

Press Update May 2007

GEOFF

1. In a special issue of the *New Statesman* Geoff among others gives his views on the outgoing PM:

“Tony Blair, more than most leaders, will confound the judges and juries for a long time to come...”

2. Geoff writes an article called *Classic virtues* in *The Business*:

“Many of Blair’s advisers felt comfortable arguing with him and criticising him, and I think he understood that successful leaders are ill served by sycophants.”

<http://www.thebusinessonline.com/Document.aspx?id=51A1D233-4D8E-4FA5-BE0A-3E9C5789F56E>

3. In *Box-ticking education lays waste to talent* Geoff argues for a new approach to be taken to education, as

“schools (...) aren’t developing the abilities people need for their lives or for their work.”

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/schools/comment/story/0,,2081322,00.html>

4. The *Independent’s* piece, *This was goodbye - not good riddance* - to Blair.

“Geoff Mulgan, former head of the Downing Street strategy unit, puts it: “Labour was not an ideology or a strategy of transformation. It was a way of winning elections. Unfortunately, the very factors that made it a success as an electoral project inevitably weakened it as a transformative governing project.”

5. With the imminent release of Alastair Campbell’s diaries, in *The Guardian*, Geoff

“...observes that it makes open and frank discussion within government difficult when one or more people at a private meeting are known to be taking a record in order to profit by publishing a sneak-and-tell.”

<http://politics.guardian.co.uk/tonyblair/comment/0,,2089127,00.html>

6. In open democracy’s article *Tony Blair and Europe* Geoff commented on leaving Downing Street,

“governments overestimate what they can change in the short term and underestimate what they can change in the long term”

7. Geoff outlined the Young Foundation’s plans on Studio Schools in an interview with BBC Radio 4 regarding NEETs.

8. ePolitix reports in article *Labour considers reform rethink*

“A Policy Network book on renewing the public realm with contributions from Geoff Mulgan....The authors argue that the reform agenda needs to be reassessed from first principles and urged an honest assessment of where New Labour has gone wrong on public service reform”.

9. In the *Guardian’s* Comment Is Free in an article *What about people who can’t?*

...”At the Young Foundation, Geoff Mulgan, also late of Downing Street, advocates reviving parish councils or “double devolution”.

9. Geoff was also interviewed for a Channel 4 documentary on New Labour and their policy making.

PAUL BARKER

Wrote in the *Evening Standard* about London’s housing crisis (“Brown’s eco-towns won’t solve the housing crisis”

FAMILY AND KINSHIP

The Young Foundation’s study on Family and Kinship in the East End of London has been cited on the “this is London”-website in an article on race segregation in East End schools: “A study by the Young Foundation charity found that the problem is particularly acute in this part of the capital.”

<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/news/article-23398417-details/Schools+in+the+East+End+dividing+by+race/article.do>

MAPPING RURAL NEEDS

On the 11th of May the Conservative MP Peter Ainsworth used in his speech the following quote from the Young Foundation’s study on rural needs to highlight the serious issue of rural poverty at the CLA Centenary Conference: “911,000 rural residents live within the bottom 20% of the UK’s nationally most deprived wards.

http://www.conservatives.com/tile.do?def=news.story.page&obj_id=136692&speeches=1

EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

Nicola and Maxine’s local wellbeing project aiming at emotional resilience received attention in several national newspapers and online news agencies (The Telegraph, BBC, The Daily Express and Ananova news feed). The *Guardian* reported that a “group (of teachers) will spend two weeks working top US psychologist Prof Martin Seligman (,,,) to discover how to teach children to become more emotionally resilient.”

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/schools/story/0,,2075873,00.html#ready-or-not?>

CONTENTIOUS CITIZENS

On the 6th of June Third Sector reported on the launch of the “Contentious Citizen” report and the comments made at the event: “Matthew Sowemimo, campaigns and communications manager at the Sheila McKechnie Foundation, warned campaigning organisations not to rely too heavily on the internet.”

MICHAEL YOUNG

A piece in Yahoo finance titled Dual Britannia Michael Young is profiled “By the late 1940s the most compelling analysis of what was going wrong was coming from Michael Young, head of Labour’s research department and principal author of the 1945 manifesto. “Small Man, Big World” was the title of his 1948 pamphlet.... During the 1950s he abandoned politics for sociology, founding the Institute of Community Studies (now the Young Foundation) in Bethnal Green and writing (with Peter Willmott) *Family and Kinship in East London*, which has just become a deserved Penguin Modern Classic.”

<http://uk.biz.yahoo.com/18052007/399/dual-britannia.html>

