



# NEWS PIE



FRESHLY BAKED NEWS



# NEWS PIE: Democratized News Making

19 av.

New Visitor Returning Visitor



# NEWS PIE: Mutualised Journalism

19 av.

New Visitor Returning Visitor



# READ NEWS OR MAKE NEWS



NEWS PIE

## Decentralized News Platform

Road to Devcon - Reinventing the News Economy



Just casually browsing news feeds



Take me to the news room

# The problem

**Independent journalists** face an uphill battle.

**Local** news can't compete with media **molochs**.

**Clickbait** and **Fake** news are displacing **real journalism**

**Algorithms** instead of **you** decide on the news you see



# The solution

**FREE** place to **publish** (*as in speech and as in beer*)!

Let journalists **self-organize** into teams! **NewsDAO?**

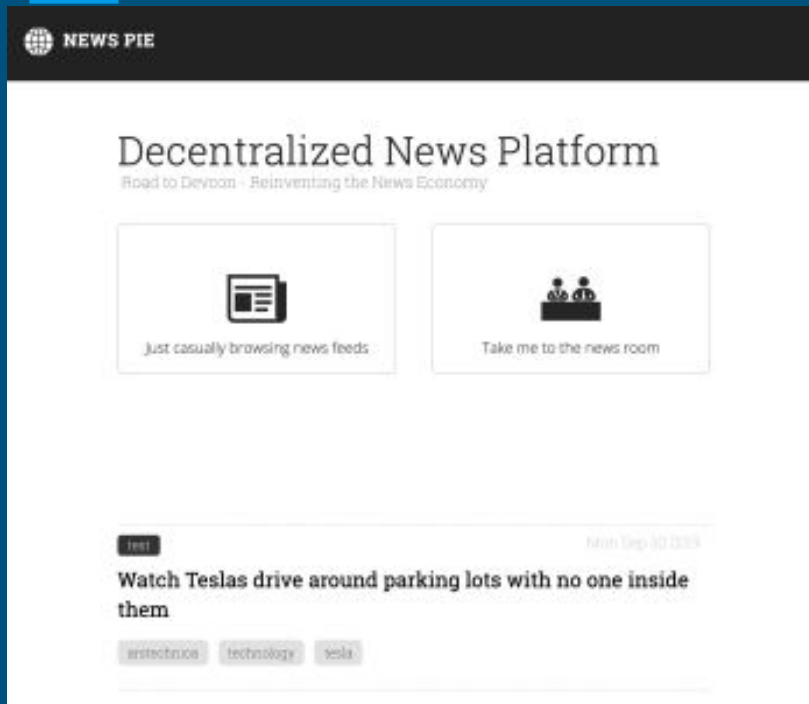
**Read** only the news **you** select, not the **algorithm**.

Enabling journalists to earn from reader revenues.

**Add a subscription model as easy as substack.**



# The analogies



**Substack for News Teams**

**Uber for Journalists**

**HackerNews-lite for readers**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands writing on a document with a pen. The image is dark and moody, with the hands and pen being the primary focus. The background is blurred, showing some indistinct shapes and colors.

# MUTUALISED NARRATIVE

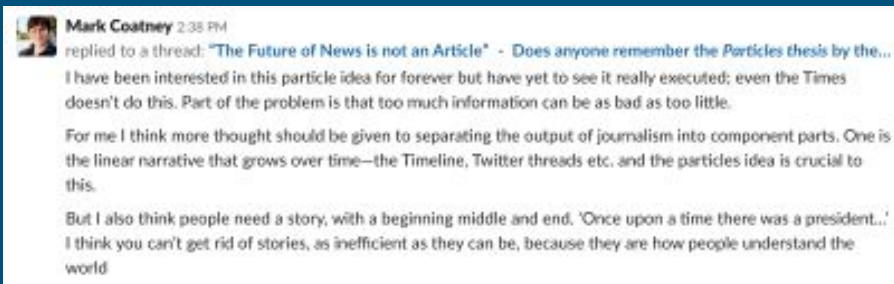
Everyone can publish

Everyone can make news

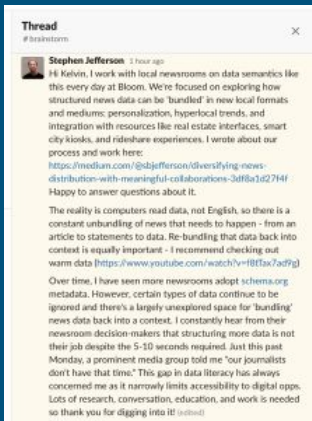
Everyone can read for free







# Research



We started a discussion within community of journalists on slack. While initially focused on idea of **PARTICLES** we quickly realized it is not-technically feasible within scope of the hackathon so we **pivoted** towards building a user-friendly crypto-enabled **decentralized publishing platform** allowing one to easily publish and subscribe to the news.

Stephen Jefferson (CEO Bloom Labs) kindly provided us with advice based on his current insights.

# Traction

## Newsletter

<https://mutualtimes.substack.com/>

*We have started a discussion within the journalism community, our weekly newsletter will be a forum for intersection of journalism and the future of work.*

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*We hope our **solution** confronts some of the big problems that journalism faces (that is why we also applied for **social** grant from Consensus).*

# Blockchain? (+IPFS)

**Decentralized Backend** is inherently **scalable**

**News** are both **auditable** and **transparent**

**News** are **censorship resistant**

**Cryptocurrency** enables **global payments**

Smart **contracts** enable **trustless payments**

**Chargeback fraud** is no longer possible

An aerial photograph of the New York City skyline at dusk. The sky is a mix of dark blue and orange, with scattered clouds. The city is densely packed with skyscrapers, many of which are illuminated with their interior lights. The Empire State Building is prominent in the center, with its top lit in red and green. The Hudson River is visible on the right side of the image. The text "Proposed Features: IPFS" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font on the left side of the image.

# Proposed Features: IPFS

Censorship  
resistant

Community  
Hosted

### ***Peer2Peer News Making?***

*With IPFS and Blockchain we we could ensure that the news feeds are always available, censorship resistant and that authors can always be clearly identified (if they want to disclose their ETH address) or anonymous (if they are able to keep the address secret).*



An aerial photograph of a city skyline at dusk or dawn. The sky is a mix of dark blue, purple, and orange. The city is densely packed with skyscrapers, many of which are illuminated with lights. The text 'Product Features: PARTICLES & METADATA' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font on the left side of the image.

# Product Features: PARTICLES & METADATA

# Bundle and Unbundle

# Context Awareness

***PARTICLES that will shape the news?***

*With PARTICLES we could rip articles into constituent parts, that make sense and reassemble those parts in any way we please.*

*We could create **context-aware articles** that tell the story the way reader wants to experience it or we could create **adaptable** articles.*

*Example: Article that uses Named Entity Recognition to inject link-previews like wikipedia does.*

*Example: Article that shows as short form on a smartwatch and long form on the web.*

An aerial photograph of New York City at dusk. The sky is a mix of dark purple, blue, and orange. The city is densely packed with skyscrapers, many of which are illuminated with lights. The Empire State Building is prominent in the center, with its top lit in red and green. The Hudson River is visible on the right side of the image. The text "What is next?" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font on the left side of the image.

What is next?



# Revenue model

How to capture **value** flow?

**Paid** subscriptions? (like Substack)

**Donations** and **grants**? (like Gitcoin)

JOURNALIST

NEWS PIE

READER

# The road ahead

Better name. We really like **MUTUAL**

**Marketing** would be the key.

1. Find what kind of **features** users would like to add?
2. Funds for further development?
3. Could be a self-hosted tool. Could be a commercial offering.



## PROBLEMS

List your customer's top 3 problems

Forming a news team is hard for independent journalists

Readers need to find your articles somehow

Getting paid for freelance news writing can also be a hassle

## EXISTING ALTERNATIVES

List how these problems are solved today

Blogging platforms (Medium)

News platforms (Google News)

LinkedIn (for networking)

## SOLUTIONS

Outline a possible solution for each problem

Platform that allows journalists to organize into news teams

Subscription model when you subscribe to tags and authors you care about

Cryptocurrency donations can be offered towards journalists

## KEY METRICS

List the key numbers that tell you how your business is doing

# of articles published

# of news teams formed

Gross amount of money flowing on path reader->journalists

## UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITION

Single, clear, compelling message that turns an unaware visitor into an interested prospect

Form a team of journalists publish your articles so that readers can find them and get paid for your writing in Cryptocurrency

## HIGH-LEVEL CONCEPT

List your X for Y analogy (e.g. YouTube = Flickr for videos)

Uber for journalists

Newsletter for decentralized web

Lightweight Patreon

## UNFAIR ADVANTAGE

Something that can not be easily copied or bought

Domain expertise in both journalism and decentralized technology

Unlike traditional platforms we can scale effortlessly due to decentralized backend

## CHANNELS

List your path to customers

Newsletter

PPC advertising

Marketing to journalists directly in effort to onboard them and their reader base at the same time

## CUSTOMER SEGMENTS

List your target customers and users

Professional Journalists

Citizen Journalists

Bloggers (pivot?)

## EARLY ADOPTERS

List the characteristics of your ideal customers

Don't need many features to be happy

Like minimalistic design

Have established readership they could direct to the product

Tech-savvy enough to use and possess cryptocurrency

## COST STRUCTURE

List your fixed and variable costs

Development (fixed)

Marketing (variable)

Hosting (only landing page since decentralized backend!)

## REVENUE

List your sources of revenue

Commission from donations flowing between journalist and reader

Monthly Subscription model for access to private feeds (needs more work)?

# OUR NEWSLETTER

<https://mutualtimes.substack.com/>

## OUR TEAM

*DJ Rosenbaum*

*Kelvin Lockwood*

*Tomasz Sikorski*