

BBC NEWS 24

BBC News 24 is the BBC's 24-hour rolling news television channel. It shares some output with the BBC TV channel BBC1. Most of *Breakfast News*, the *One O'Clock News*, *Six O'Clock News* and *Ten O'Clock News* are simulcast – shown at the same time – on BBC1 and News 24. News 24 offers signing for the hearing impaired during the lunchtime bulletin, and can provide a separate service if there is a pre-planned live event, an unexpected breaking news story, or if the *Ten O'Clock News* is late because of a live football match over-running. In 2006 it was named Best News Channel by the Royal Television Society. This RTS Award had previously been dominated by Sky News. Unlike Sky News, reporters and correspondents appearing on News 24 are not all working exclusively for the channel. Most are part of the BBC Newsgathering operation with commitment to other outlets, including the main bulletins on BBC1, BBC World, Radio 4's news programmes, Radio Five Live and the BBC World Service.

0630



Simon Waldman

BBC News 24 is sharing output with BBC Breakfast News, presented by Dermot Murnaghan and Sian Williams. News 24's Editor Simon Waldman comes on shift. His Assistant Editor Marion Fountayne has been in since 6 a.m. preparing the early prospects. Her list of stories to cover includes a House of Lords ruling on divorce law, the start of a five-week knives amnesty by the police, the announcement of the shortlist of towns that might be chosen for Britain's first super-casino, the news from the World Health Organisation that six Indonesians have died from bird flu, and an interview with Sir David Attenborough on climate change. Marion knows that Sir David, the television wildlife presenter, is to appear live on Breakfast News. The prospects ask: 'Can he come to us afterwards?'

0715

The prospects meeting is under way. Twenty-three people gather around the production desks or perch on the low windowsills of the curved building to discuss the day's news agenda. Simon starts the meeting with a few 'parish notices' – operational details on the day – and hands to Marion. The divorce ruling is due at 9.45, with reporter Claire Marshall outside awaiting the verdict. There are judgments on two separate cases – the Millers and the McFarlanes, both wealthy couples. The suggestion is that the Law Lords could penalise the husband in one case for his adultery – and so end the long-established principle of 'no-blame' divorces, potentially affecting thousands of people. There's a suggestion that the EV, or 'early voice' reporter, should package the material that comes in.



Andy Tighe

Simon wants to make the story accessible to the widest possible audience and suggests that they 'number crunch and work out how many people are involved' and 'get Joshua down there'.

Joshua Rozenberg is the Daily Telegraph's legal affairs correspondent, who used to work for the BBC. Simon believes he is the best in the business at unravelling legal jargon, and jokes: 'We get him on air more often now than when he worked for the BBC.'

The knives amnesty story may include a package by Home Affairs Correspondent Andy Tighe and a studio discussion. Reporters are live in Birmingham and Blackpool to respond to the casino announcement.

0730

As Marion asks for further suggestions, Emma Brannam, the news interactive presenter, says: 'There's something going off in Manchester. There's a drop on the wires – six people arrested. Five hundred police involved.'

Home news organiser Helen Miller adds: 'We've got something from Birmingham. Something went off overnight. Someone rang up with footage from their mobile.'

Simon says: 'We'd better stick somebody on the terror stuff.'

Among other stories discussed is a report that the Bishop of Cheltenham is stranded in a remote part of Africa, after the Archbishop of Kenya withdrew his hospitality. The Kenyan Christians objected to the British bishop's liberal views on homosexuality. Can the bishop be contacted on a mobile phone?

0735

The meeting breaks up, and Simon and Marion review how they're going to cover the breaking story.

0745

The discussion centres on moving the truck (satellite link) in Birmingham. Should they leave the casino story [correspondent Philippa Thomas is at a Birmingham casino] to chase the terrorism arrests in the Small Heath area of the city? Simon checks Sky News and sees that both they and Breakfast News have flashed eight arrests.

Simon observes: 'Maybe it's not as big as we thought. Just eight arrested. But 500 police were involved. It's a newer story. It's a breaking story, and if we have to, we can do the casino "as-live".'

Simon decides to send the truck to Small Heath for the start of the programme at 8.30, but doesn't know if the Midlands correspondent Rajesh Mirchandani will be there in time. He tells Marion and Helen: 'It's touch and go if the truck will be there.'

0750

Simon is told that Security Correspondent Gordon Corera can do a phone from home. He just needs to do some calls to get background. He has 40 minutes. Home Editor Mark Easton has been catching up on the story already and is in the building. Simon says he'd prefer to do Easton on set rather than Corera on the phone.

0755	In the middle of discussing with Marion how they're going to approach the half-heads (the half-hour headlines at 8.30) Simon rings Breakfast News to ask what they're doing before the opt-out at 8.30.
0758	Simon leaves for the regular 8 a.m. meeting with Newsgathering and the network TV bulletins.
0805  Julian Worricker	Presenter Julian Worricker is checking the number of arrests in the anti-terrorism raids and briefing himself on any background he can find on the wires.
0815	Simon returns from his meeting with a coffee, fully briefed about what the rest of the BBC's TV news outlets are covering, and with a clearer idea of how they can share resources.
0825   	<p>Simon arrives in the gallery. Director and vision mixer Roger Webster and senior broadcast journalist Tanya Hines are already there. The presenters Julian Worricker and Carrie Gracie are in the studio. Simon tells them via talkback that they'll have to ad lib while they get the guest in. Roger says he wants the guest, Mark Easton, on the seat next to Julian.</p> <p><i>Roger says the role of director on News 24 has become more complex (and more stressful) as the channel has grown in confidence. He's assisted by automatic counts on VT packages (a recorded voice counts down to the 'out' and to Astons – graphics used to name people on screen), but has to count out of the live sections of the programme himself. He directs, vision mixes and operates the remote cameras in the studio. He says: 'When News 24 was first launched, the shots stayed the same, but now the shots are more ambitious, more people are watching. The role is very complicated.'</i></p> <p><i>News 24 is sub-titled. This is now done 'out of house' and the technology enables the process to take place hundreds of miles away. Aine Aughney-Macdonald (pictured below) has been doing the sub-titles for BBC News for over six years. She lives in rural Ireland and does the early morning News 24 shift from her home. The equipment she uses is very different from a normal keyboard.</i></p>   

<p>0830</p>	<p>News 24 goes live. The strap reads 'Breaking News' and 'Terror Raids'. Julian introduces Carrie and himself. She reads an OOV (out of vision read) over pictures from Manchester, about the terrorism arrests. Julian introduces and interviews Mark Easton in the studio. He explains that the arrests are believed to be linked to the plotting of terrorism overseas.</p> <p>Simon has a talkback unit in the gallery and a telephone, which means he can speak to the presenters and floor manager, his team outside in the newsroom and other parts of the BBC. He's told that Frances Lawrence, the widow of Philip Lawrence, the London head teacher who was stabbed to death outside his school, is available for the studio discussion on knife crime. She's already been on Breakfast News. News 24 asked them to see if she'd stay on for another studio spot.</p>
<p>0834</p>	<p>Carrie links to North of England correspondent Mark Simpson, who's live in Manchester at the scene of one of the anti-terrorism raids. He explains that 500 police officers from at least five forces were involved.</p> <p>Roger, on talkback, asks the floor manager if the two guests have arrived for the knives 'disco', and suggests they should be brought into the studio during the summary. The presenters ask whether they should both ask questions, and it is decided that they should.</p>
<p>0839</p>	<p>Frances Lawrence and Shaun Bailey, a community worker, discuss the knives amnesty. On the banks of monitors in front of them, everyone in the gallery can see their own output and other channels, including Sky News, BBC World and incoming domestic and international video feeds.</p> <p>Simon notices the former Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz on one of the screens, and rings BBC World to ask if they're going to be translating what he's saying: 'A minute would be lovely for us.'</p> <p>Declan Curry, the business reporter, is on another monitor at the London Stock Exchange. He can hear gallery talkback, realises how busy the programme is, and offers to cut a minute off the business report. The gallery declines the offer.</p>
<p>0843</p>	<p>Thirty seconds after he'd offered to cut back his report, Declan is on air. The report includes an interview about pensions with financial planning expert Christine Ross.</p>
<p>0846</p>	<p>The 'quarters', the headlines on the quarter hour, include the terror arrests, divorce and the knife amnesty. There's more on the arrests with the presenters ad libbing over live pictures from Moss Side in Manchester, and the news that Cleveland police have confirmed a house in Middlesbrough was among those raided.</p> <p>Paul Grey, the senior duty editor from sports news, arrives in the gallery to supervise the sports bulletin. Simon has left the gallery to liaise with Breakfast News. Both networks have news bulletins on the hour and both want live contributions from correspondents on location for the main story.</p>

<p>0848</p> 	<p>Sports presenter Dan Walker starts with the news that Michael Owen will captain an England 'B' side playing Belarus tomorrow.</p> <p>Simon returns to the gallery and announces: 'Breakfast will do Manchester at the top and we'll do Birmingham.' He comments on the Michael Owen interview, which came from a much-publicised visit the previous day by England players to Wembley Stadium: 'Not too much of this later in the day. The pictures say yesterday.'</p> <p>Paul Grey says: 'We'll just do it this morning.'</p>
<p>0851</p>	<p>Word comes through to the gallery from the newsroom that the Metropolitan Police's anti-terrorist squad have been involved in the overnight raids. Simon says: 'That ups the ante a bit. We'll do a new line on the Met now.' Simon speaks to the presenters on talkback. After sport has reviewed the newspaper back pages, Julian will say, 'More from inside the papers in a moment . . .' and go straight to the breaking line about the Met.</p> <p>Seconds later, Julian links to the breaking news with an almost verbatim repeat of Simon's words: 'More from the papers in a moment . . .'</p> <p>The on-screen strap reads 'TERROR RAIDS Met anti-terrorist squad involved.'</p>
<p>0853</p>	<p>The paper review resumes with a mention of Sir David Attenborough who's on the front of <i>The Independent</i>, and trails his appearance on News 24 at 0915.</p>
<p>0855</p>	<p>The Birmingham pictures appear on a monitor for the first time. The reporter is Phil Mackie (not Rajesh Mirchandani). Simon speaks to him: 'It's News 24 here. It's going to be a bit rock'n'roll, Phil, 'cos we'll have a bit of you and a bit of Mark. I heard you talking to Mr and Mrs Cameraman. Any pointing and hand-waving you do, we love all that.'</p>
<p>0856</p>	<p>Simon tells the presenters: 'Tease Birmingham before the weather.' Phil leaves the camera position temporarily.</p> <p>The director cuts to the live shot from Birmingham.</p> <p>Carrie says: 'Let's take a look at what's been happening in Birmingham . . .'</p>
<p>0858</p>	<p>During the weather report, Simon and Roger decide how the top of the hour will look. Roger's still calling the shots ('one minute on weather', 'one-thirty to headlines, everybody'), and others in the gallery offer encouragement: 'Going very well, Rog.'</p> <p>Tanya is told by the crew in Manchester that one of the sequences of shots from Moss Side can't be used because it shows a 'sensitive' number plate. She deletes it from the system and chooses another sequence.</p>
<p>0900</p> 	<p>Simon tries to help Roger through the complicated headline sequence. As the presenters appear back in vision, he chips in: 'Well done, Rog.'</p> <p>Julian says: 'This is the scene in Manchester . . .' and the OOV is followed by a 'double box', a split-screen effect with the reporters in Manchester and Birmingham side by side. Mark Simpson is clearly talking (he's already being interviewed down the line by Breakfast News on BBC1); Phil Mackie stands still ('a listening shot') as he waits to talk to News 24. Mark Easton is in the studio, and he's interviewed first.</p>

<p>0902</p>  <p>LIVE BIRMINGHAM</p> <p>TERROR RAIDS</p> <p>NEWS 24 09:03</p>	<p>When Phil responds to his question from the studio, he points down the road and the cameraman zooms in to a house raided by the police.</p>
<p>0906</p>	<p>Simon talks to Phil. He's already asked the reporter: 'Can you do us at 9.30?' and adds: 'Anyone you would normally vox-pop and can string two words together, get them ready to be live.'</p> <p><i>Simon comments: 'Do we know what's happened? Not really. A lot of speculation, but hey, it looks good. This is going very well.'</i></p>
<p>0908</p>	<p>There's relief from the breaking story as the preview package on the divorce ruling runs. Simon leaves the gallery to get the latest from Mark Easton, who's been keeping on top of the terrorism story in between live studio spots.</p>
<p>0910</p>  <p>Tanya Hines</p>	<p>Off the back of the divorce package, there's a live with reporter Ben Ando outside the Houses of Parliament where the Law Lords will soon deliver their verdict.</p> <p>In the gallery, Tanya says: 'We'll do latest pics from Birmingham for ad libs after quarters.'</p> <p>Sir David is in the studio and getting his mic on. Roger suggests: 'Before the quarters, can we tease David sitting on set?'</p> <p>Tanya notices a spelling mistake on a cricket caption and changes it.</p>
<p>0916</p>  <p>CLIMATE CHANGE</p> <p>NEWS 24 09:21</p> <p>David Attenborough speaks out</p> <p>HEADLINES THE JUDGEMENTS CONCERN WHAT FACTORS</p>	<p>The quarters include an ad lib over Birmingham pictures. They're followed by a VT promo of Sir David's climate change programme, and his interview. He's already been on Radio 4's <i>Today</i> programme, Five Live and Breakfast News. Tanya tells the presenters: 'Plenty of time for this.'</p>
<p>0923</p>	<p>'Let's leave this and go to breaking news. There's been a ninth arrest. Eight in Greater Manchester and one in Merseyside.'</p> <p>Tanya advises the presenters to be careful about the wording. The arrests were led by Greater Manchester police, but they are not necessarily in the Manchester area.</p>

0928	<p>The presenters ad lib over the latest Birmingham pictures. As the programme cuts to the weather, Simon tells the gallery: 'That was a good half hour, wasn't it?' Tanya is checking whether reporter Claire Marshall, who's at Westminster for the divorce story, has a guest with her. There is no guest, so she tells the presenters and gallery: 'Claire Marshall is a DTL, not a throw.'</p> <p><i>DTL is short for 'down-the-line' – a two-way. A 'throw' is a live report with the studio 'throwing' to the location reporter, who then delivers a self-contained report, usually with an interviewee and with no input from the presenters. The gallery will remind the reporter about timings.</i></p>
0931	<p>The DTL with Claire Marshall is under way. Simon tells Carrie: 'Mention the Miller case again, and we can bring in the stills.' He checks with Tanya that the picture in the preview monitor is definitely the Millers.</p> <p>Carrie's next question begins: 'As we were saying, Claire, this Miller case is . . .'</p> <p>The picture of the Millers appears in a box next to the reporter.</p>
0934	<p>Julian links to the casinos story. The announcement is previewed with a package that has already been used on Breakfast News. Philippa Thomas' live contribution from Birmingham has been delayed while the truck is in Small Heath for the terror raids.</p> <p>Roger talks to Declan at the Stock Exchange advising him they'll be coming to him in four minutes.</p>
0937	<p>There's a live interview in the studio with Anthony Jennens, of the charity GamCare, about the dangers of gambling. 'Coming to you, Declan, live off the back of this interview.'</p>
0941	<p>Declan is live. Tanya has noticed some activity on the monitor of the Westminster camera: 'Who is that getting into screen?'</p> <p>Before she can find out, Roger asks Tanya if Declan is running up to the quarters.</p> <p>'Yes, because there's no sport yet. Shall I give them a ring?'</p> <p>She calls and is told they're on their way.</p>
0946	<p>Sport goes live. Roger asks: 'Have we got anyone to cover this Lords thing?' They have a choice of taking the live feed from inside the House of Lords and risking a lengthy announcement in legal jargon, or they can use reporter Claire Marshall to interpret the information. Simon listens across the feed from inside the House. Tanya speaks to Claire and confirms they'll come to her after the ruling.</p>

0951



Julian OOVs the pictures from the Lords. He says: 'That's the scene now inside the House of Lords where a decision is expected in a few moments . . . they don't just stand up and give a neat and tidy press conference for the likes of us . . . let's just dip into what's being said.'

The live feed is confusing. Each Law Lord stands in turn to give the reasons for his ruling.

Simon, listening to the feed on headphones, says: 'They've dismissed the first and allowed the second. I don't know what that means.'

Simon quickly works out that the winners in both cases have been the ex-wives and tells the presenters. Glancing at the monitor, he observes: 'Sky have messed up. We didn't.'

Simon tells Tanya: 'You need to brief Claire – she can't hear,' and then calls for quiet as he listens to the Law Lords.

Simon later comments: 'I probably didn't know as much as I should have done about the details of both divorce cases. Our job is to simplify and clarify. We spend a lot of time interpreting complicated stories.'

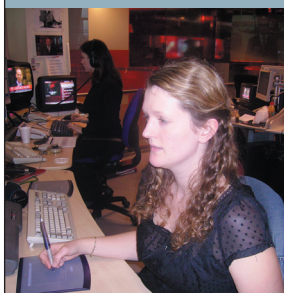
0955



Simon says: 'Lose the pictures of the Lords and we'll go straight to Claire.'

Claire Marshall, underneath a canopy outside the Lords in pouring rain, talks to a family lawyer for interpretation of the verdict.

Just a few feet from the News 24 set, broadcast journalist Tory Milne and freelance presenter Emma Brannam are preparing the short bulletins for the BBC Interactive services, on satellite, Freeview and broadband. Their summaries are updated regularly, with new stories and updates slotted into the sequence whenever they break. The bulletins are recorded in a tiny virtual studio in another part of the building. With the aid of blue-screen it looks as if Emma is reading the news from the News 24 set.



Tory Milne



Emma in the virtual studio



0958

During the weather, there's a change of director. Roger is replaced by Gordon Findlay.

1001

The Security Correspondent Gordon Corera is live in the studio. Rajesh, the Midlands Correspondent, is now at the Birmingham live point.

<p>1003</p> 	<p>Rajesh is on air off the back of Gordon's interview. During Rajesh's two-way, Tanya sees some people on a monitor emerging from the entrance to the House of Lords. Simon asks: 'Who are they?' Tanya explains that it's Julia McFarlane and her solicitor. The solicitor, James Pirrie, has agreed to talk to the BBC.</p> <p>Carrie cuts the two-way short: 'Sorry, Rajesh. I'm going to have to break in there. We'll come back to Birmingham later. Right now we go to the Lords.'</p> <p>The gallery take a live feed of Mr Pirrie standing alongside his client. A technician is putting an earpiece in Mr Pirrie's ear as he speaks to reporters outside the House.</p>
	<p>Julian summarises the divorce ruling and throws to Claire Marshall, who has Marcus Dearle, one of the solicitors for Mrs Miller in the other case.</p> <p>Over talkback to the outside broadcast, Simon tells Mr Pirrie: 'Stay there. We're coming back to you.' And in an aside off talkback: 'We've got both solicitors. This is very good. We're having a stonking morning.'</p> <p>Carrie interviews Mr Pirrie, who is still fumbling with his earpiece.</p>
<p>1011</p> 	<p>As James Pirrie talks live to the studio, Tanya says: 'I'm going to keep this going till we go to the quarters.'</p>
<p>1014</p>	<p>The newsroom tells Simon that Elton John has been awarded £100,000 in libel damages. He asks: 'Do we have a still of Elton John?'</p>
<p>1016</p>	<p>Gordon, the director, warns the studio that the Elton story is breaking. A still is now available. The presenters joke about how happy Sir Elton looks in the picture. The headlines, and sports headlines from Dan, follow.</p>
<p>1018</p>	<p>There's a report on the knives amnesty by Home Affairs Correspondent Andy Tighe.</p>
<p>1021</p>	<p>Mark Easton is live in the studio again. Simon calls Claire to thank her for her previous live on the divorce cases.</p> <p><i>Simon comments: 'Think of a swan. The presenters are the serene beings with long necks, and we're paddling like mad under the water behind the scenes.'</i></p>

<p>1026</p> 	<p>Philip Hammond, the Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary, is live from Westminster talking about pensions reform.</p>
<p>1030</p>	<p>The studio links to a recording of the earlier knives amnesty 'disco' but the cue refers only to Frances Lawrence. Carrie, on talkback to the gallery, says: 'I don't know who wrote that, but we must intro both guests on a disco.' An Aston (caption) – 'Shaun Bailey, community worker' – explains who he is. And Carrie asks if he should be 'back-anno-ed'.</p> <p><i>The back-anno or back-announcement is a reference back to something when an item has finished, usually the reporter or contributors.</i></p>
<p>1035</p>	<p>Carrie back-annos Shaun Bailey. More recorded items follow – the set-up film of Sir David Attenborough, and the Attenborough interview from earlier. It's a time to relax for a few moments. Simon enters the gallery and comments: 'Oh, we're on tape, I can go away again.'</p>
<p>1039</p>	<p>Karen Bowerman is about to present the business news from the studio, but she's told that her guests at the Stock Exchange are not ready. They arrive with seconds to spare. She interviews a market analyst about the poor profit results of DIY stores.</p>
<p>1046</p>	<p>The quarters are followed by a pregnant pause – a minor technical glitch of about two seconds on the wrong camera shot, which the presenters laugh off. During the sports bulletin which follows, the news presenters tell the gallery they don't know what went wrong, but Carrie couldn't hear her talkback.</p> <p>Simon leaves the gallery to check with the production team what the divorce verdicts will mean for people other than high-earners.</p>
<p>1052</p>	<p>Divorce lawyer Helen Marriott is live from Manchester discussing the morning's verdicts. The gallery is told Mark Easton is on the phone. He wants one minute before the weather. Tanya says: 'It's Mark Simpson, not Mark Easton – tell Aston.' The reporter in Manchester has been to a police press conference.</p>
<p>1056</p>	<p>Fresh from the press conference, Mark Simpson confirms the number of arrests and the police forces involved. He reveals the arrests were linked to alleged terrorism in Iraq.</p>

1057	<p>Roger, the director, returns after his hour's break. Tanya leaves the gallery – her time in charge ends with the programme strand. Julian and Carrie are replaced in the studio by Matthew Amroliwala and Jane Hill.</p>
1100	<p>Jane is seated and Matthew standing across the studio as they read the headline sequence – 'A win for the First Wives Club . . .'</p>
<p>1107</p> 	<p>After another throw to Claire, who this time is interviewing a divorce lawyer Alan Kaufman, Matthew, now seated next to Jane, ad libs over the latest pictures from Manchester – live pictures from a helicopter of the Moss Side area of the city, including shots of a police van on the road. He also introduces shots from the police press conference. A senior officer is being interviewed – it's the Chief Constable Michael Todd. But before Mr Todd can be named, the interview ends abruptly. Matthew is suddenly back in vision: 'Well, apologies for that. That's just part of the latest police briefing. What we'll do is take that in full and bring you the key extracts.'</p> <p>He links instead to Rajesh Mirchandani who has now moved to another live location in Birmingham outside an Islamic relief agency that was raided as part of the police operation. Then he speaks to a fresh Manchester correspondent, Nick Ravenscroft, who's on the phone. The gallery play in the aerials and other Moss Side shots.</p> <p><i>Matthew explains his approach to this type of presenting: 'When things that are clearly important break, you go into a sort of sustaining mode where you're trying to weave in pictures, facts, interviews, developing lines that are coming in all the time. It's that sort of juggling that's going on and that hopefully you do without dropping the ball.'</i></p>
1113	<p>The appearance of former Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz as a defence witness in the trial of Saddam Hussein is mentioned over pictures of him in court.</p> 
1114	<p>Matthew reads from a Home Office statement, handed to him on a printout, which says five foreign nationals have been detained with a view to deportation during the morning's police operation. Andy Tighe's knife amnesty report follows.</p> 

1119	After the news and sport headlines, Matthew returns to the latest from the Manchester police briefing 'we saw a glimpse of earlier'. In his interview the Chief Constable says 18 addresses across the UK were targeted and there have been seven people arrested in connection with terrorist offences abroad. While the VT is running, Jane is told to throw to Claire Marshall outside the Lords next.
1121	Jane ad libs the throw into the latest on the divorce rulings, summarising the story so far. Kenneth McFarlane's lawyer Jeremy Levison is interviewed by Claire Marshall.
1126	After a brief read of some viewers' comments on the divorce rulings, split between the presenters, Jane links to the news that six people have died from bird flu in Indonesia. World Health Organisation spokesman Peter Cordingley is on the phone from Manila. He describes the outbreak as 'the mother of all clusters', and says there is the possibility of human-to-human transmission. Jane asks if people should be worried. He says: 'This is not the start of a pandemic.'
	
1130	Weather is followed by a short promo VT and the headlines.
1133	Jane throws to Philippa Thomas at a casino in Birmingham. She interviews Annette Fleming from the counselling service Aquarius about gambling addiction.
1137	Simon looks at the Sky News monitor in the gallery, and notices a story about the anti-cancer drug Herceptin. He asks: 'What is the line on Herceptin?'
1139	There's a package from Washington Correspondent James Westhead, reporting on the meeting of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and US President George Bush.
1142	The business news includes a report from Shanghai about the importance of branding to China's biggest companies, and how they want their names to become internationally known.
1147	Just as the sports news begins, with a story that a Welsh rugby tour of Argentina is under threat because of a strike by Argentine players, the shortlist of towns that will compete for the super-casino is announced. Presenter Dan Walker is just beginning a down-the-line interview with correspondent Wyre Davies in Cardiff. The lower third strap across the bottom of the screen announces: 'Breaking News: shortlist released for first super-casino.' The names of the shortlisted towns are included on the super, but Roger and Simon in the gallery want to get the reaction to the story.

	<p>Roger asks: 'Any more on this before we do the breaking news?'</p> <p>Simon decides: 'Hand back after this, and say we'll have the rest of the sport in just a minute.'</p> <p>Dan finishes his interview and says: 'We'll get more sport in a moment. Let's go back to Jane and Matthew first of all.' The news presenters link to reporter Jayne Barrett, windswept against a backdrop of Blackpool Tower. Blackpool is on the list and she reports local feeling that they must be favourite to win the bid.</p>
1152	Sport continues with football and cricket news.
1153	<p>The Bishop of Chelmsford's chaplain Rev. Chris Newlands is interviewed live from Chelmsford. He explains how a party of 20 British Christians is trying to get out of Africa after being snubbed because of objections to the bishop's tolerance of gay people. During the interview, Simon asks for a map of Africa to be shown.</p> <p>Roger tells Matthew: 'That's the last question. Quick out.'</p>
1156	<p>Health Correspondent Branwen Jeffreys is in the studio to explain a European ruling that the drug Herceptin has been approved for use in treatment of the early stages of breast cancer.</p> <p>There's a minute of weather before the top of the hour.</p>
1200	<p>Roger takes another break from directing and vision-mixing, and is replaced by Julie McKie. It's a Wednesday, so the next half hour or so will be coverage of Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs) in the House of Commons. But first they take the headlines, and miss the very start of proceedings. Simon says: 'I want to get through the heads before PMQs.'</p> <p><i>Julie, who previously worked at the ITV regional company Tyne Tees, explains her role: 'You don't have a formal hand-over, you just take over. You need editorial awareness, but you never know what pictures you've got and what's coming in. We don't decide what comes next. That's up to the broadcast journalists. Often we take a lead from the presenters as to how they want to play things.'</i></p>
1204	<p>The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are locked in their weekly exchanges – a mainstay of News 24's weekly coverage and a guide to the political mood in Westminster. But there's breaking news from Afghanistan, and it looks big. The strap reads: 'Breaking News: Attack on British Troops.' Simon is patched through from the gallery phone to correspondent Alastair Leithead in Lashkar Gah, who's called London with the story. Simon asks: 'What can you see, dear boy?'</p> <p>Alastair's answer prompts a quick decision from Simon: 'We're going to break out because Alastair Leithead can see flames [he listens again] . . . bloody hell.' Simon starts taking notes. 'Can you come on the videophone or not? . . . Right . . . so we'll take you via traffic straight away.'</p> <p><i>'Traffic' is the BBC communications centre where lines and satellite feeds are patched through to programmes.</i></p> <p>An aircraft has crashed, and Alastair has been briefed off-the-record.</p> <p>Simon tells the gallery and studio: 'The British Ambassador was on board, but do not say that to anybody, on air or out there [pointing to the newsroom]. He says the plane might have been brought down by small arms fire, and he thinks, but he can't say so, that the British Ambassador was on board, so it's going to be big.'</p>



	<p>'Can we get a map of Afghanistan – Helmand province? South Afghanistan if necessary. Ask Alastair how and where pictures are being fed.'</p> <p><i>Simon explains: 'It's one of those where we've got to do it. I'm being given off-the-record guidance, so we can't tell the viewer the whole story yet. We know it's big.'</i></p>
1211	 <p>Jane interrupts PMQs and tells viewers coverage will continue on the BBC Parliament channel. Alastair is on the phone. There's a still of him and a map of Helmand. He explains that he's been watching a column of thick smoke for the last half hour and that it's been confirmed a British aircraft has been involved in an 'incident'.</p> <p>Simon tells Jane over talkback: 'Put it in the context of high levels of military activity in the last few days. Lots of civilian casualties.'</p> <p>Jane picks up the theme immediately: 'There's been an increase in violence over the last week or so . . .'</p>
1213	<p>A breaking news strap on Sky News announces the Ministry of Defence has confirmed an incident with a British military aircraft in southern Afghanistan. Simon knows Sky have no reporter in Helmand and he's determined to press home the BBC's advantage.</p>
1214	<p>News 24 returns to coverage of PMQs.</p> <p>Simon says: 'We need to repeat this again when we come out of PMQs. We won't break in again.'</p> <p>Rachael Kennedy, the assistant editor, comes into the gallery to explain that Alastair is going to set up a videophone and he might be able to point it 'in the vague direction of the plane' to get a shot of the smoke.</p>
1224	<p>The channel leaves PMQs with another reminder from Jane that coverage continues on the 'sister channel BBC Parliament'. There's a summary of what's known about the Afghan plane crash, with Jane and Matthew ad libbing throughout. There's a new line from the MoD that there are no UK casualties. Library pictures of British soldiers in Afghanistan are played in.</p> <p>The next story will be the casinos announcement. Jane confirms with the gallery that Philippa is expecting a throw, not a question, to start.</p> <p>Simon says: 'As soon as Alastair Leithead comes up, that's our priority.'</p>
1228	<p>Jane introduces the casino story over a split-screen of reporters Philippa and Jayne, and throws to Jayne in Blackpool.</p>
1230	<p>Chief Diplomatic Correspondent Paul Adams arrives in the gallery to brief Simon. He's been checking the Afghan incident with Foreign Office sources. The plane crashed on landing – a burst tyre may have been responsible rather than insurgent activity. Everyone on board escaped injury, including the Ambassador, who, he can confirm, was definitely on the flight.</p> <p>All is not going well with the super-casinos item. There's interference on Philippa's mic.</p> <p>Julie says: 'Get her to wrap. The sound quality is awful.'</p>

<p>1233</p> 	<p>Alastair appears on videophone. His piece-to-camera includes a pan to the plume of smoke behind him. The picture is pixilated, but clear enough to see what's going on.</p> <p>Simon says: 'These pics will do for the 12.45 heads.'</p> <p>Paul Adams is in the studio to explain what he's learned from his sources. He confirms that all on board escaped injury.</p> <p>Simon is thinking ahead to the business news: 'What's the footsie [FTSE] doing?' He's told the index is down 102 points. 'We must do it.'</p>
<p>1243</p>	<p>Jane says: 'Let's return to domestic politics . . .'</p> <p>Clips of the exchange between Tony Blair and David Cameron are played in. The presenters throw to political correspondent James Landale, who has two commentators to interview outside the House of Commons, Julia Hartley-Brewer of the <i>Sunday Express</i> and Michael Settle of <i>The Herald</i>.</p> <p>Matthew in the studio has spotted something on the wires – the agency feeds on his computer. He whispers to the gallery: 'Guys, do you want to do this Foreign Office statement?'</p>
<p>1248</p>	<p>Matthew reads from the Foreign Office statement, confirming some of the details of the plane crash. He points out that Paul Adams had already given most of the facts.</p>
<p>1249</p>	<p>After the headlines, Karen Bowerman has the business news, linking to Henk Potts of Barclays stockbrokers in the City. The line is lost and the screen goes green during one of his answers. 'Oh, dear me, we seem to have lost Henk Potts, right in the middle of his flow.'</p> <p>Karen mentions the falling market.</p>
<p>1251</p>	<p>Correspondent Nick Higham is in the studio to explain the impact of the landmark divorce rulings. He uses a series of graphics, and also refers to the possible impact on Sir Paul McCartney and Heather Mills, who have recently announced their separation.</p>
<p>1255</p> 	<p>The sports slot is cut short. It's been a busy hour.</p>
<p>1300</p> 	<p>News 24 simulcasts the One O'Clock News presented by Darren Jordon.</p> <p>Simon Waldman has finished his shift. Today he's taking his presenters to lunch.</p>