

Chris Stokel-Walker

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- || Chris is making a name for himself. Check him out. ||
(Simon Nixon, founder of Moneysupermarket.com and Simonseeks.com)
- Chris has been a great discovery and has proved highly committed.
(Nick Trend, Travel Editor of The Daily Telegraph)
- Chris runs an initiative that will surely grow and grow – who said old heads know best?
(Accent Magazine)
- Chris has created something wide-reaching, a regional mainstay far beyond the bounds of our other nominees. The choice was clear.
(ncl+ Judging panel)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

JOURNALISM

Simonseeks.com (travel website) 2009-

Community Moderator
Contributing writer
Destination Expert

- Currently the 14th ranked writer of 675 on Simonseeks, Chris joined in mid-2009. By the end of the year, Simonseeks asked Chris to come down to their Chester offices to give advice on an extensive redesign and new features.
- Chris has since done freelance research for Simonseeks as they seek to expand their site in the lucrative travel guide industry.
- In June 2010 Nick Trend, Editor of Simonseeks, made Chris Destination Expert for Newcastle, which involved creating 28,000 words of constantly-updated copy in a short period of time – a job previously done only by professional travel writers for daily newspapers or Sunday supplements.

The Manzine (magazine) 2009

Contributing writer

- A nationally-distributed fanzine edited by a GQ/Conde Nast writer, with contributions by many professional journalists and authors.

"I'm interested in what you write...certainly interested to read more."

(Kevin Braddock, GQ/Manzine)

Libertine (magazine) 2009-

Features writer

- National youth (under-25) magazine began in London under Natasha Kingham and Ceci Mourkogiannis with a print run of 15,000.

"[Chris' writing is] really funny...we would love it if you could be the writer of the feature article in the promo [issue]" (Natasha Kingham, Libertine)

North East Times (lifestyle magazine) 2009-

Features writer

North East Life (lifestyle magazine) 2009-

Features writer

Living North (lifestyle magazine) 2009-

Features writer

Novo (school magazine – 3 issues) 2006-7

Editor

Contributing writer

2006

- Re-established after a year's hiatus, Chris was involved in everything from proofreading, pagination and liaising with printers (as well as writing copy)

Optimus in Omnis (blog) 2005-7

Blogger

"Chris at Optimus in Omnis wrote a thoughtful post in July [2005]...his most recent post describes the edginess many Londoners feel [post 7/7]."

(BBC News Online, 2 August 2005)

PR/OTHER WORK

Northern Chords (chamber music festival) 2008- Associate Business Director

- Chris has been promoting and running Northern Chords since the idea for a chamber music festival germinated in 2008. Liaising with printers, venues, advertisers, local businesses and charities, musicians and local media, he has a wealth of experience and contacts, and is well known and liked in the north east's culture, charity and business communities.
- Experience gained from the initiative includes fundraising and ad sales, as well as people skills thanks to overseeing the front of house staff, as well as more general and large-scale events management.

"A new cultural must-see" (**Accent Magazine**)

"Three outstanding concerts...this is an initiative that will surely grow and grow. Hats off to all, from sponsors to musicians to organisers – who said old heads know best?" (**Living North**)

Rowley PR 2008-2010

Associate Director

- In his role with Rowley PR, Chris was heavily involved in placing and securing promotional material for a wide variety of clients across the region in various media – including national daily press and local lifestyle magazines. He also undertook copywriting for clients to be placed in many forms of media, and oversaw large numbers of successful press releases.

Royal Grammar School Newcastle 2007-2009

Library assistant

- Outside term-time, Chris worked for three years in his school library over summer. During that time he helped to organise the library layout, catalogue new books and use library computer systems.

FREE TIME

ncl+ Award Winner - Arts & Culture 2010

- Judged by a panel of North Eastern businessmen, including Newcastle University's Dean of Cultural Affairs, Chris won the ncl+ Award for Arts and Culture for his work with Northern Chords. The judges praised Chris for the reach of his work.

"Chris Stokel-Walker has created something wide-reaching. He has created not only a university-wide cultural event, but a regional mainstay far beyond the bounds of our other nominees. The choice was clear." (**ncl+ Judging panel**)

Channel 4/4Laughs Comedy Window of Opportunity Winner 2008

- In 2008 Chris was judged the winner of a national sketch writing competition under the title 'Do You Remember the Nineties?', set in a bar on New Year's Eve 1994, when Chris would have been 5½ years old. He won the chance to take part in a stand-up comedy course in London, but was unable to attend due to prior commitments.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Newcastle University 2007-2010

Bachelor of the Arts, English Literature

Royal Grammar School Newcastle 2000-2007

3 A2 Levels – English Literature (A), History (A), Latin (B)

4 AS Levels – Classical Civilisation (A), English Literature (A), History (A), Latin (B)

11 GCSEs – Biology (B), Chemistry (A), Physics (A), Maths (A*), Statistics (A), History (A), English Language (A*), English Literature (A*), French (A), Latin (A), Classical Civilisation (A)

European Computer Driving Licence

Newcastle Preparatory School 1993-2000

References available on request. For more information about Chris, including his blog and portfolio, please visit: