Who lost the June 2001 General Election?

Dr Stephen Bury
European and American Collections, The British Library
Towards a digital election

- 2001 Election: www.psr.keele.ac.uk website had 39 party sites, 270 local party sites
- Next Election:?
The need to archive

- Historical record - Brewster Kahle’s 44 day life of a website
- Academic reference
- Trusted digital repository
- International cooperation
Domain.uk experiment

- 6 month experiment to select and capture 100 UK websites
- audit change, loss, links etc. over time
- produce a report on where to go next
- pdfs separate experiment
Selection

- Inclusions:
  - major issues: Election, GM Crops
  - Dewey sample
  - suggestions

- Exclusions:
  - govt sites
  - registration
  - fly/databases
  - copyright content
  - uncontactable
Discovery

• Search engines
• RDN news headlines feeder
• Notification lists
• Reviews
• Suggestions
Process

- E-mail selected site for approval
- Measure site for links, size etc.
- Bluesquirrel whack
- Revisit every three weeks
- Save to F drive on server
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sites inactive</td>
<td></td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change of URL</td>
<td></td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dead sites</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-archiving</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobby compliant</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Website profile 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HTML</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average size</td>
<td>34kb</td>
<td>30kb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Links to</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Links from</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updated between whacks</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Futures

• Make available via website
• Scaling up (2004 CSR bid)
• Selection + Harvesting (NEDLIB)
• Nomination form on BL website
• Archiving in DLS
• International and national collaboration