Title of Session: Blogstreams
Moderator: Graham Stanley
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Room: Blogstreams Salon Group

GrahamS: Hi Rita

GrahamS: Hi Emily and BJ

RitaZ: hi, Emily

EmilyW: Hi

EmilyW: How are you

RitaZ: fine, thanks, Emily, and you?

GrahamS: I'm fine - how has your week been?

EmilyW: I am fine

RitaZ: I'm on hols..., so it's been good...

RitaZ: winter vacations here in Argç

GrahamS: can't wait for my hols (they start next weekend)

BobZw joined the room.

BJB2 waves to Bob

GrahamS: Hi Bob

BobZw: hi

RitaZ: hi, Bob

EmilyW: Hi Bob

RitaZ: how has your week been, Graham?

GrahamS: great thanks - very busy

BJB2: Bob, is this your first blogstreams discussion?

BobZw: yes

GrahamS: I also set up a new blog with Loud Blog (http://pod-efl.com), which I'm very happy with

BobZw: I am very interested in BLOGS - I use EE

GrahamS: EE?

BobZw: Expression Engine (server)

GrahamS: What's the URL of your blog?

RitaZ: great, Graham, I see you are already tackling the FCE preparation....;-)

BobZw: http://cottagemicro.com/ee/index.php is my co. blog which points to a few others I have built

GrahamS: Yes, Rita - I think it's an ideal place to start for podcasting

RitaZ: I need to get familiar with ipodding, Graham, as a Cambridge oral examiner, guess it's a must!

BobZw: I'm a rookie blogger, but I see their potential.

GrahamS: Looks great to me Bob

GrahamS: Are you an oral examiner too Rita?

BobZw: ty Graham

RitaZ: yep, Graham

GrahamS: I was oral examiner for the first time this year, Rita

RitaZ: your ipod I find MOST interesting....

RitaZ: wow, how do you find the experience?

GrahamS: you mean the pod-efl blog?

RitaZ: sorry, being an oral Examiner;-)

GrahamS: It was great - very encouraging too (90% of the students were very well prepared)

RitaZ: how do you like the FCE exam?

RitaZ: I love the interactive part, not the pix reading that much, find it unnatural

GrahamS: It has its flaws like any other exam, but it seems to be fairer and better thought out than some other exams (like the TOEFL for example)

GrahamS: Yes, the picture comparison isn't a very real task is it?

RitaZ: but TOEFL lacks an oral component, am I right?

GrahamS: I think the TOEFL isn't a very thorough examination (at least the FCE tests all skills)

RitaZ: stds keep wondering how the preparation for pix reading can help them in their everyday life, and its true....;-(

GrahamS: Yes, unless they become picture editors it's not of much use...

RitaZ: that's why I like the BEC exams better (also Cambridge, but more modern)

RitaZ: more interactive, authentic tasks

RitaZ: anyway, love your idea!

GrahamS: I've never really been involved with the BEC exams

GrahamS: Bob - you have a lot of podcasting stuff on your online education blog - I'll have to go back and have a better look later

GrahamS: Is this something you're involved with students?

BobZw: I'm trying to figure how to publish it to itunes and other podcast aggregators

GrahamS: Aha - I've been following the problems that people have had on the Podcasting Yahoo group - are you a member?

BobZw: we have students, teachers and the general public involved in our elearning community

GrahamS: and is it something that students are taking to?

BobZw: no - not a mbr of the podcasting yahoo group

GrahamS: You should join - it's a very helpful community, with a lot of knowledgeable people in it

BobZw: yes - one in particular is a debate team at a Houston HS

GrahamS: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/podcasters/

GrahamS: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Podcasting-Education/ is another group you might be interested in

GrahamS: A debate team ? Now that sounds like a great use for podcasting

BobZw: they love it. using talking community voice rooms to record. look at www.realteachers.org - own by Han Chee

RobertWB joined the room.

RobertWB: Last one here, as usual.

BJB2 waves hi to EBob

BobZw: add comments to the blog for voting and open it to other schools too

GrahamS: Hi EBob!

RobertWB: Hello all.

GrahamS: Bob that looks like a great site

RitaZ: hi, EBob!!

BobZw: is that elder bob ?

GrahamS: Is it free to use?

RobertWB: Yes it is.

RobertWB: **BobZw**ick?

BobZw: hey neighbor

GrahamS: great - I'll have to check it out

RobertWB: I can't believe it...you are the guy who steals my rain.

BobZw: sorry - what did I do this time Bob

RobertWB: How are you Bob.

RitaZ wonders...rain...? brain....?

BobZw: real good, ty

BobZw: .. on the plain

RobertWB: Everytime it rains around here, it rains on Bob, but not on me....

RitaZ: lol

EmilyW: what?

BobZw: BRB

RobertWB: Bob lives not 20 miles away.

RitaZ: wow, lucky you....

EmilyW: rain where?

EmilyW: when?

BobZw: sorry I couldn't make it to San Antonio with the webheads. business called

JeffC joined the room.

RitaZ: hi, Jeff

RobertWB: Oh and we had such a genuine blast Bob.

JeffC waves

RobertWB: Hi Jeff.

GrahamS: Hi Jeff

JeffC: Hi... I just wanted to post a link to http://ourmedia.org/ ...everybody here know about it?

RobertWB: Emily, have ya found work yet?

EmilyW: no

RitaZ: no, sorry, Jeff

EmilyW: I am going crazy

RobertWB: I need a gardener?

EmilyW: I am starting to get some direction

JeffC: free site for posting media content... figured blogstreamers would want to know about it.

EmilyW: I just don't know how to go about doing what I want to do

GrahamS: Yes Jeff - I posted something there yesterday

JeffC nods to Graham

RobertWB: Thanks Jeff, someone I know was looking for a site like that just yesterday. I'll book mark it so I remember where it is.

JeffC: Would you like me to post it in the Podcasting links folder? Or... outside the folders by itself?

RobertWB: What is it you want to do Emily?

GrahamS: It's a great site - I heard about it a while ago, but only got round to trying it out yesterday - I was able to sing in and upload an audio file straight away

RitaZ: don't worry, Emily, I am in the same boat, trying to figure out how to start ipodding and what hardware/software is needed

EmilyW: find a web design position at a nonprofit

RobertWB: I'm doing a Pod an Video casting workshop in Knowplace.Cz on the 27 and 28.

EmilyW: I am trying not to rely on job posting sites anymore

GrahamS: Rita, the Ourmedia site Jeff mentioned will let you upload podcasts for free

EmilyW: trying to write letters of inquiries

RitaZ: yes, Elderbob, look forward to it

RobertWB: Well, I know you know the website stuff,, so is it the non-profit part that is holding you up?

GrahamS: Where are you looking for work Emily?

RitaZ: thanks, Graham, but do I need an mp3 player, for instance?

EmilyW: it is the letter writing

GrahamS: You don't need one Rita - you can listen to podcasts on your computer

EmilyW: Washington, DC

EmilyW: (or a temporary job involving computers in Dallas)

JeffC: Just posted the link Graham... if you think it's worthy of being Featured here.

RitaZ: thanks, Graham so I need just a program to record and save an audio file and then upload it

GrahamS: It must be difficult I guess Emily

BobZw: We had a 2 1/2 hour workshop on podcasting yesterday. archived at http://cottagemicro.com/ee/index.php/eschool/all_about_pod_casting/ in MP# and Windows Media

RobertWB: Do you know of Jane Cravens, Emily?

EmilyW: yes

GrahamS: Rita, have you downloaded Audacity? It's a great (free) audio tool for recording and editing

EmilyW: never talked to her though

RobertWB: I would think she would be an excellent place to start...

EmilyW: what exactly does she do?

RitaZ: need to downlaod it, Graham, that will be the starting point, right?

BobZw: brb

RobertWB: also George Lessard, and Andy Carvin.

GrahamS: that's right - then you can start recording. I just thought - if you want to record students in class, then you will need something like an mp3 player/recorder

EmilyW: never heard of George

GrahamS: audacity.sourceforge.net/ (you can download Audacity from here)

RitaZ: that's it, Graham, this is an obstacle, we don't have one at school

GrahamS: http://audacity.sourceforge.net/

RobertWB: Jane runs a group called.Tech4impact v

RobertWB: www.coyotecommunications.com/tech4impact.html

EmilyW: I am on that list

GrahamS: what about students? Have any of your students got one?

RobertWB: She usually knows a lot of non-profit information.

RitaZ: Started the download, thanks, Graham!

GrahamS: The iRiver mp3 players have mics built into them and they are good quality / reasonably cheap

RitaZ: I'll ask, good idea

GrahamS: Well, folks - I'm going to bed now. I have to be up in 7 hours

BobZw: I own an iriver and love it

GrahamS: Hope to see you again here soon

RobertWB: See ya next weekend Graham?

BobZw: cu Graham - nice meeting you

RitaZ: CU during the festival, on Wedn?

GrahamS: I'll be on holiday for 2 weeks Bob, so I won't be around for a while

RobertWB: Not even for the Fest?

GrahamS: I'll try and make the festival, yes

RobertWB: kewl, and otherwise, enjoy the vacation.

RitaZ: ok, good week to everybody!

GrahamS: hopefully, but I have some social engagements next week

GrahamS: bye everyone

RobertWB: Bye Graham.

RitaZ: bye, Graham, thanks!

RitaZ: bye, all, have a good week

RobertWB: Bye Rita.