VisualEditor/Parsoid

Quarterly Review: 2012-13 Q3 (1 January - 31 March 2013)

27 March 2013

AGENDA

- Our objectives
- Progress to date
- Expected deliverables in 2012/13
- 2013/14 planning
- Other thoughts

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OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

- WMF Engineering roadmap - VisualEditor deadline for end-June ('1 July') 2013:

  VisualEditor enabled by default for (almost) every Wikipedia / MediaWiki instance.

- ***Every Wikipedia*** means working in all our ~300 languages (Unicode, IME, …).
- ***Every MediaWiki instance*** means having a graceful way out for extensions and special workflows if at all possible.
- ***Default*** means replacing the 'Edit' tab, and being good enough for a new editor to create or modify most pages without getting stuck or yelled at by the community.

NEEDS

VisualEditor/Parsoid must:

- … work on all content pages (not just a special namespace or very limited content areas)
- … have a consistent, comprehensible and coherent UX (so new users aren't bamboozled)
- … be able to be used by all users (not just opted-in users, nor technical experts)
- … not screw stuff up (minimised wikitext corruption and 'dirty diffs')
- … work reliably on major browsers / platforms (*Chrome/Firefox/IE/…; Win/Mac/Linux/…*)

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PROGRESS TO DATE

- 2011/12 Q4: a prototype content editor in test deployment — **Met**
  - *Deployed for a VisualEditor-only namespace on MediaWiki.org.*
- 2012/13 Q2: an alpha "basic content" editor in production — **Met**
  - Text, annotations, links and lists; everything else "alienated" and not editable
  - *Deployed for user opt-in to main and user namespaces on the English Wikipedia.*

Editing Wikipedia...

Jdforrester (WMF) Talk Preferences Watchlist Contributions Log out

Article Talk Read Edit VisualEditor View history Search

Paragraph Leave feedback 2 notices Cancel Review and save

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Main page
Contents
Featured content
Current events
Random article
Donate to Wikipedia
Wikimedia Shop

Interaction
Help
About Wikipedia
Community portal
Recent changes
Contact Wikipedia

Toolbox
What links here
Related changes
Upload file
Special pages
Permanent link
Page information
Cite this page
Rate this page

Print/export
Create a book
Download as PDF
Printable version

Languages
Dansk
Deutsch
Eesti
Esperanto
Français
עברית

Islington

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see Islington (disambiguation).

Coordinates: 51.5440°N 0.1027°W

Islington (/ˈɪzlɪŋtən/) is a neighbourhood in Greater London, England, and forms the central district of the London Borough of Islington. It is a desirable residential district of Inner London, extending from Islington High Street to Highbury Fields, encompassing the area around the busy Up… …plied to the areas of the borough close to Upper Street such as St Mary's, St Pet… …eloped in the Georgian era.

Hyperlink

Inner London

Existing page
Inner London
Inner London Education Authority
Inner London Crown Court
Inner London Probation Service
Inner London Educa...ty election, 1986

Web link
http://Inner London

Modern defin…

Islington grew as a sp… …e Great North Road, and has provided the name of the modern borough. This gave ri… …ts may also be said to be in Islington. This district is bounded by Liverpool Road to the… …the south-east. Its northernmost point is in the area of Canonbury. The main… …t Highbury Corner to Holloway Road to the west and St. Paul's Road to the east.

The area around Ang… …trict in its own right: The Angel, Islington. The northern part of this area (from the Liv… …e district of Islington, while the southern half is in neighbouring Finsbury. The area be… …ad is the adjoining district of Pentonville.

History

Etymology

Islington was originally named by the Saxons *Giseldone* (1005), then *Gislandune* (1062). The name means "Gīsla's hill" from the Old English personal name *Gīsla* and *dun* ("hill", "down"). The name later mutated to *Isledon*, which remained in use well into the 17th century when the modern form arose.[1] In medieval times, Islington was just one of many small manors thereabouts, along with *Bernersbury*, *Neweton Berewe* or *Hey-bury* and *Canonesbury* (Barnsbury, Highbury and Canonbury – names first recorded in the 13th and 14th centuries).

Origins

Islington

Buildings on Islington High Street

WHAT CURRENTLY WORKS

- Currently VisualEditor & Parsoid in alpha
  - VE can edit most basic content (text, links, headings, bold/italics, and lists)
  - VE can't do complex items (templates, references, categories, tables, …)
  - Parsoid is close to perfect in avoiding "dirty diffs"; needs focus on performance and extending to let VE edit more items
- Deployed as an opt-in distinct editor to the English Wikipedia for articles & user pages; awaiting ready to deploy to non-English
  - > 1,500 user accounts have it enabled
  - > 1,700 edits with VE have been saved
  - Generally very positive feedback, with a lot of helpful community comments on what we need to fix and future priorities

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WHAT (WE EXPECT) WILL WORK

- 2012/13 Q4: a beta "general content" editor in production as the default for all — **On track**
  - references (at least, simple auto-numbered ones and multiple uses of the same cite);
  - templates (at least, the core templates used in references);
  - images (set/adjust options and captions; insert from library); and
  - categories (add/remove, set sort key and default sort key).
  - *Deployed for all users on main and user namespaces on all* Wikipedias.*

** - If we find out late that there are major issues with a language / language feature, we may need to skip those wikis for July*

THINGS THAT DON'T & WON'T WORK

Insertion and modification of these will not work (to some extent), but they should render as expected

- Tables
- Very complex templates (especially compound templates)
- ParserFunctions
- Media galleries
- Non-content pages (Talk:, Project: *etc.* namespaces)
- Layout HTML items - HRs, BRs, DIVs, *etc.*
- Arbitrary user CSS ("color:red")
- Widely-deployed extensions: EasyTimeline, Math, SyntaxHighlight, Hieroglyphics, Poem...
- Locally-deployed extensions - MapSources, ProofreadPage, LiquidThreads, DPL...
- Gadgets and other "unofficial" code

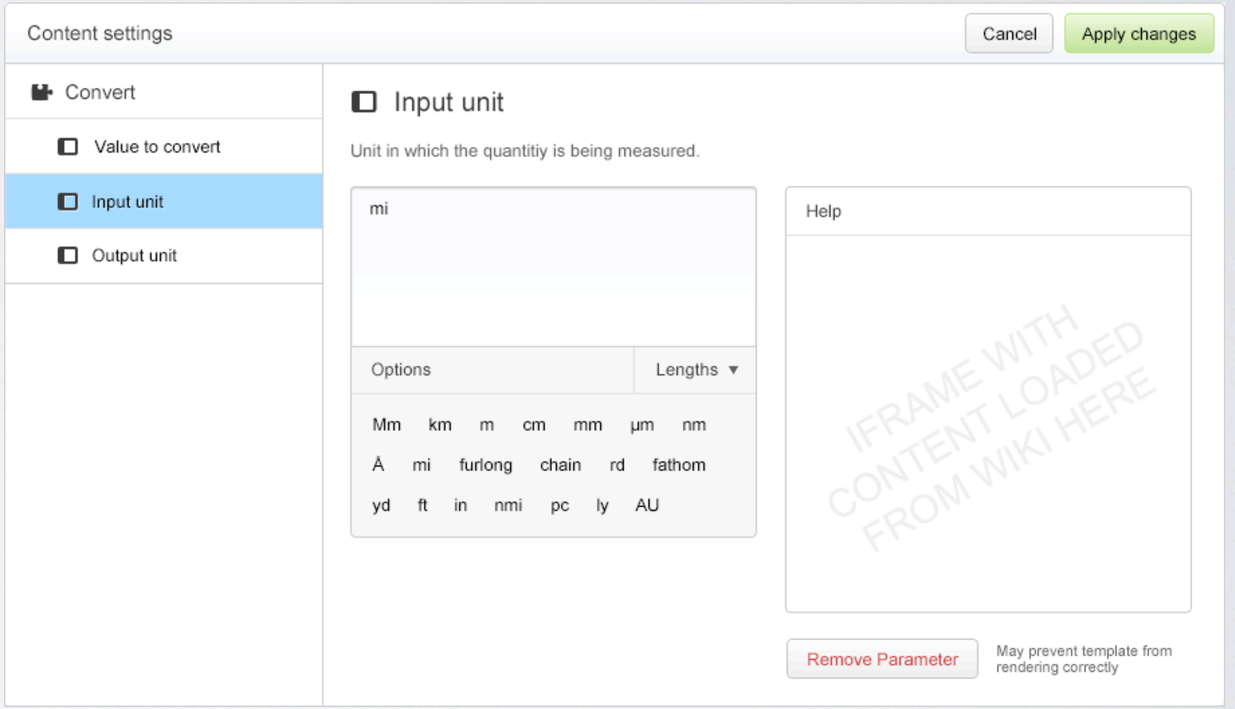
FIRST LOOK AT THE FOUR NEW FEATURES

Initial thoughts; user experience and design may change before release

TEMPLATE DIALOG

- Lets editors add new template invocations and edit the parameters for existing ones.
- Will use a new *TemplateData* extension to hint what a template's parameters can be.
- Fall-back to providing the parameters as used on the page and the ability to add free-form ones for un-hinted templates.
- Very complex / multi-part templates may not work, at least at first.

Mockup



REFERENCE DIALOG

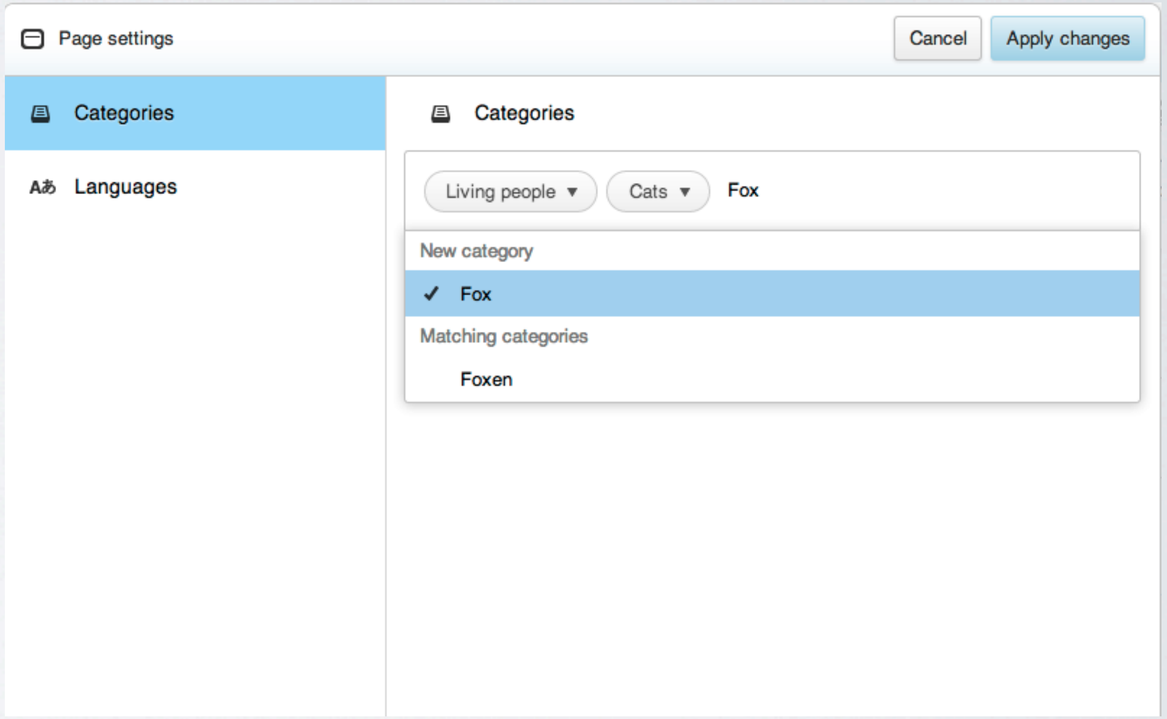
- Lets editors add new references, duplicate references, and edit existing ones' contents and citation name.
- Depends on the template dialog & hinting to usefully edit the majority of references.
- Not yet decided UX-wise how the `<ref>` & `<references/>` blocks will be edited.
- Grouped references (Notes *vs.* References) may not work, at least at first.

No mockup yet - envisioned to be very similar to the template dialog with the ability to embed templates as this is the common use case for references.

CATEGORY DIALOG

- Lets editors list the current categories, and add or modify them at a "page-level".
- Able to set and edit each category's sort-key, and the page's *DEFAULTSORT* setting.
- Also show editors the categories that are transcluded from templates (non-editable).
- In a wider page settings dialog for lang-links and other meta-data (*#REDIRECT*, *NOTOC*, *etc.*) which are scheduled post-July.

Screenshot (in development)



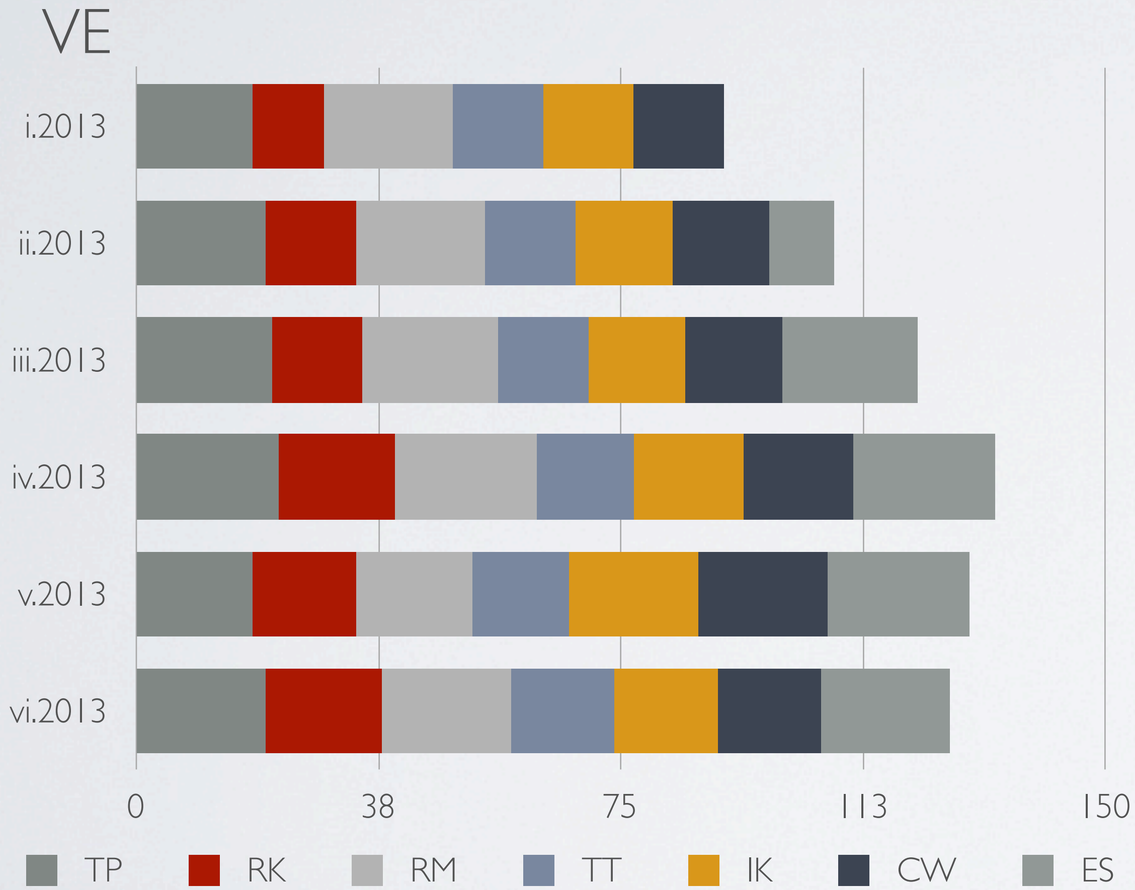
MEDIA DIALOG

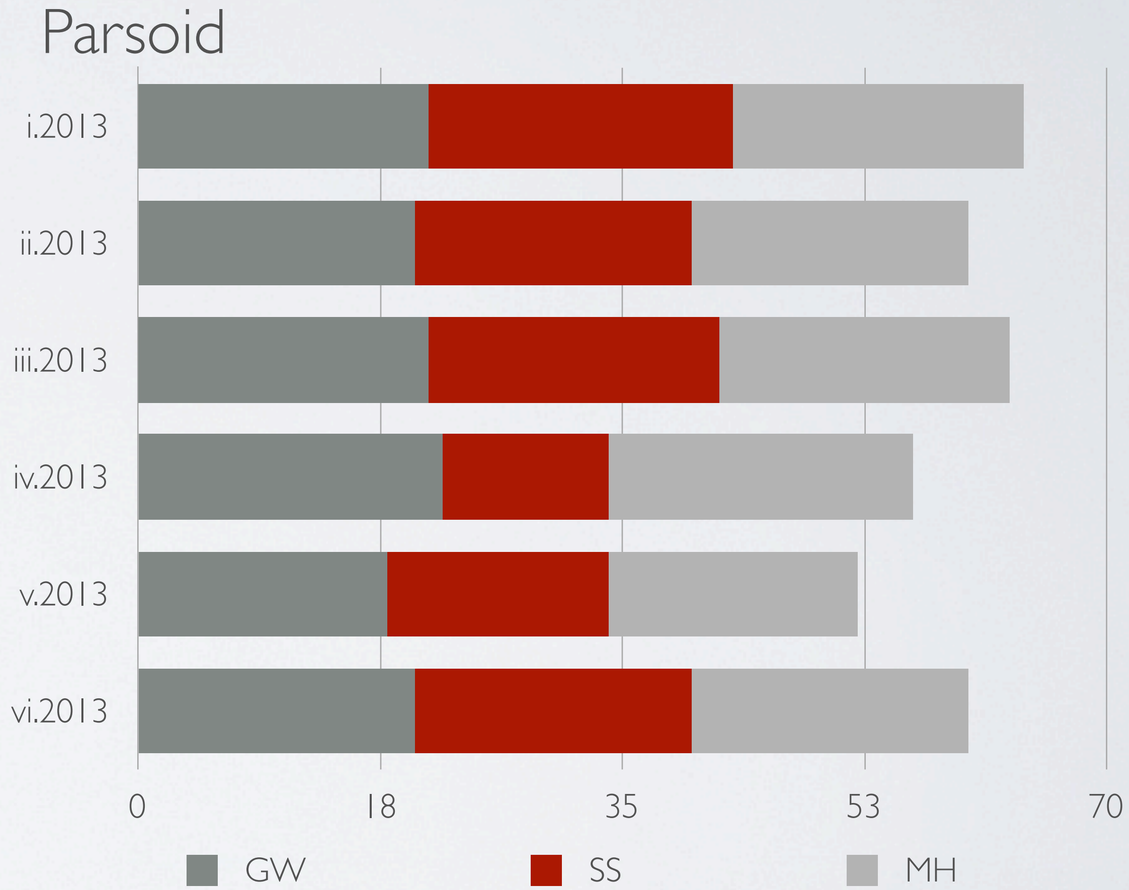
- Lets editors add new media items (photos, videos, …) or change the settings on one.
- Able to set and edit captions (in a mini-editor), size, thumb/frame, float status, *etc.*
- Adding new items will search the wiki's available libraries (extensible, *e.g.* YouTube for Wikia or Flickr|CC for Commons).
- Uploading new items on-page (through drag-and-drop) a future option (post-July).

No mockup yet - envisioned to be similar to the template and references dialogs with the ability to preview media items as users create them.

TEAM RESOURCING

Rough projected developer man-days show by month, team member; excludes weekends, holidays, school days, Hackathon





PROJECTED DELIVERABLES

By 1 July 2013

- An editor that can edit the majority of content that new users will be expected to create or alter (text, links, lists, categories, images, references, and at least the core 'basic' templates like `{{cite web}}`).
- A parser that copes with a greater range of wikitext variations, as a service scaled to handle Wikimedia's edit rate (~10Hz).
- An integration for MediaWiki that replaces the "Edit" button (the wikitext editor will still be available through "Edit source"), deployed on all language Wikipedias and possibly Meta and Commons.
- A way for editors to mark up templates to hint to the VisualEditor how editors should use the parameters - which go with which, and if they should be of a certain type.

VISUALEDITOR: MAJOR TASKS

By 1 July 2013

- Template hinting and dialog for simple ones
- References dialog
- Categories dialog
- Media insertion dialog
- VisualEditor IME support confirmed
- Support for Microsoft Internet Explorer
- Finish infrastructure re-write of VisualEditor APIs (mainly the node handler API so that new handlers can easily be written)
- Automated browser testing framework

VISUALEDITOR: MAJOR & STRETCH TASKS

Possible but unlikely to be delivered by 1 July 2013; not given in any particular order

- Template hinting and dialog ~~for simple ones~~
- References dialog
- Categories dialog
- Media insertion dialog
- VisualEditor IME support confirmed
- Support for Microsoft Internet Explorer
- Finish infrastructure re-write of VisualEditor APIs (mainly the node handler API so that new handlers can easily be written)
- Automated browser testing framework
- Definition lists (`;Item :Definition`)
- Page-level source edit mode integration
- µ-VE surface for wikitext-able log entries

PARSOID: MAJOR TASKS

By 1 July 2013

- Editing citations, templates & tag extensions
- Localisation support for non-English wikis
- Generate and store HTML DOM on edit
- Round-trip testing to test non-English pages
- Editing support for images and categories
- HTTP API to render extension tags directly
- Start recording performance data from round-trip testing

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- HTTP API to render extension tags directly
- Start recording performance data from round-trip testing
- Incremental re-parsing after wikitext edits
- Research & implement initial HTML-only wiki support (running without wikitext)
- Research DOM-based templating

TECHNICAL RISKS & MITIGATIONS

- Corruption from Parsoid/VisualEditor saves
  - Could re-enable diff-before-every-save
- Missed features; without what can we go?
  - Critical: categories & references (inc. their templates like `{{cite web}}`); if these are unavailable, we won't proceed)
  - *Possible* to delay: Media, other templates
- Likely to be very high demand ∴ over-load of Parsoid service (or cluster in general?)
  - Testing Parsoid scalability/resource needs
  - We will work with Ops to order what additional boxes we forecast to need
  - Intend to do graduated roll-out; we could pull back from anonymous/all VE use if needed (but strong negative optics)

PRODUCT RISKS & MITIGATIONS

- Oliver's product risk analysis write-up:
  - Anticipates VE's impact on editors' edit triage workflows (NPP, AfD, *etc.*).
  - Concerns about communities' ability to withstand & cope with the added edits.
  - Worry that the communities might fail or break down in some ways, or will demand anti-wiki defensive measures.
- Oliver's suggested actions to take:
  - Further resourcing of Admin Tools to build up community tool kit ahead of wider VisualEditor roll-out.
  - More outreach work to communities of likely forthcoming increases in edits and preparing them for it.
  - Slower, graduated VisualEditor roll-out.

METRICS TO CONSIDER

Not yet confirmed

- A/B testing - VE *vs.* wikitext 50% cut of all new users on enwiki/wider for a fortnight:
  - Edit completion rate & time to complete (*Expectation*: rate to go up, time down)
  - %age & time users to reach 1…25 edits (*Expectation*: %ages to go up, time down)
  - Revert rate (*Expectation*: users are reverted less)
- Standing metrics (post-VE roll-out): *Overall figures & standard cohorts; to firm up*
  - Overall number of pages being created
  - Overall number of edits being made
  - Overall bytes added/removed
  - Number of edits to same article in a session (failed/test edits)

POTENTIAL ROLL-OUT PLAN

The dates given are illustrative, <u>not</u> definitive

- w/c 27 May: Ready-to-go code test deploy
- w/c 3 June: A/B metrics test & review
- w/c 24 June: Final go/no-go decision
- w/c 1 July: VE as default editor for enwiki
- w/c 15 July: VE as default editor for top 10
- w/c 29 July: VE as default editor for all WPs

- The "default editor" mode will replace the edit tab from *action=edit* to *veaction=edit* and add a "Edit source" tab for the former.
- The "all Wikipedias" plan relies on an earlier (soon!) deployment of Parsoid to test with the communities that it works in practice.
- Once rolled-out it'll be (very) awkward to pull back, so let's be reasonably sure that it's not going to break things or fall over.

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2013/14 PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

Proposed, not confirmed

- Stability/performance/scalability [early Q2]
  - Important to bed down as a platform for us, and to attract new core contributors from non-WM/-MW environments.
  - Want to pay down our "technical debt" and make further changes cheaper.
  - Also likely to cover some i18n/l10n issue fixes that will become apparent.
- Alpha real-time collaboration [early Q4]
  - Next major phase of the VE platform, as a production experiment (session opt-in).
  - Will test our assumptions and structures, and likely trigger rework and refactoring.
  - Great many product issues to consider.
  - Planned for full build-out in FY 2014/15.

2013/14 ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES

Proposed, not confirmed

- VisualEditor
  - Editing table structure as well as content
  - A micro-VE for wikitext-able log entries
  - Visual diffs and history viewing/playback
  - Editing galleries (crucial for Commons)
  - Drag-and-drop file upload to Commons
- Parsoid
  - Support HTML-only wikis w/o Parsoid
  - Focus on performance & efficiency
- Integrate our work with other WMF priority areas: Flow, Mobile, …
- Integrate with non-Wikipedia wikis' crucial tools (e.g. ProofreadPage)

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QUESTIONS?