

Why online advertising is good for business

More people online

The total online audience is continuing to grow. An estimated 21.7 million homes in the UK had a broadband connection by 2012¹.

You use the internet every day to find answers quickly and easily — so do your potential customers. A quarter (25%) of visitors to our websites check the news before they check their emails, and 15% of them use the internet for shopping.²



If you want to effectively promote your business, you need to include online in your marketing mix.

Drive traffic to your site

Advertisers in the UK spent £5.416 billion online during 2012 and 24% of that total went on display advertising.³

What draws so many people to our sites?

24-hour News

Stories are uploaded to our websites all day, every day. Community news, regional and national news, and sports news all generate huge traffic. But the sites offer a wealth of other content including local weather, traffic bulletins, health and schools information, jobs, homes and cars, and video reports.

Trusted brands

Associate your product or service with one of the most trusted brands in the area. Since 1863, the Watford Observer has been at the heart of its community and commands huge respect and affection.

Our audience = your potential customers

Growing audiences

The site boasts growing audiences both in terms of Page Impressions and Unique Users. On average it generates more than 2 million page impressions every month.⁵

Targeting and timing

No print deadlines means you can advertise when it suits you — weekends, when you have a sale, evenings only etc. Let your schedule fit your business needs.

Choose which section of the website will generate the best response for your business — sport, cars, jobs, education etc.

¹ Ofcom

² Newsquest London Survey 2011

³ Internet Advertising Bureau

⁴ Monthly. Source: Omniture, Jan 2014

How to get a response to your advertising

Engaged audience

The fastest way to reach the largest local audience for your marketing message is through our websites. These local newspaper sites are trusted sources of information and the perfect vehicle for your advertising. The websites attract a predominantly ABC1 audience who are engaged with the content because it is about people they know and the place they live.

Combined reach

Build a strong and coherent advertising campaign using print and online together. The net additional reach can be as much as 87%.

Watford Observer

Watford Observer

114,490

Combined Audience*

331,650

Unique Users**

2,127,105

Page Impressions***

Gender

Men	45%
Women	55%

Social grade

AB	48%
C1	29%
C2	13%
DE	10%

Age

15 to 24	8%
25 to 34	21%
35 to 44	25%
45 to 54	24%
55 to 64	15%
65+	6%

*Total combined print and online, unduplicated, adult audience within the circulation area of the newspaper. Source: Telmar, Oct 2013

**Monthly. Source: Omniture Jan 2014

*** Jan 2014

A. Leaderboard

728 by 90 pixels

Its prominent position at the top of the page makes it the first thing visitors see

B. Sponsorship

310 by 30 pixels

Fixed in a central position just below the masthead on every page or within one targeted section. Use to create brand awareness.

C. MPU (Multi-Purpose Unit)

300 by 250 pixels

A versatile, high-impact space that, because of its size and shape, is ideal for moving images including video.

D. Mini banner

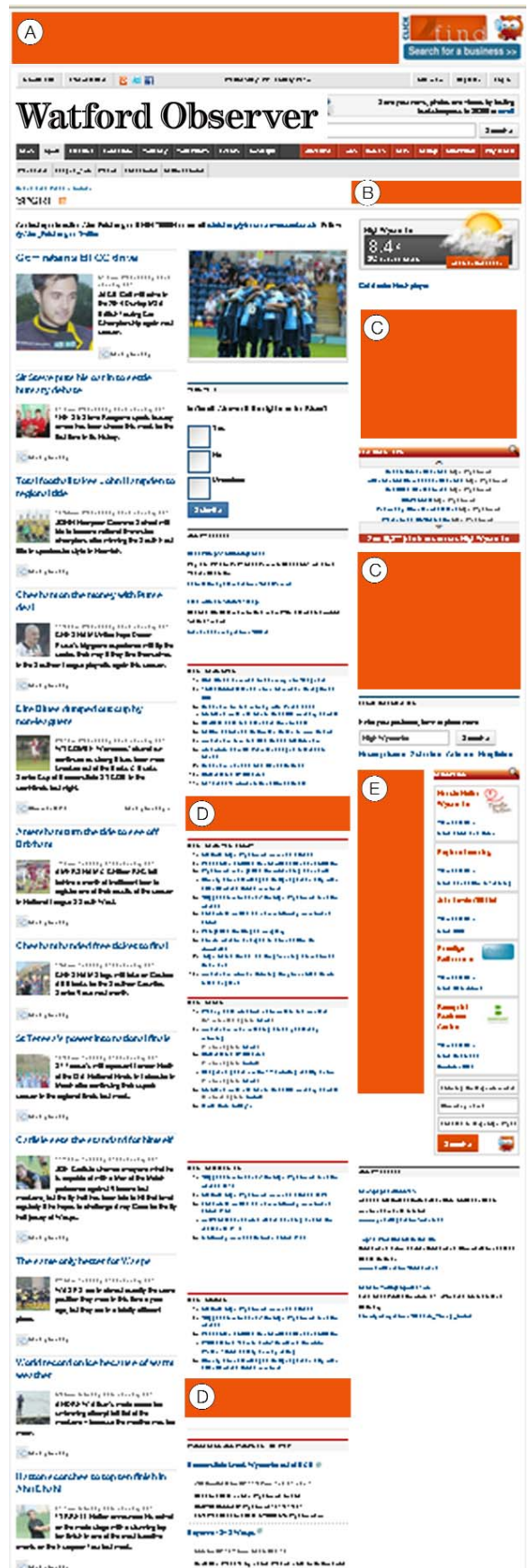
300 by 60 pixels

Appears on the right hand side of the page so it follows people's reading flow. Can be targeted to jobs, cars or homes.

E. Skyscraper

120 by 600 pixels

Seen for a long time on the right of the page as users scroll down. Large area for more complicated messages.



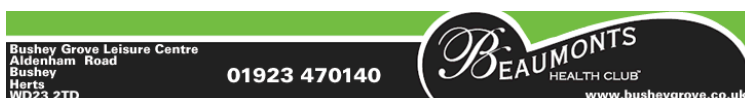
Online display advertising opportunities

Flexibility

The range of display advertising positions includes shapes and sizes to suit all promotional jobs. Examples are shown below at one third of their actual size. Creatives can include simple static images or more complex Flash animations. We offer a full design and production service.

Key to your success

Your advertisement can include a link to your own website to help drive visitors to your offer. We can give statistics on how many click-throughs are generated so you can monitor your campaign's effectiveness.



1



2



3



4



5

1 **Leaderboard** 720 by 90 pixels

2 **Sponsorship** 310 by 30 pixels

3 **Mini banner** 280 by 60 pixels

4 **MPU** 300 by 250 pixels

5 **Skyscraper** 120 by 600 pixels

Contextual Advertising

What is it?

Contextual advertising is “the placement of advertising next to related content” according to the Internet Advertising Bureau. It is a system employed to identify keywords, phrases and topics in an article and display relevant advertising next to it.

How does it work?

When booking an advert with one of our websites, an advertiser would choose a target group for their product from a set list of categories. Each category has its own dictionary of at least 50 keywords, that are picked up by the contextual advertising system as it scans an article, and a relevant advert is displayed alongside. The system is also configured to avoid controversy and error by avoiding pro nouns, duplication and utilising an “unsuitable” category to filter out the more shocking news stories.

Why use contextual advertising?

Simply, contextual advertising is more effective because it is more specific. By targeting the advert at the audience most likely to respond to it, there is less waste.

So for example

In an article placed under the contextual group of “family”, the keyword “walk” has been detected and an advert for the National Trust is displayed. There is also the option of creating bespoke categorisation on a per advertiser basis.

Sport Arts and
Entertainment Automotive
Beauty Business Careers
and jobs Environment
Consumer electronics
Education Families Fashion
Finance Food and drink
Local government Health
Hobbies and general
interest Home and garden
Block list Charity Non
football sports Travel Pets
Burglary Weather

Love the GYM hate the cost?

SPECIAL CONSTABLES
16 HOURS A MONTH
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Watford Observer

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LEISURE

Plumpton Circular

2:50pm Saturday 22nd May 2010

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By Ben Perkins >

Linking Plumpton Green and South Chailley, both with conveniently placed pubs, this walk by Ben Perkins follows well-signed field paths across a generally level Low Wealden landscape, notable for its rich and varied tree-lined hedgerows and distant downland views.

1 - Start the walk eastwards along North Barnes Lane which leaves the main street at Plumpton Green next to the Winning Post pub at GR 364164. Follow this concrete-surfaced track for the best part of a mile, with good views southwards to the Downs, passing North Barnes Farm and continuing to join a lane where you should turn left.

Old road near South Chailley

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Watford

15.0°C

98% chance of rain

[weather forecast >](#)

WHAT'S ON | **LIVE TRAVEL** | **FIND A TRADE**

Last updated 15.02 with 9 incidents

A355 Farnham Road Slough >

National Trust

Family time

Well closer than you think to come along for a