OVERVIEW

• What is Wikipedia/Wikimedia? (Mike)

• What makes a Wikipedia article? (Magnus)

• Cancer Research on Wikipedia (Darren and Alex)

• Editing Wikipedia (Paul)

• Common pitfalls (Martin)

• Q&A
WHAT IS WIKIPEDIA / WIKIMEDIA?
“Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.”
“The free encyclopaedia that anyone can edit”

World’s largest encyclopaedia (bigger than 11,095-volume Yongle Encyclopedia from 1403-8)

Over 17,000,000 articles (over 3,500,000 million in English)

Written in over 250 different languages

Turned 10 years old on 15 January 2011
WHAT IS WIKIMEDIA?

• Wikipedia and its sister projects
• Run by the Wikimedia Foundation - 501(c)(3) US charity, budget ~$20 million, ~60 staff members.
• Outreach by independent non-profit Wikimedia chapters, inc. Wikimedia UK
• Volunteer driven
WHAT IS WIKIMEDIA UK?

• One of ~30 chapters around the world

• Aim is to support freely licensed material in UK; making knowledge available to anyone, anywhere, for free.

• Founded November 2008; growing rapidly.

• Membership based (150+ members), volunteer run

• £500k donor-sourced budget (5x 2010; 1000x 2009 budget)

• Just 1 part time staff member (more staff soon)
WIKIMEDIA’S REACH

- 373,000,000 unique visitors (411 million in Nov 10)
- 13,400,000,000 page requests/month (14 billion in Nov 10)
- 5th largest web property
- 35,000,000 articles and images on all projects
  7,300,000 million freely licensed images (now over 8.2 million)
- 9,437 new Wikipedia articles each day
- 17,026 new editors each month,
  85,643 active registered editors total (5+ edits/month),
  11,419 very active registered editors (100+ /month)

Stats as of August 2010 - see http://stats.wikimedia.org/reportcard/
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