Newsday 1.

I was assigned the role of Chief Sub for the first news day, this role pushed me to the maximum of my ability and I believe by the end, I, along with the rest of the team, have been rewarded for this hard work.

We were first asked to find a story in preparation for news day along with our partners, I was asked to cover the patch of Cathays which dealt us with some interesting stories. The story we decided to go with can be found here: <http://i2jnewsday1.wordpress.com/2011/01/17/rubbish-piling-up-in-cathays-residents-angry/>

I decided before looking for this story to carry out some research on the area, before adding some professional journalists on Twitter who cover the area of Cathays for various newspapers. After this, I managed to find an interesting article thanks to the help of a ‘Tweet’ from one of these reporters, which I then used as inspiration for my own story.

On the news day itself, the day began slowly with me, along with the online editors or ‘subs’, waiting for the stories to come through from the other room. Once they did start coming through it was my job, with the aid of my deputy chief sub to enhance the stories in any way we could without changing them too much. This job was made easier for us due to the initial quality of each story.

I then had the task of allocating a story to a sub, which they themselves would check over one final time before adding it to the website (<http://i2jnewsday1.wordpress.com/>). All of the subs worked fantastically even under the stress that the news day brought with it, even managing to add Twitter updates for each story.

The only real problem encountered throughout the day was that regarding the editing of some of the reporters stories. I believe this is down to the fact that each story was enhanced two or three times (News Editor/ producer, me and then a sub) before eventually making its way on the website.

This issue meant that some reporters were left slightly unhappy, but this shows to me exactly what it would be like to work in a real news room, as a real journalist. The problem can easily be avoided in the future however, simply by improved communication between all the different levels in the news rooms, between reporters and subs.

Overall the day in my opinion went great and it taught me a lot about what it is like to work within a real news room and the stresses, but joy it brings. I now know what I can do to improve on the role should I be assigned it again and it has left me looking forward to the next one.

Finally, looking at news stories from the week to link to my experiences of the news day, one immediately stands out – that is the ‘Ryan Babel Twitter saga’ in which a football player received a fine for comments made on social networking site Twitter. It was part of my job during news day to regularly check the website as well as the designated Twitter site (<http://twitter.com/#!/AtriumNewsday>) to make sure there were no issues, including remarks that could lead to defamation – thankfully there were none to report.

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