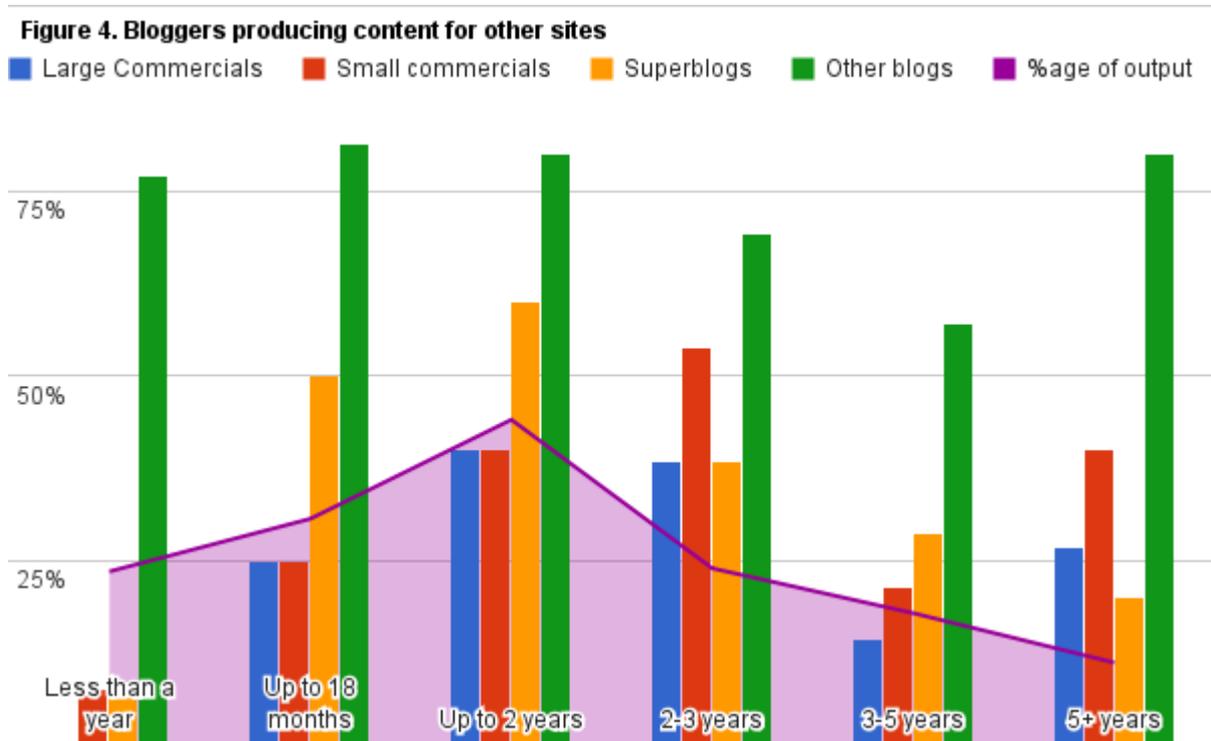
Working with others

The football blogging community seems to be thriving on shared work, with **almost 90% of bloggers contributing to other websites.**

The figures break down as:

- 74.4% writing for other blogs
- 34.9% writing for superblogs
- 31.4% writing for small independent commercials
- 24.4% writing for large commercials

When broken down by length of time being a blogger (Figure 4), they reveal some interesting trends.



The purple area shows what percentage of a blogger's total output is for other websites. For bloggers of between 18-24 months, 44% of their output is for other sites. This drops to 11% for those with more than five years experience.

There appears to be a direct correlation between providing content for superblogs and the amount of work done for other websites. More than half the bloggers in their second year write for superblogs.

The table also appears to suggest that writing for superblogs in the second year leads to writing for small commercials in the third year.

The impact of providing free content

Figure 5. What impact do you think such commercial-led initiatives such as the launch of the Guardian Sports Network or Huffington Post UK will have on bloggers in general

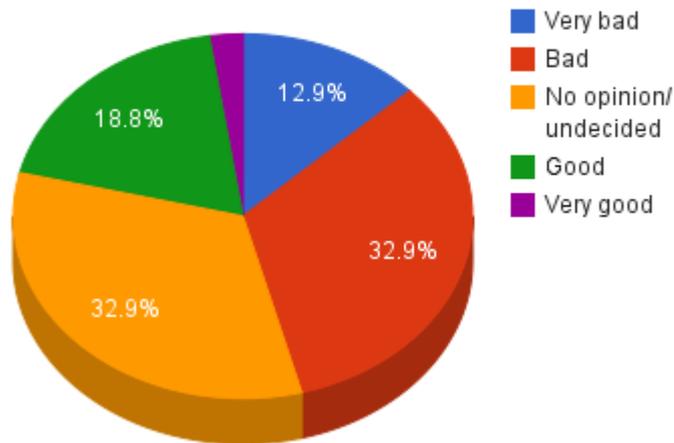


Figure 7. Providing FREE content to commercial websites damages the chances of paid work for journalists and bloggers in the future

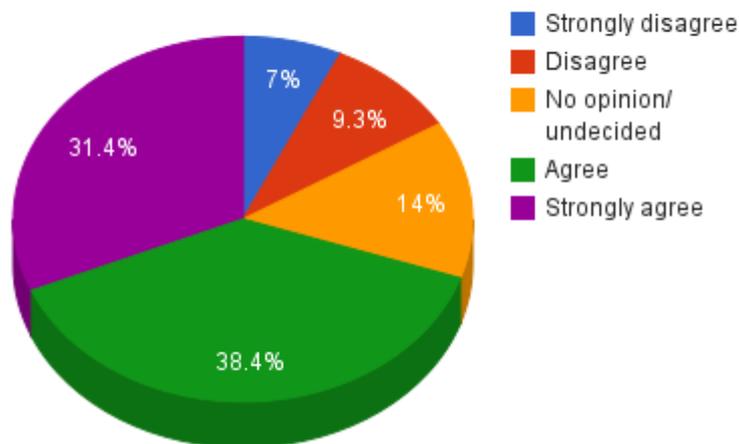


Figure 6. Providing FREE content to commercial websites improves your profile as a blogger

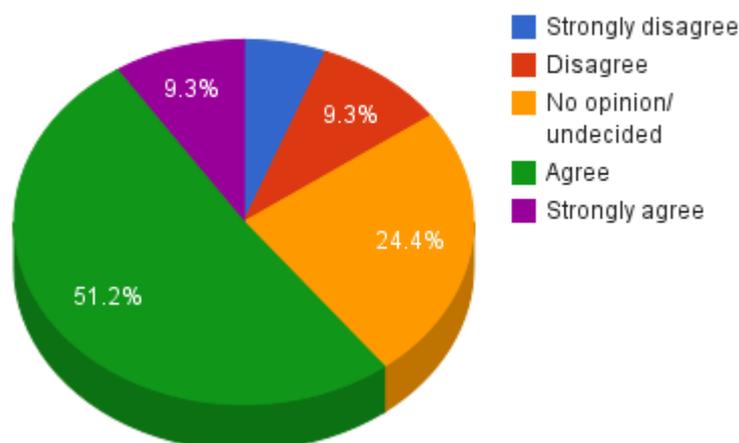
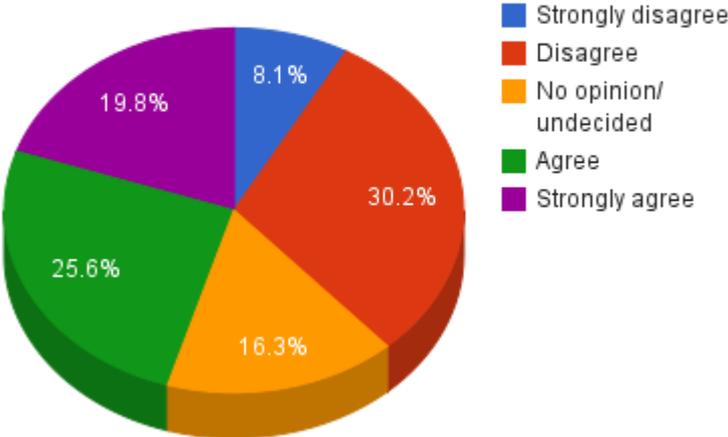


Figure 8. Providing FREE content for commercial websites devalues the work of bloggers



Comments

The good thing about asking bloggers for their opinion is they are never short of one. We've collected a broad spectrum of these comments and attempted to present them in such a way as to provide the strength of feeling one way or the other.

You may see comments that ring true with your own feelings and ones that are far from what you hold to be true. Either way, these are the opinions of our peers and should not be dismissed.

Some bloggers believe that what we've seen in the past few months is just the start of a process of change...

Sam Haseltine, *golbox.com*

"The best football writing I've ever seen has come from football blogs, but I feel that for them to continue to thrive and be a respected voice they will need to adapt to the ongoing transition we're seeing in traditional media. I believe we will see a significant change in the football blogging landscape in the coming years."

Stefan Bienowski, *theovallog.wordpress.com*

"Although I agree that it will have repercussions for the industry, I can't help but feel this is evolution rather than revolution. In the age where consumers are turning to ever improving blogs and amateur websites over The Guardian, Times, etc, it only makes sense that the big boys try to capture the essence of that. The real question isn't what will the journalists do, it's what will the professional bloggers do when they get fed up with the lack of pay.

"I've already seen a number of initiatives, including a start-up website that I'll be involved in, looking to provide content and a revenue stream to give something back to participating bloggers."

Andrew Harding, *andrewcharding.wordpress.com*

"Paid journalism would appear to be under the knife more than ever before and incorporating bloggers would appear to be the way to keep what's become a rather stale format fresh. Specialisation of knowledge is becoming a more valued commodity, one that the *Guardian Sports Network (GSN)* and co appear to be exploiting for their own ends. The recent hullabaloo has caused some friction in the blogging fraternity, which is good to a point but not when it starts to become venomous. The next twelve months could be very interesting in assessing what the future holds for football blogging."

Some were keen to support individual freedom of choice to work for whoever...

Andy Muirhead, *scotzine.com*

"If the blogger's work is good enough then why should he or she not be allowed to produce content for any site, paid or unpaid. The work of freelancers or bloggers who get paid will not lose out because other bloggers provide content for free. Again if their work is top quality then the likes of The Guardian, etc, will always go for quality articles.

Some of the comments on it as a threat to freelancers and bloggers selling their work just stink of hypocrisy and jealousy."

Andrew Gibney, *frenchfootballweekly.com*

"There is a thin line between working to boost your profile and working for money. If you start blogging to gain money you will probably fail. If you write because you love it and something happens then it's a bonus.

"I can see the benefits of writing for free if that site has a bigger readership than your own, it is often frustrating when some paid journo writes an absolute load of garbage and you know they are getting paid, but that's life unfortunately.

"Everyone is different and everyone does this sort of thing for different reasons. If you want to work for free then do it, if you don't, don't. It is as simple as that for me."

Others defended writing for commercials as necessary to improve one's profile...

Peter A Linhem, *linhem.fotbollskanalen.se*

"I have a Football League blog on a big (probably the biggest) Swedish site focused on football and I do it for free. Maybe it's a little naive to do it for free but I'm young (18) and I do not think any Swedish site will pay anyone to write about the Football League and I mainly do it because I enjoy it and I'm sure that I get more readers (and recognition, I've noticed) on this site rather than if I'd start my own blog."

Stuart Brothers, *thenottsblog.co.uk*

"I'm personally undecided on what kind of impact GSN is likely to have on the scene really. It's obvious that there's a great opportunity there for exposure for anyone involved - but obviously a lot has been said about the cheap labour that's going into the project whilst others are profiting.

"The idea of being paid for my writing seems so alien to me. I never started blogging with the idea of making money – it just so happens though that my writing has finally given me some direction, for the first time in years I know what I want to be doing for a living. Now I write for the enjoyment, for the debate that comes with it – with a constant look out of the corner of my eye for any opportunity that may come along that offers me a job.

"Through my blog I've had incredible exposure. ITV.com, The Guardian, World Soccer, and currently a fairly regular piece in the Nottingham Evening Post.

"Certainly, these are companies who could afford to throw a few quid my way. But ignoring the fact that I don't have enough confidence in my writing to even consider asking for payment, I know that if I turned down work over money, I'm not sure I could deal with the regret if I then had to see someone else's name on a piece where my name should have been. I'm immensely proud of the opportunities I've forged for myself.

"I don't think anything I've been asked to produce has taken food off anyone's plate as I'm essentially only asked for a fan's point of view. Last I checked, that sort of thing didn't require qualifications.

"I think a lot of people find themselves in a similar position to myself, with the same stance towards their own writing. And whilst some might not openly admit it – I'm happy to say this whole situation has given me a lot to think about. I won't suddenly become a mercenary whoring my work out to the highest bidder (not for a second that I believe this could EVER happen) – but I will watch from the sidelines and see how things develop. Does anyone consider themselves a suitable applicant to stand up for the small time bloggers?"

"In an ideal world things would obviously be different. As things are, I don't see things changing any time soon."

Jim McMeachin, *cominghomenewcastle.com*

"I believe that quality blog work is good for blogs, regardless the manner in which that work is consumed."

"But should individual freedom be curtailed if the actions of those bloggers have a negative impact on others in the blogging community (if such a thing exists)?"

Mark Chalcraft, *2ndyellow.com*

"I work in SEO and have written about the potential negative effects of the *GSN* on search engine rankings."

"The issue of paid content is a divisive argument, and one which is unlikely to be resolved either way, but I would summarise it that for the individual blogger it *might* be beneficial *if* they later get paid whereas for bloggers collectively it is a very bad thing."

"There are plenty of ways to monetise on the web, but I think many football bloggers are focused purely on a career in sports journalism for mainstream media outlets, and their chances of achieving this are actually very minimal."

Calum Mechie

"For me, EITHER you got into blogging as a route into paid football writing OR for fun. NEITHER of these aims is furthered by the provision of free content for commercial websites. This provision, while it doesn't affect those bloggers who started for fun and are not providing their services for free, significantly damages the prospects of those for whom blogging is a potential route into paid work."

Domm Norris, *footballglobe.net*

"I can understand the choices made by bloggers who offer their work for free to sites like *The Guardian* or *The Mirror*. For them it is probably the prestige of writing for national institutions however such work will only diminish the means through which bloggers can make a breakthrough to paid work."

"However there remains a case that many of these bloggers represent a particularly niche market focusing on football abroad which, in this country anyway, probably would not entice an awful lot of offers of paid work. It seems that a lot of bloggers stumble upon their niche without much actual experience within the country that they write about so writing for institutions in foreign nations is out of the question."

What do we really get from writing for commercials? Not much, according to some...

Doron Salomon, *stretford-end.com*

"Have noticed a trend where bloggers seem to be obsessed with hits and how many people are reading their work. Ultimately to me, blogging is a hobby, people writing about something they're passionate about and therefore one shouldn't care if 100 people or 10,000 people read what's written. Problem is, the stuff that gets read the most is often trash - trash sells. Bloggers seeking to make money out of blogging more often than not end up decreasing the quality of their work. Blog for your own enjoyment, not to try and make a living - that's my way of thinking anyway."

Chris Nee, *thetilescouncil.com*

"The supposed benefits of writing free content for large commercial sites - which I have done only on a few occasions - are largely mythical."

Damon, *thebadphotographer.wordpress.com*

"Having provided free content for a big .com for a bit of a laugh and just to see what happened, I'd not do it again. It was merely a learning experience - I learned nothing but it reinforced my general life maxim of not expecting anything from anyone. Cynical me.

"I am in the 'don't want to be a journalist' camp (and was then) but, even so, if someone making cold hard cash, no matter how tangentially, wants me to write something for them, I will expect cold hard cash in return. It will make no odds to me if someone else is willing to do it for nothing. I would now suggest they say 'no' but, that is slightly hypocritical given I have done it in the past, not to mention optimistic."

Many didn't hold back with their criticism that commercials are "exploiting" free labour, and there was even a demand for a united front from bloggers against the practice...

David Walker, *wearegoingup.co.uk*

"If someone takes themselves seriously as a writer and values their work then they shouldn't give it away for free. Doing so sets a dangerous precedent that commercial websites/companies will no doubt look to exploit, for why would you pay for something if you can get it for free?"

"Unfortunately for many bloggers the lure of exposure will prove too tempting, or even if they do want to stand their ground the commercials know that there will be someone else waiting in line to offer their services for free. A situation very similar to that of the huge amount of young people having to do more unpaid 'work experience' than should be required just to get entry level jobs.

"Unless someone finds a way to unite the content providers who are being exploited and deprive companies of these skills that they so badly need but are not currently willing to pay for, because they just don't need to, then the situation will continue."

Andrew Thomas, *twistedblood.co.uk*

"If they don't have to pay, they won't. It really is that simple."

James, *soccerfootball.co.uk*

"I'm sure everyone would like to do blogging just for the love of writing about their subject, but the fact is that you need money. Whether you do it as a hobby in between working a 9 to 5 job, or attempt to raise your profile enough to make money from being a freelance journalist, you still need the money.

"If large organisations are getting free content from bloggers constantly, this means they have less reason to ever think about paying people to do this work. If one blogger leaves they can just turn to the next eager young writer in the queue, who can then proudly add in their *Twitter* profile that they were featured on this website.

"Various people with less talent and creativity than many of the bloggers out there get paid well to do this work, and this type of free content just devalues the work of the more creative independent bloggers.

"Who are *The Guardian* to decide that they should pay an in-house journalist x a nice sum of money for their rubbish match reports, but then use a thought provoking, opinionated, well thought out bit of writing from a blogger and pay them nothing?"

Rocco Cammisola, *thefootballexpress.co.uk*

"It's difficult to establish at the moment how good or bad The Guardian's venture will be for bloggers and journalists. For those without a journalistic agenda it is clearly a nice way to have your work read by many, many more people than might usually visit your blog. But it is also concerning that "profit-making" organisations are using this free work to fill/supplement their media without remuneration for the individual's efforts.

James Williams, *footyramblings.wordpress.com*

"It seems to me that the commercial media are happy to use bloggers for a lead on a story and to do the donkey work, yet aren't willing to credit, and when they do use it as free labour."

Dan Mobbs, *threematchban.com*

"Providing free content may well improve your profile as a blogger, but this doesn't necessarily mean that paid work will follow, as the commercial website will naturally be keen to continue getting something for nothing. If both parties are happy with this exchange then that's great, but if the blogger is hoping this will provide a stepping stone into a journalism career I think they'll be in for an extended wait."

Chris Boothroyd, *theczechup.wordpress.com*

"The exposure of getting noticed by entities such as the GSN or Huffington Post will be a great way to get noticed by the fellow peers and hopefully expand your readership. However I feel that commercial entities should provide some monetary contribution for any work by a blogger that is published.

"Another debate here is when does a blog start being a true commercial entity.

"Some people blog to get noticed and hopefully get a job, and some people do it out of the love for what they do. But either way, there should be a path to getting a full-time role if you become a well-respected writer due to the contribution of the blog and because you are known.

If there is a market out there that commercial organisations want to tap in to, then they shouldn't expect content to be done for free. They should either pay on an article by article basis, or hire full time. Not simply use content."

Michael Richard, *canadiangeordie.wordpress.com*

"The biggest drawback to initiatives like GSN is that they just rebroadcast content from other sites. This will eventually point search engines away from the original blog and may devalue the independent sites in the long run."

Ed Barker, *unitedrant.co.uk*

"The response by commercial sites to bloggers is to steal the bloggers for FREE. Bloggers have mistakenly fallen into this trap when in reality pro quality bloggers should focus on monetizing their own brand. In truth the only difference between good blogs and pro media is access. As access to stars becomes more difficult pro media becomes less relevant. That's why they're stealing the bloggers."

Ryan Hubbard, *modern-football.co.uk*

"Whilst providing free content to commercial websites is a great way to raise the profile of a blogger, there is also a chance that it could lead to bloggers being taken advantage of by said organisations."

Neil Bellis, *richardandneilsfootballblog.blogspot.com*

"If people want to make money off your work they should pay you."

Richard Bellis, *richardandneilsfootballblog.blogspot.com*

"Unpaid content on commercial websites is a very slippery slope, one that the blogging community is already going down. These websites aren't helping bloggers raise their profile, they're exploiting them for free labour. As soon as these websites know they can get content for free, freelance journalists are screwed because they have the temerity to want to be paid to work. It is not 'getting your foot in the door', it is being taken advantage of. It will end up that there is a smaller and smaller pool of money available for football writing, which a huge number of bloggers are going for. It's unsustainable."

Recent events and debates seem, to some people, to simply highlight a self-destructive side of bloggers in general (also, there are some angry Simons out there)...

Simon, *rokerreport.com*

"People say that the mainstream media is just a bunch of self-congratulatory wankers bouncing off each other, but the same is very much true in blogging. The 'bigger' blogs are just as snooty and really have some sort of idea that they're someone."

"Down in the lower ranks of the blogosphere, there's two camps. Those who are desperate for attention from those in the upper echelon, and those who just continue as they are. The whole blogging food chain is pretty fucked up really..."

"NEWSPAPER - Cock gobbled by - SUPER BLOGS - Sucked dry by - MIDDLING BLOGS - Who only feel superior to - SHITE BLOGS - which nobody reads."

"Massive, massive circle-jerk. If you're not in a newspaper or 'Superblog' don't even bother any more. There's no encouragement.

"If a Middling Blog writes the best article ever, and then someone in the top half does a similar thing, guess who gets bent over in front of.

"In short, I hate all of you."

Simon, *debatabledecisions.com*

"The main problem with bloggers is the bloggers themselves and their over-inflated opinions of themselves. If you're a nobody it is extremely difficult to get noticed, regardless of content or input. I've been blogging for six months and there are still bloggers who follow me, but don't reply to my football related tweets.

"Blogging is a popularity contest, poorly written blogs with spelling errors and pathetic content are admitted to the club as long as they stroke the egos of those that they crave to sit alongside. I would happily give up blogging if it wasn't for the fact that I didn't want someone ripping off my idea and getting somewhere because of it."

Bloggers and journalist, two different beasts...

Anam, *arsenalcolumn.co.uk*

"While *GSN* is good for those chosen, it pushed the other less well-known bloggers into the unknown. With *The Guardian* hand-selecting what they see as the best bloggers, they are in effect, creating a new band of "superbloggers" and thus establishing a hierarchy. While that used to be all bloggers in one band aiming to make the next step up to journalism, this initiative means the next step is not to paid work but firstly, publicised unpaid work. A bit like interning.

"At the same time, it puts the current, regular PAID freelancers - Jonathan Wilson and Rob Smyth - into an untouchable position, as it overvalues their contribution if the best bloggers are being hired to write for free. As free freelancers."

thedirtytackle.net

"There has to be a dividing line between bloggers and journalists at the moment. Because someone writes a blog it does not make them a self-styled journalist or writer, something in today's society allows people to believe they can be something they are not. I can service my car but I am not a mechanic. I can clean my house but I'm not a cleaner, yet many are quick to state as they write a blog they are a fully qualified journalist.

"The other side of the coin is bloggers can produce new copy that the newspapers may have missed. However, there is a difference between a blogger writing a 1000-word opinionated blog post on a football match and a journalist writing a 400-word objectionable blog post with genuine quotes, report and teams, all within minutes of the full time whistle.

"Until these and many subtle issues are rectified, a blogger will always be a blogger (unless already a paid and published writer doing it as a hobby) or until they can produce copy just as fast and as good, if not better than newspapers/journalists are. I am not knocking bloggers,

being both a blogger and journo, but until bloggers do the legwork of journalists they have a long way to go - and free content doesn't really count either.

Chris King, *parlacalcio.co.uk*

"Bloggers who produce material in the hope of being picked up as paid writers will naturally dismiss all free content driven requests. At the same time, bloggers who do it for a bit of fun, have no belief that they will ever be picked up for paid content - but would love the kudos of appearing in a nationally read website/publication - might well bite the hands off the requester.

"Which body of blogger is right? I'd like to know why people feel free content devalues the work of something that is free in the first place?"

"I've provided plenty of paid copy in the past. A lot of it bored me. I currently write my football specific blog for fun. The biggest bonus to come out of it is that my blog was promoted by a local, non-English speaking website. From that I have been sent emails from Pro Vercelli fans asking me to come over, have a beer and watch the match with them. I'm doing this to learn a language, but what a fantastic response that local Vercelli fans actually want to read what a Leeds-based blogger is saying.

"Can you put a price on that emotion?"

Charlie Anderson

"I have no strong opinion on whether bloggers producing free content for mainstream media is inherently right or wrong but I do think that, while it may decrease the chance of paid work for freelancers, I don't think it devalues blogging. Journalism is at its best when it's providing insight, simplifying complex issues or warming the heels of the greedy and powerful. Blogging can do these things too, and it often does, but it has more licence to explore niches, be esoteric and less immediately accessible. Look at a *Swiss Ramble* blog post as opposed to a David Conn piece. Both examine the finances of football, but they are unmistakably different types of content.

"There it is: a whole paragraph of me not having a strong opinion on the subject. I'm going to check the box below but if I get yelled at on Twitter you will be hearing from my team of lawyers."

If you are interested in becoming a journalist, here's some very useful advice on getting something from free work...

Chris Lines, *narrowtheangle.com*

"While there are a tiny minority of bloggers who progress on to paid work, almost all never get that far. And how many ex-bloggers now work full-time as in-house journalists (rather than freelance, which isn't as secure)? The only two I can think of are Barney Ronay and Josh Halliday at *The Guardian*, although only the former of those two writes about football. There may well be others, but I can't think of one in football writing off the top of my head, which suggests that it isn't a lot.

"If there really is no money on offer from organisations for your services, what you should push for instead is an office-based internship where you get your travel expenses paid. (And if possible, though it's not hugely common, your food expenses paid plus a nominal salary). What makes it any better to work for free in their office? So much. Whether you're sitting in the vicinity of the editor, deputy editor, staff writer, sub editor or even the secretary, you're still going to pick things up from the environment around you and learn lessons that (if you're any good to begin with) really will help you get a paid job in future.

"And if they mischievously claim it's a fixed-term internship (e.g. 1 month, 3 months), just go along with it. Make yourself indispensable. Then, as soon as you can tell your contribution is making a big difference, make it crystal clear that you're applying for jobs elsewhere. If you sense that you'll never get a paid job at that place no matter how long you stay, you're probably right and you should leave immediately. No point sticking around and getting resentful if the internship has served its purpose. But if you're still improving and learning, and you can afford to stay a bit longer, then do so.

"Of course, ideally we'll reach a point where we can avoid so many unpaid internships in journalism too. But that's perhaps a problem to tackle once so many people have stopped writing from home for free.

"Thanks to ridiculous course fees, the best journalism post-grads and masters courses in the country are almost entirely populated by reasonably wealthy kids, often bankrolled by their parents. Writing for free just reduces the amount of paid labour required and keeps salaries artificially low, making journalism even more of a career choice only available to the wealthy. Resist if you possibly can.

"If your portfolio really is so desperately in need of a boost, try to write for a reputable not-for-profit website instead."

About Socrates

Purpose

Socrates is an ongoing series of events for independent football bloggers and podcasters to interact with each other, football clubs and mainstream media. *Socrates* strives to legitimise blogging as a source of news and opinion.

Principles

Any blogger can establish their own *Socrates* event.

Any profits made by *Socrates* will be donated to charitable football-related causes or to other *Socrates* events.

You can contact us using the following methods:

- **Web:** s.ocrat.es
- **Email:** events@s.ocrat.es
- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/socratesmeetup
- **Twitter:** www.twitter.com/socratesmeetup



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