

Comment Is Free

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This is a text for hundreds of voices.

It should feel noisy - things should overlap, and the ends of sentences don't always have to be heard.

FX - RADIO 4 PIPS

The journalist and political commentator Alistair Cooper today sparked controversy

Alistair Cooper/Alistair Cooper said/I hate Alistair Cooper

I hate Alistair Cooper so much.

What's he said now?

Awful views. Awful man.

God I hate Alistair Cooper.

FX - ALISTAIR'S VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available right now but please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.

HILARY

Alistair it's me. Can you pick something up on your way home, I'm going late at work again sorry love you bye.

Alistair Cooper and wife

Alistair Cooper, wife alongside him

Alistair Cooper's wife is gorgeous

Alistair Cooper's wife Hilary sports gorgeous halterneck dress as she attends

Alistair Cooper's wife Hilary looks stylish alongside her husband as he collects

Not hard to see why she married him is it. Kerching!

She doesn't need his money, she's posher than he is.

She's a QC apparently.

If she was my barrister I'd question her judgment.

Alistair Cooper pictured with his wife Hilary and their two year old daughter Agnes.

That poor child.

Imagine having Alistair Cooper as a father.

*Oh god he's spawned
People like him shouldn't be allowed kids.*

FX - VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available right now but please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.

HILARY

Hiya it's me just to remind you Agnes has her vaccination appointment but I'm having lunch with my brother so can't take her. Love you bye.

*Alistair Cooper today sparked outrage with fresh
comments on state schools.*

Comments on immigration

*After referring to union leader Ken McNeil as a
cockroach*

*Cooper, appearing on The Daily Politics argued that
Have you seen this?*

Have you seen what Cooper's said this time?

FX - ANY QUESTIONS THEME TUNE

JONATHAN DIMBLEBY

Hello and welcome to Any Questions from the Radio Theatre in Broadcasting House, London. On our panel this week is political commentator Alistair Cooper...

Not him again

*How can the BBC give a platform to a moron like him
He's a carbuncle on the backside of civilised society
and he needs to be removed permanently.*

I'd be happy to do that for you.

*Everybody hates you Alistair Cooper so just hurry up
and die.*

JONATHAN DIMBLEBY

Alistair Cooper - Your response?

Alistair Cooper's latest comments on immigration have sparked outrage on social media.

*With 'ShutUpAlistair' trending for a large part of the day
ShutUpAlistair*

Hahaha love that ShutUpAlistair 's trending worldwide.

ShutUpAlistair/ShutUpAlistair/ShutUpAlistair

ShutUpAlistair I hate you. Now go away.

BEN

Heard Alistair on the radio.

HILARY

Was he good?

BEN

You didn't listen?

HILARY

Never do don't have time.

BEN

He really went for it.

HILARY

Always does.

BEN

He's getting worse. You really didn't listen? Some of the language he used -

HILARY

Why do you listen if he annoys you so much?

BEN

Alot of people are very upset.

HILARY

Oh they're always upset about something.

BEN

Maybe you should talk to him. Get him to tone things down. It's getting a bit out of hand.

HILARY

Don't be so dramatic.

BEN

I'm your brother.

HILARY

So

BEN

So I'm worried about you. People are really angry.

HILARY

Alistair's been saying stuff like this for years.

It's never bothered you before. What's this really about?

BEN

When I tell people he's my brother in law they.

There's a look I get a look.

HILARY

What sort of look?

BEN

Like an 'oh you're related to Hitler' look.

HILARY

Your lefty mates.

BEN

Yes but not just them. Strangers. People you meet.

HILARY

Dates you mean?

BEN

No. Well, yes sometimes. I was on one last week and it was all going really well right up until I said that my sister was married to Alistair Cooper. After that he couldn't wait to get out of there.

HILARY

I'm sure Alistair's going to be devastated he's interfering with your love life.

BEN

Doesn't it get to you? How much people hate him?

HILARY

Of course not. Never has. Alistair doesn't care what people think of him and neither do I.

There's always been two Alistair's. You know that. The real guy at home and the pantomime villain. At home he's a great dad, a wonderful husband and just about my favourite person on the planet. They can hate the panto version all they like.

I hate Alistair Cooper

I hate Alistair Cooper and everything he stands for.

I despise Alistair Cooper.

I quite like Alistair Cooper. I think he articulates what a lot of the country is feeling.

Hi I don't know you at all but just to say if you think Alistair Cooper is anything other than a toff waste of space then you're a terrible person.

21 Things Alistair Cooper said that are just plain wrong.

*Take our quiz. Who said this, Alistair or Adolf?
Fourteen photos where Alistair Cooper looks like a
toad.
Twenty-two pieces of ham that look like Alistair Cooper.
Bet he was bullied at school and now he's taking out on
the country.
Alistair Cooper.*

*Why don't you ShutUpAlistair and leave us in peace
ShutUpAlistair
Seriously, I don't usually say this but people like him
should be strung up.
Alistair Cooper's rhetoric is dangerous and needs to be
stopped.
The more people like Alistair Cooper are allowed to
denigrate the working class, the more our country will
feel divided.
I'm with you mate put a bullet in the back of their heads
Sign this petition ha ha!
A petition asking the government to deport the journalist
Alistair Cooper has reached almost 300,000 signatures
in just under a month
Yes!
Can we deport him to the bottom of the sea?*

FX - VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available right now but please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.

HILARY

Alistair. It's me. If you haven't been deported yet can you pick up some milk on your way home I'm working late again. Oh and some basil. See you soon love you bye.

The controversial columnist Alistair Cooper has once again sparked outrage.

Unbelievable

How can anyone from his background talk about inequality with a straight face.

Posho

Rich, arrogant man.

Don't give him the oxygen of publicity.

Don't give him oxygen full stop.

Guys can we please stop mentioning Alistair Cooper's name, it's exactly what he wants.

Love how you just named him.

Someone needs to silence Alistair Cooper fast. The longer he is allowed to spout his venom the more people will be hurt by the intolerance and hatred he inspires.

Completely agree.

You go for it mate sort him out.

FX - VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available right now but please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.

HILARY

Hiya, I'm still at the office but I just wanted to wish you good luck tonight. Remember to talk slowly. And don't do that smirky thing you do. Love you

FX - QUESTION TIME THEME TUNE

I swear Alistair Cooper is on Question Time every week.

Why is he always smirking.

Insert Alistair Cooper joke here.

*His face is like a ham. Hamface
He's a bag of meat with a head made of sausage.
Think Alistair Cooper's human suit is malfunctioning.
Makes me want to vomit.
Hate him/I hate him.*

*Gonna murder you and your wife slowly and then
drown your daughter.*

*Alistair Cooper today posted a defiant message in
response to threats made on social media.
Police are investigating threats made towards
Oh come on. Bit of an overreaction.
Obviously I don't condone comments like that but
Alistair Cooper does a lot more harm every day of his
life.
It's one isolated weirdo, probably a teenage boy.
World's smallest violin.
Someone like him can't say what they like and then
whine when other people do the same.*

HILARY (PHONE)

I'm at work Ben, what's up?

BEN (PHONE)

Mum was worried. She wanted me to call you. The
threats against Alistair -

HILARY (PHONE)

He gets them all the time. Bunch of weirdos

BEN

The things they're saying

HILARY

Sitting at their laptop with nothing better to do.
He finds it funny.

BEN

Funny?

HILARY

We both do. The police say it's nothing to worry about.
Think he's enjoying the attention to be honest.

BEN

Well that doesn't surprise me. Mum's worried about
you.

HILARY

Mum's worried about what people are saying round the
village. You both need to ignore it. Trust me, it's all just
noise.

FX - DESERT ISLAND DISCS THEME TUNE

KIRSTY YOUNG

My castaway this week is journalist and political
commentator Alistair Cooper.

Turn it off!

Used to like this program.

Why are they letting that toad on Desert Island Discs?

A desert island's the best place for him you ask me

KIRSTY

Let's turn now to your first choice of music.

*That awful feeling when Alistair Cooper likes the same
music as you.*

The band

*The lead singer of xxxxx released a statement today
after Alistair Cooper chose one of their songs for his
appearance on Desert island discs*

In a statement released on the band's website XXX wrote: 'Alistair Cooper. You are not allowed to be a fan of our music. Your values do not represent those of our band you odious little man. Yours

*Alistair Cooper once again/Alistair Cooper/Alistair Cooper/Worst person ever/Awful man
I just wanna shut him up any way I can.
ShutUpAlistair
I'm not usually in favour of assassination but...
Put an end to him.
He's evil
Hateful man
Everything he says is poison
Alistair/Alistair Cooper/Alistair Cooper I/I hate Alistair Cooper/Hate him/Shut up/Alistair Cooper needs to/Cooper/Cooper/Cooper/Cooper/Alistair/Hate him/Hate him/Shut up/Shut up/Shut up*

SHUT. UP.

FX - KNOCKING ON FRONT DOOR

HILARY

Coming. Coming. (*Opens door*)

POLICE OFFICER

Ms. Cooper?

HILARY

Yes.

POLICE OFFICER

My name is Detective Constable Pinner and this is Police Constable Houghton. We need to talk to you about your husband. Is it alright if we come in?

HILARY

Yes.

What's

What's going on?

FX - RADIO 4 PIPS

*The journalist and commentator Alistair Cooper has
been found dead*

Breaking news

Breaking news

Breaking news

Oh my god

*And we've got some rather shocking breaking news to
bring you just*

Holy shit

Oh wow

Oh my god

Breaking news

Alistair Cooper

*Alistair Cooper, political commentator and former editor
of the News of The World*

Alistair Cooper has died.

Has been found dead.

Dead.

Been found dead outside his Hampstead home.

Have you seen this?

Seen this? Alistair Cooper's dead.

*Alistair Cooper has been found dead outside his
Hampstead flat.*

Wahey! Maybe there is a God.

Dad! You can't say that

His poor family

Never liked him much

HILARY

I'm sorry. I.
I don't understand.

POLICE OFFICER

We're just trying to establish a timeline of events.

HILARY

I. I don't know I. Spoke to him about ten thirty I. We said
goodnight.

POLICE OFFICER

And you were here the whole night?

HILARY

Yes. I. My daughter's upstairs.

POLICE OFFICER

Can you think of anyone that might have wished harm
on your husband?

*Alistair Cooper found dead this morning. Police are
More to follow.*

*Breaking/Breaking/Breaking/Ali/Alistair
Cooper/Ohmygod/Can't believeit/knew someone
would/You're not gonna believe*

More to follow.

Horrible thing.

What a terrible thing.

Oh my god how awful.

I didn't like the man but this is awful

Never liked the man but this terrible.

What a dreadful thing to have happened.

*Didn't agree with his politics but I never thought that he
deserved this.*

Never agreed with the man but that's just awful.

Awful thing to have happened.

Never agreed with the man but this is too much

Would never have wished anything like this on the man.

Can't believe it.

What is wrong with this country?

Yet more evidence that our country is broken.

I didn't agree with his politics but

Whether or not you agreed with his politics

Whether you thought he was right or not

Whether you liked him or not.

Whether you agreed with him or not.

Whether you agreed with his politics or not.

Whether you thought he could be a vicious bastard.

Whether you liked or loathed him.

Whether you

Whether or not you

Even if you hated his politics

Nobody deserves this.

Nobody deserves this

He doesn't deserve this.

Nobody deserves this.

POLICE OFFICER

Someone will be around to talk to you tomorrow. Have you got somebody you can call?

HILARY

My. My brother. Ben.

POLICE OFFICER

By now the media will have picked up the story. If you can, try and stay away from the television, the internet. We'll keep you abreast of everything that's going on.

Well.

Well.

Wonder what ?

What happened?

What happened?

Wonder how he died.

*How did he die does it say?
Outside his home.
A lot of blood apparently.
We'll bring you more when we
Reporting from the scene is
Who the hell is Alistair Cooper?
Looks like Alistair Cooper finally went too far.
Finally went too far did he.
That's what happens if you keep pushing people.
I'm sorry to say it but it's hardly a surprise is it.
Don't want to sound insensitive but this shows what
happens when you try and make people hate you.*

BEN (PHONE)

I. I can't believe it.

HILARY (PHONE)

They don't know what happened.

BEN (PHONE)

The news alert on my phone went off and I just
How's Agnes?

HILARY (PHONE)

Ben. They need somebody to identify the body. I don't
think I can

BEN (PHONE)

Of course. Just tell me where I need to go. I'll come
right over once it's done.

HILARY (PHONE)

I don't know what to do. I don't know what I'm supposed
to do.

*Didn't like the man but am sorry to hear
Never liked the man but*

*As far as the cause of death goes, nothing has been confirmed yet although
We're still waiting to hear exactly what the cause of death was although neighbours are talking about a lot of blood and it's hard to look beyond an attack.
My mate works for the Standard, he just text to say Alistair Cooper was stabbed.
Murdered/has been/stab wounds/suspicious circumstances/possibly murdered/suspects are/
Cooper was rushed to nearby Royal Free Hospital but was pronounced dead on arrival.
Cooper's body found*

HILARY

He was staying in the flat in town. Had an early TV interview this morning. A neighbour found him but
There was nothing they could

BEN

Here. Drink this.

HILARY

Agnes is upstairs. I haven't told her yet.
I don't know how. She's two years old. How do I explain this to her?

BEN

I don't know.

HILARY

The news. She's going to see the news.
Online. They're saying
Saying all sorts of things.

BEN

You shouldn't read all that.

HILARY

Theories about what happened.
I don't know what to believe.

BEN

Don't pay attention to any of that. Just focus on Agnes
for now eh?

Police

Police are

The murder of Alistair Cooper

Looking for any information that might

What happened

Wonder what happened

Oh my god he was murdered.

Who was?

Alistair Cooper.

Who's Alistair Cooper?

The one you say looks like the dad out of Downton.

Oh liked him.

Can't believe it

Wow

Unbelievable news

How tragic

What a tragedy.

HILARY

My phone keeps going off. Everyone already knows.
Our friends. His family. Work.

BEN

The whole country knows Hil. He was very. Well
known.

HILARY

But it should be me that breaks the news to them.
Shouldn't it? That's my job.
Oh my god work I need to call work

BEN

Just, come here. Sit down.

HILARY

I've got so much I need to get done and
And

I keep thinking.
He must've. Must've been so scared.

BEN

I know. Shhh. It's alright. It's alright.

HILARY

How can this have happened I don't don't understand. I
need to understand.

Well. That's certainly news to wake up to.

Good.

To be honest I'm happy.

Oh well. Never liked him.

Knew this would happen.

*You just know that this is gonna be used as a stick to
beat the left with.*

*I just hope that people don't use this to make him some
sort of martyr.*

Obviously politically motivated.

Died for what he believed in.

Died saying what he thought.

*Can we please stop politicising a man's death before
the body's cold thank you.*

Still waiting for the facts to come in.

Let's hold our horses on declaring Cooper's death as this or that please.

We don't even know if it was murder.

Heard he was stabbed.

They're saying he was stabbed.

We're hearing unconfirmed rumours that Alistair Cooper was stabbed.

Let's try and wait for the facts before we start jumping to conclusions shall we?

We don't know what happened so let's just hold off until we do.

FX - HILARY'S PHONE RINGS OVER AND OVER

HILARY (ON PHONE)

Hi, thanks for ringing.

Police are still carrying out enquiries into the murder of Alistair Cooper.

A video of Alistair Cooper circulating. Taken by a neighbour.

Footage of Alistair Cooper's corpse taken by a neighbour

HILARY (ON PHONE)

Hi thanks for calling.

Warning. Some viewers may find these images disturbing.

HILARY (ON PHONE)

So lovely of you to call yes it's all a bit of a shock.

Shocking footage of the moment Alistair Cooper's body was found.

HILARY (ON PHONE)

Thank you, that means a lot. We're ok. Still trying to process.

I'm sorry. Video? What video?

Have you seen the video of Alistair Cooper's body.

So much blood

Can't believe it

We really shouldn't be watching this

Have you seen the video.

Awful.

HILARY

That video I want it taken off the internet I don't want anyone else sharing it.

BEN

I don't think that's possible.

HILARY

I'm one of the best lawyers in the country Ben of course it's possible.

BEN

It's too late. It's already all over the news.

Looks like a horror film/poor man/so much blood/that's awful

Tore him to pieces didn't they.

Didn't agree with a word he said but RIP

Everyone sharing that neighbour's video of Cooper's body should have a bit of respect.

WATCH: The shocking moment where Video/footage/footage of Alistair Cooper as neighbour finds/

Shocking/horrible/gross/awful/

D'you wanna watch it?

No of course I don't want to watch it! What happens in it?

Well, the neighbour is looking over the garden wall and she's turned her phone on and you can see this body just lying there outside the front door and then you can hear a dog barking because she was walking her dog, and then you can hear her say 'scuse me, scuse me' and she goes down the garden path and that's when she realises he's dead.

Oh my god.

She films the body, right up close. Everything is covered in blood seriously, it's awful really awful. He's been stabbed loads of times and his stomach is kind of Jesus. Really?

It's. So awful. Are you sure you don't want to watch it?

HILARY

You were right. There's no way to take down that video. I tried. But it's everywhere.

BEN

Did you watch it? Hilary? Tell me you didn't watch it.

HILARY

Agnes is going to see it one day.

BEN

Not necessarily.

HILARY

When she's older. I can't stop her. My daughter will, at some point in her life, watch a video of her father like. That.

FX - HILARY WATCHES THE VIDEO

EMMA WATKINS

Excuse me. Excuse me you alright?

*Can't believe people are watching that video
Anyone watching that video ought to be ashamed of
themselves.*

*Who would take a video of a man's body like that
Anyone else finding this a bit tasteless
So the women finds him lying there and decides to film it
for the news? Grim.*

She's a vuture

Parasite

The neighbour.

The woman who

*Emma Watkins, the neighbour of Alistair Cooper who
photographed and filmed his corpse before calling for
an ambulance has said she regrets sharing the images.*

EMMA WATKINS

It was an instinct thing. I took the photos and the video
without thinking. I shared them because I share
everything interesting I take.

*Idiot/Stupid woman/What an/can't believe/i'd
never/anyone in their right mind would*

EMMA WATKINS

Fifteen minutes later I regretted my actions and deleted
my post, but by then it was too late. The images had
gone viral.

*Ms. Watkins, who along with two other local residents
attended to Mr. Cooper before the arrival of the
emergency services revealed that she had received
death threats since the incident.*

EMMA WATKINS

I deeply regret

*Disrespectful bitch hope one day you know what it's
like to die like that*

EMMA WATKINS

I deeply regret

*I should cut open someone you love and send the
pictures round the world.*

EMMA WATKINS

I deeply regret any offence I caused, and my heart
goes out to Mr. Cooper's family.

*I'm hearing that Emma Watkins has had her contract
terminated by*

*Woman who shared Cooper footage SACKED by
employer.*

*We are a company that believes wholeheartedly in
empathy and respect for one's fellow human beings,
which is why we will not be working with Ms. Watkins
again in the future.*

Good.

Good.

Serves her right.

Hope no-one ever employs the silly woman ever again.

*Ali/Alistair/Alistair Cooper/Coop/Cooper/Alistair
Cooper/Alistai/air Cooper/Cooper/Alistair Cooper/Alistair
Cooper/Alistair Cooper/Alistair*

BEN

What are you doing?

HILARY

Reading.

BEN

You're searching for Alistair's name?

HILARY

It's interesting. All these people talking about him,
talking to him. The sheer volume.

*Cooper/Co/Cooper/Co/Co/Coo/Cooper/Alistair/Alistair
Cooper*

BEN

Why don't you try and get some sleep.

HILARY

I'm fine.

At the moment it's mostly condolences.

My heart goes out to his family.

I hope Hilary Cooper is alright.

*What a horrible thing to happen he was a good
principled man that spoke his mind.*

RIP

Condolences to his family.

Hope his family are doing ok.

Love and strength to his family.

A good man.

Didn't agree with him but he was a good man.

HILARY

But if you go back a few days.

I hate Alistair Cooper

Alistair Cooper is a

I hope Alistair Cooper gets what he deserves.

I hate Alistair Cooper/hate/hate/hate Alistair Cooper

Awful man

Hateful man

Evil prick
Ugly bastard

BEN

I don't think it's healthy to be reading all of this.

HILARY

I don't want to miss anything.

BEN

What are you going to miss?

HILARY

What they're saying. What they said. It makes me feel better. People care.

BEN

We still haven't talked about the funeral.

HILARY

There's no point until they release the body.

BEN

Why not turn it off eh?

HILARY

I'm making a record. Taking note of everyone who sent him hate speech, everyone who posted threatening things.

BEN

You're joking.

HILARY

The things they say about him. You tried to tell me how bad it was but.

I had no idea. These people.

They're monsters.

BEN

Yes. Well. It's hardly surprising.

That's what happens when

HILARY

What.

BEN

No nothing. You're right. It's disgusting.

HILARY

What?

BEN

He was very good at getting a rise out of people. That's all I'm saying.

He had. There were a lot of people who were very angry with some of the things he said. Understandably some might say.

HILARY

Are you saying it's his fault?

BEN

No of course not.

HILARY

That he caused this somehow?

BEN

Of course I'm not I just.

HILARY

We don't even know who did it. It could have been a mugging a random attack or

BEN

You're absolutely right.

HILARY

They might not have known who he was.

BEN

That's a possibility. Of course. It's just. Unlikely. A lot of people had their issues with him -

HILARY

So he deserved to die?

BEN

No but you can't be surprised when

HILARY

You always hated him.

BEN

That's not true. Just because I didn't agree with him doesn't mean -

HILARY

Maybe it's time you went home.

BEN

Hilary. Come on. You're exhausted.

HILARY

I'm fine. I'd just like you to leave.

BEN

I didn't mean anything by it. I was just.

HILARY

I'd like to be alone with my daughter.

Can you go now.

Please.

Alistair Cooper

The murder of Alistair Cooper

Police are investigating leads and are asking for

Who did it?

Wonder who did it?

How can they not have caught him?

*Who is this man? Police release security footage
relating to Alistair Cooper murder.*

*A man seen to be lurking outside the Cooper household
just hours before he was murdered.*

Do you recognise this man? Call this number!

FX - ALISTAIR'S VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR (VOICEMAIL)

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available right now but please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.

HILARY

It's. It's me. This is stupid. I don't know why I'm. I just wanted to hear your voice. This is silly. I.

I just. I keep waiting for you to

Nope.

This is stupid.

ALISTAIR (VOICEMAIL)

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper.

Manhunt begins for shady figure lurking outside Cooper residence.

Who is the man in the hat?

We'd be very interested to talk to the person in this photograph.

Man on security footage revealed to be 42 year old Mustafa Richards

42 year old local man Mustafa Richards

British Turkish man Mustafa Richards

Turkish man Mustafa Richards questioned by police over Alistair Cooper murder.

Hilary Cooper

Alistair Cooper's wife Hilary drops two year old daughter Agnes off at a friend's house

Brave Hilary Cooper drops adorable daughter off at friend's house in pretty blue dress.

Poor little girl.

Aw, that poor little girl. Having lost my own mum seven years ago I know exactly how she's feeling.

These pics bring back just how hard it is to lose a parent. Miss you dad.

Aww, thinkin of you babes. Much love.

Little angel I wonder how much she knows

Alistair Cooper's daughter Agnes looks adorable in little blue dress.

Who is Hilary Cooper: private woman thrust into spotlight after husband's death.

An exhausted Hilary Cooper takes daughter to friend's house.

Tired Hilary Cooper

Exhausted Hilary Cooper.

Poor woman.

Poor woman.

I'm hearing reports

Breaking news

Breaking

Breaking

Breaking

I'm getting reports that police have arrested a 42 year old man for the murder of Alistair Cooper.

BEN (PHONE)

Hi. It's Ben. I saw the news about the arrest.

Give me a call. I'm worried about you. I'm sorry. I never meant to.

Just give me a call please. Ok.

Police arrest local man in connection with murder of Alistair Cooper.

WHO IS MUSTAFA RICHARDS. The shady life of Alistair Cooper suspect.

Was Alistair Cooper murder an act of terrorism?

Was Mustafa Richards working under orders?

Who is behind the murder of Alistair Cooper?

Apparently he used to send him emails. All the time.

'HI ALISTAIR' Murder suspect's emails tell the tale of a sad, lonely obsession.

Of all the celebrities to obsess over, imagine picking Alistair Cooper.

Surely that was more than enough grounds to declare him insane!

EDITOR (PHONE)

Hilary. It's Paul. Alistair's Editor?

How are you? Everyone at the paper is devastated.

Just devastated.

HILARY

Thank you.

EDITOR

He was a courageous man. His columns were so important to the fabric of the publication.

We still can't believe it. We're all in shock

HILARY

Yes. Well.

EDITOR

We were wondering if you'd like to write something for us? Maybe something celebrating Alistair's work?

HILARY

I. I'm not sure. What would I have to do?

EDITOR

Maybe pick out some favourite recent columns or interviews and write about what he meant to you? We think it could be a lovely way to pay tribute to him. What do you think?

Alistair Cooper murder suspect posted picture of him hours before.

Cooper suspect posted a picture of him TWO MONTHS AGO.

Picture of Cooper posted on profile of murder suspect.

That poor man's daughter got no dad just cos some weirdo took a shine to him. Aint right.

I hope that Mustafa Richards is sitting in that cell thinking about Alistair Cooper's wife and daughter.

Look at his eyes. Gives me shivers.

They say he did it with an ordinary kitchen knife.

FIVE LIVE PRESENTER

Hello you're listening to Radio Five Live. Our topic today: Should there be stricter legislation on who can buy kitchen knives? We want to hear your thoughts.

CALLER

I don't know why more people don't talk about this. My two year old can go in and buy a knife from Sainsbury's.

CALLER 2

Knives can kill and I think only those qualified to use them properly and not people who are disturbed should be able to buy them because obviously they are needed instruments but also there's peoples lives at stake so yeah.

FIVE LIVE

Ok! Thanks for calling Let's go to John from Norwich

Listen to this. What was the last thing to go through Alistair Cooper's head? The knife.

I heard Alistair Cooper's wife wanted to repaint the front door but he was dead against it.

Apparently Alistair Cooper's wife wanted to repaint the front door but he was dead against it.

What was the last thing to go through Alistair Cooper's head? The knife.

Cooper's wife wanted to repave the garden but he was dead against it.

What was the last thing to go through Alistair Cooper's head? The knife.

Alistair Cooper's wife wanted to repaint the front door but he was dead against it.

Alistair Cooper's wife wanted to repaint the front door but he was dead against it.

I don't find that funny.

This isn't something to joke about.

That's disgusting.

Please don't joke about this.

Here we go, listen to this one. What was the last thing to go through Alistair Cooper's head?

The knife.

Oh you've heard it.

FX - ALISTAIR'S VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available right now but please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.

HILARY

Hello. It's me. I know I said this was stupid but. I've had a few glasses of. So. I've been reading your columns. Watching interviews. And They want me to write about you and I want to but. I wish you were here so I could ask you. Did you know what you were doing? Did you want them to hate you as much as they did? God I wish you were here.

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper.

POLICE OFFICER (PHONE)

Ms. Cooper. Detective Pinner. There's been a development in our investigation.

HILARY

What do you mean a development?

FX - RADIO 4 PIPS

A confession.

*My name is Eric Clarke and I killed Alistair Cooper.
Please let Mustafa Richards go I don't want an innocent man going to prison for an act I did.
This act that I did I did it for all of you.*

I killed him in your name I killed him because everyone talks and talks about stopping these people but nobody ever does anything.

Wow are people seeing this

Joker

Wind up

Fake

Obviously fake

Oh my god

Can anyone confirm if this is real?

Breaking

Breaking

Breaking News.

Breaking.

Breaking.

Essex man arrested for murder of Alistair Cooper after confessing online.

32 Year Old Essex man has been arrested for the murder of Alistair Cooper

More to follow

More to

Essex man Eric Clarke has been arrested for the murder of Alistair Cooper after sensational internet confession.

Oh my god have you seen this?

Have you seen this.

He confessed online.

Have you read this?

What does he mean 'In your name?'

He posted it this morning

In whose name? Who's he talking about?

They went straight round and arrested him.

If this was a joke then I bet he's regretting it now.

That can't be real. That's not real surely.

I'm hearing that in Clarke's house they found a murder weapon and bloody clothes.

Blood found on Eric Clarke's clothes matches that of murdered journalist Alistair Cooper.

HILARY (PHONE)

Ben?

BEN

I heard.

HILARY

Can you

I need

BEN

Stay there.

I'll be right over.

And I'm hearing

We're getting reports that

Eric Clarke, the man arrested for the murder of Alistair Cooper was a longtime commenter on his articles.

Clarke had commented under Cooper's articles for just over a year

Some of Clarke's comments had been reported for threatening language and questions are being asked why the Metropolitan police didn't investigate sooner.

Knew it.

I told you.

Knew that the way people talk about people like Cooper was going to have repercussions.

In a further statement to the police Mr. Clarke said he was acting in the best interest of the country, and had silenced Alistair Cooper because it was 'what the people wanted.'

HILARY

'What the people wanted.'?

BEN

I'm so sorry.

HILARY

'The best interests of the country.'

BEN

About before. I never meant to -

HILARY

Don't be. You were right.

BEN

Don't say that.

HILARY

I've been going back through Alistair's recent articles. His interviews. Some of the things he's been saying. It doesn't even sound like him. He never used to be like this.

BEN

It's not just him. Everything's getting. Noisier.

HILARY

And now this. So many people hated him.

BEN

It was an act. You said it yourself. It wasn't the real him.

HILARY

That doesn't matter.

He said those things. Things that made someone so angry they stabbed him to stop him saying any more.

'What the people wanted.' That's what he said.

BEN

It doesn't matter what he said. He's a madman.

HILARY

I always said I was too busy to read the things Alistair wrote.

But. Maybe I just didn't want to know.

This man thought it was better to kill him than to let another one of his opinions out into the world.

BEN

Look at me. Nobody disagreed with Alistair more than I did. You know that. He infuriated me. Pushed every one of my buttons - something he enjoyed doing by the way. I remember thinking when you first got together: 'Oh God, who's this chino-wearing, rugby-loving loudmouth and what's he doing with my sister?' He could be So. Bloody. Annoying. That first year he came for Christmas. The Thatcher incident -

HILARY

Mum never forgave him.

BEN

But despite all that, despite his politics and his brashness and the way he sometimes spoke to waiters, I liked him. I really did. He was a good man. Generous. Funny. And he loved my sister, who loved him back.

You can't blame Alistair for this. No one could have predicted it. He was just unlucky.

HILARY

Unlucky.

BEN

Listen to me. Whatever he did, said, in his career. He didn't deserve this. You understand that, don't you?

In a post on the forum on 26 March, Clarke wrote "Someone needs to silence Alistair Cooper fast. The longer he's allowed to spout his venom the more people will be hurt by the intolerance and hatred he inspires". Mustafa Richards released without charge. Comments underneath Clarke's post included 'completely agree' and 'you go for it mate ha ha'. Police have said they will investigate all those involved in the discussion...

*IN YOUR NAME: Killer blames internet hatred for crime.
CONFESSION OF A MURDERER: The internet forum that fostered anti-Cooper hatred.
What do we know about Eric Clarke?*

*I HATE ALISTAIR COOPER: Eric Clarke's vile posts about murdered journalist.
Some of the things Clarke said about him turn my stomach:*

I hate Alistair Cooper.

The man is a hate-filled, black-hearted goblin.

Dear Alistair Cooper. I hate you. Now go away.

Alistair Cooper makes me want to tear my eyes out.

*Disgusting.
Some of those Eric Clarke comments about Cooper send a shiver down your spine.
It's amazing that no-one picked up on it sooner.*

Should Eric Clarke even have been walking the streets? Leaked psychiatric report shows a history of mental illness.

*Cooper murder suspect had been sectioned TWICE.
Well there you go.*

*Oh dear. Seems like a bit of a weirdo.
Seems like a disturbed man. If only he'd had God in his
life.
Yeah that's just what he needs, more delusions.
A loner with a history of mental illness.
Loner with a history of mental illness.
Can we stop bringing up Eric Clarke's mental illness as
if that's an excuse.
Obviously politically motivated.
Politics involved.
It's clearly politically motivated so stop trying to explain
it away as the act of a madman.
He knew exactly what he was doing.
Love how many lefties are talking about this guy's
mental illness it's obvious why he did it.
Bloody social workers softly softly approach I mean
this was an accident waiting to happen wasn't it.*

*Hilary Cooper has yet to speak out about her
husband's murder but is said by close friends to be
His wife still hasn't said anything about
Must be in shock poor woman.
You'd have thought she'd have said something by now.*

FX - VOICEMAIL

ALISTAIR

Hello, you've reached Alistair Cooper. I'm not available
right now but please leave me a message and I'll get
back to you.

HILARY

Alistair.

I.

I'm so angry with you.

Why. Why did you have to go that far. Write those
things. Say those things.

You pushed them and pushed them and pushed them
until one of them did this.
Always chasing the biggest possible reaction. Well
here's your reaction. I hope you're happy.
I'm sorry.
I'm here. By myself.
I've got to do this all by myself.
I love you. I miss you so much. I am so angry with you.

-
*Whether you agreed with Alistair Cooper or not this is
an attack on free speech.
I don't want to live in a country where we're afraid
Freedom of speech
Our freedom of speech is threatened by attacks like
this
An attack like this is silencing our free press
Freedom of expression is what makes this country
great and I for one.
The free press is under threat from attacks like these.
We will not stand by and let such a horrific attack on the
freedom of our press.
We don't know that's why he did it. We don't know why
he did it.
Get your head out of the clouds mate.
You're seriously saying this was a coincidence?
No I'm just saying we should wait for the facts.
Facts? The fact is this guy had been commenting on
Cooper's articles, sending him emails.
Whether you agreed with Alistair Cooper or not.
Whether you agreed with his politics or not, now's the
time to stand together against hatred.
Some of the stuff Cooper said was pretty hateful.
What are you saying, that he deserved to die?
That's got nothing to do with it
That's irrelevant
The content of his articles is irrelevant. This is an
attack on a principle.*

Just because he had opinions that some people found difficult.

Can't even imagine what Cooper's wife must be going through right now.

How can he say that he killed Alistair Cooper in our name?

Not in my name mate.

Not in my name.

No, Eric Clarke, you do not speak for me. NotInMyName

Eric Clarke you did not kill him in my name.

I did not like Alistair Cooper. But he was an honest principled man and I didn't want him dead.

Some of this violent language that people used about Alistair Cooper is really frightening.

The hypocrisy of some of the people on here who were calling Cooper every name under the sun just a few weeks ago.

I for one never took part in that sort of thing.

'What have we learnt from fallout to the Alistair Cooper murder?'

Totally agree with this.

This article sums up exactly how I feel.

Great read.

Really good read.

Really glad somebody has said this.

Lovely article today John. Getting a lot of traction.

NotInMyName

NotInMyName

NotInMyName

Please share NotInMyName if you disagree with what Eric Clarke did.

NotInMyName

NotInMyName

*10 reasons why Eric Clarke does not speak for us all.
Please share. NotInMyName Please share. Please
share.*

*Dear All. On Thursday there will be a NotInMyName
candlelit vigil in Trafalgar Square in support of free
speech.*

Free speech.

*No matter his politics, Alistair Cooper was a great
champion of free speech. Let's all gather in Trafalgar
Square to speak for his legacy.*

HILARY

*Agnes still doesn't really understand. She knows
something's wrong but. I've tried to explain. I don't think
it's sinking in.*

BEN

You can't expect. At that age.

HILARY

They've asked me to speak at this vigil.

BEN

You know you don't have to if you don't want -

HILARY

Will you have a read of my speech?

*The wife of Alistair Cooper, yet to comment on his
murder so far.*

Wonder why she hasn't said anything.

Still hasn't said anything about it.

*Maybe she's not that sad! Not sure I would be if I had to
live with him.*

*Don't be so disrespectful the woman has been through
something unimaginable.*

You're a monster

It was only a joke.

BEN

I finished the speech.

HILARY

Is it alright?

BEN

It's great but.

Are you sure you want to say this about Alistair's work?

HILARY

Somebody's got to. And if it comes from me it really means something. You're right. Of course you're right.

None of this was Alistair's fault.

But that still doesn't mean he should've said the things he said.

Hilary Cooper, the wife of Alistair Cooper, is due to speak today at a vigil in Trafalgar Square.

Wonderful scenes at Trafalgar Square tonight

NotInMyName

Wish I could be in Trafalgar Square tonight looks beautiful.

Wish I could be there.

Would love to be there.

FX - OUTSIDE AT A VIGIL - APPLAUSE - HILARY

ADDRESSES FROM THE STAGE

HILARY

Thank you.

I'd like to say a few words about my husband.

He was a good man. A wonderful father. A loving, supportive husband.

And I loved him more than anything in the world.

The wife

The wife

*The wife of Alistair Cooper spoke movingly today,
decrying the violent language of politics.*

HILARY

Free speech is a privilege. The words we use are important.

Well said.

Beautifully put.

So moving.

Really moving.

Tears to my eyes.

Bit self serving.

I spy a media career

In a speech that called for moderation and an end to the language of hatred, Hilary Cooper condemned the vitriol directed at her husband

HILARY

It was vicious, hate filled and at times downright frightening. And it ended in his death.

Absolutely right

Been saying it for years

It was far too much.

But unexpectedly, she also said that she wasn't able to defend the tone of her husband's writing, saying

HILARY

This country needs a kinder way of talking about politics. And that means less inflammatory language.

Less deliberate controversy. Less -

And this is, this is very hard for me to say because my husband loved his work, I knew how much it meant to him and he would be devastated to hear me say this.

But the world needs less Alistair Coopers.

Woah.

Can't believe she'd write off her husbands legacy like that
Less Alistair Coopers? Well there's one less already.
Saying less Alistair Coopers is a bit insensitive isn't it?
That's not what she meant.
Can everyone stop taking her literally.
Wonder what her husband would think about her saying that.
Her poor daughter.
Is she saying her husband deserved it?
Kinda sounds like Hilary Cooper is saying he deserved it.
Poor guy. First he gets stabbed now his wife trashes his career.
Is it just me who would be at home with my kids rather than making media appearances.

HILARY

Alistair's death has left a hole in our lives that can never be filled. It is an indescribable loss.
The only comfort I can find in this terrible time is that his death might have an impact beyond our family, that it might change the way we talk about the world for the better.

So moving
Very honest
I appreciate her honesty
For her of all people to say that shows how important this is
She's absolutely right. There's fault on all sides.
Heartbreaking
Beautiful
The language of hatred needs to stop.
Have we been asking for something like this to happen?
Anger and hatred have no place in political discourse.

*This can't happen again.
We can't let this happen again.
Tolerance.
More tolerant.
Guys, let's all just be more tolerant.
If I hear one more person talking about tolerance I think
I'm gonna scream.
Let's just have a bit of tolerance for each other yeah
I agree.
Absolutely
Well said.
Some valid points made here.
I absolutely agree with all of this.
This says what I've been thinking.
Thank god someone finally said it.
I for one will think twice about the language I use.
Whatever happens, the events of this week won't be
forgotten in a hurry.
Alistair Cooper's death will be remembered - we must
not let something like this happen again.
We won't forget events of this week in a hurry.
We'll be talking about this for a long time to come.
Think we could all learn a lesson or two from this.
Lessons learnt.*

*The body of Alistair Cooper has been released to his
family for his funeral after a coroner opened an inquest
into the journalist's death*

Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper

HILARY

The mentions of him are getting less frequent. People aren't writing as much about him.

BEN

I thought you'd stopped reading all that.

HILARY

HILARY

The mentions are getting less frequent. People aren't writing as much about him.

BEN

I thought you'd stopped reading all that.

Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper Alistair Cooper

HILARY

I.

I can't. I know I should but.

The noise. It's all I've got.

Everything they're saying about him, good or bad. I don't mind anymore.

I want to read it all just so I know I know what's happening and in a way it's nice it's nice to see his name see his face see the whole country talking talking about him you know good or bad it doesn't matter. He would've liked it he would've loved it all this talk about him

Because. So long as they're still talking about him it's like he's still here, you know?

And maybe, if his death causes people to change, to make people think twice about the way that they talk about certain things then at least that's something, right?

BEN

Yes. That's something.

HILARY

What I'm worried about is when they stop talking about him.

When it all goes quiet. What happens after that?

Because that's when. That's when he'll really be gone.

Alistair Cooper.

*Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair
Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair
Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair
Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper.*

Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper. Alistair Cooper.

Alistair Cooper

Alistair Cooper

Al

*The Prime Minister today
Heartless.
The England Football Team
Prima donnas.
Labour party members
Morons.
Watch what happens when
Love this
Eugh how awful
Look at this picture of
Idiot
23 people were killed today in
My heart goes out
So awful
Watch this
Ha ha so good
Talentless no marks.
Heartless bastards
You're disgusting*

Stupid set of views
He should be ashamed of himself.
She should be utterly ashamed.
Resign.
Liar!
Everybody should read this now
So stupid.
Sign this petition.
First.
Sign this petition.
Spoiler alert.
Thinking of everyone involved in todays events.
This post has been deleted by the moderators.
Should've been strangled at birth.
Sign this if you care about
Haha this pic just cheered me up.
The man found guilty of murdering Alistair Cooper was
today sentenced to life in prison.
What a wonderful and intelligent article.
Total garbage.
Parasite.
Your response?
Oh I totally agree with this.
More bias
This is awful.
Evil evil people
Tory rag.
Where do they find these idiots?
This says everything I've been wanting to say for ages.
Yep.
Totally agree.
Absolutely.
The Prince of Wales
Inbred
Leader of the Labour Party
Idiot
Controversial star
Put some clothes on.

This. One hundred percent.
Old.
Hahaha.
Ugly.
Posh prick.
Scrounger.
Lefty.
Fatcat.
Cheat.
Fat face.
Racist.
Toff.
Smarmy.
Weak.
Hopeless.
Evil.
Fascist.
Stupid.
Anyone else watching this idiot?
Idiot.
Idiot.
Oh god not him again.
I hate this guy.
Oh god I hate this guy.
This woman makes me so angry.
I hate him/I hate him/I hate her.
I hate him/I hate them all so much.
I hate her/I hate her/I hate them/I hate him.

FX - NOISE BUILDS TO A FRENZY

FX - RADIO 4 PIPS