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HistoryPin

* What are the objectives and/or research area of your project(s)?

Historypin has a set of strong social objectives at its core and it was created as a way for people to come together, from across different generations and cultures, to gather, share, curate and interpret their history.

* How many contributors are engaged in your project? Has this number changed over the course of the project?

Since Historypin was launched in July 2011, around 50,000 citizen historians have contributed around 130,000 pieces of content to the project, with larger and larger numbers visiting and registering every month. Around 500,000 people have also downloaded the Smartphone application.

* What does 'engagement' mean in that context?

Adding to the project with content - images, video, audio and documents - or recollections and comments.

* Do you offer incentives (e.g. a ranking system, prestige, recognition, material rewards etc) to your contributors? If not, what interests motivate them?

Through the new Historypin Channel tools, users are able to track the response to their content - through views, comments added or Historypin Repeats captured (modern replica images recorded through the Smartphone app). This work is at an early stage and we plan to role out a series of other rewards and incentives within the online community. These will help combine the broad, macro incentives of contributing to something worthwhile and socially valuable, with more community related, micro incentives, such as points and status upgrades.

* What value has crowd sourcing bought to your content/project? Is this value measurable?

Because Historypin has been developed with the social objectives at its heart, the contributions and collaboration of the crowd is defining for our value - so it means everything!

* What do you consider to be the main research outputs that crowd sourcing has enabled (or will enable)?

Because we come from a different starting point to research projects, we now have the chance, through relationships with universities such as and Kings College London, to show the value of Historypin's collaborative process and outputs to academic research.