Dapper

Introduction

What is Dapper? This is an online tool or service that allows you to create and customise RSS feeds from any web site. You can then subscribe to the RSS feed that you have created in your favourite RSS feed reader.

Making your first Dapp

Type the following web address or url into a browser.

<p align="center">http://www.dapper.net/</p>

The following window will appear.
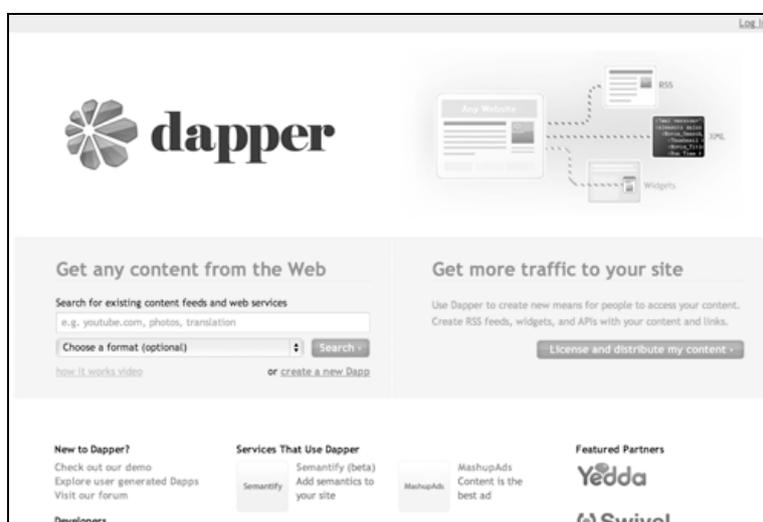
Click on the **Log In** button to create an account. The following page will appear. Click on the **Create Account** link.

The following page will appear…

Complete your details, click on the **I agree to the Terms of use** button and then click on the **Submit** button. The following page or one similar to it will appear. [Dapper is constantly updating its appearance]

Click on the **create a new Dapp** link. The following page will appear.

Enter the web address of the web site from which you wish to create your own custom RSS feed. I have chosen to create a feed from the free news articles on the Straits Times Interactive web site. This is the web address that I have added to the field.

http://www.straitstimes.com/Free/Free.html

Click on the **Next Step** button. The following page will appear.

The selected web page will eventually load in to the window. Click on the **Add to Basket** button. You will see that a tab has been created with the name of the web site. See the example below.
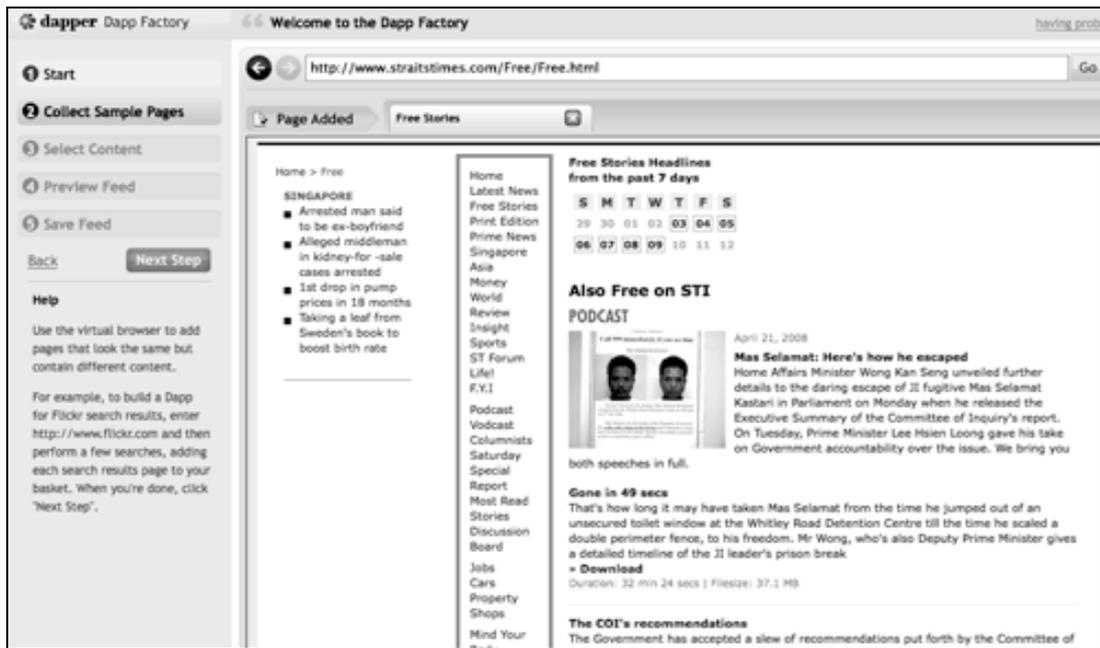
Click on the **Next Step** button. The following alert will appear. Do not worry about the alert and click **OK**. I find that Dapper is not working that well with two or more web site pages.
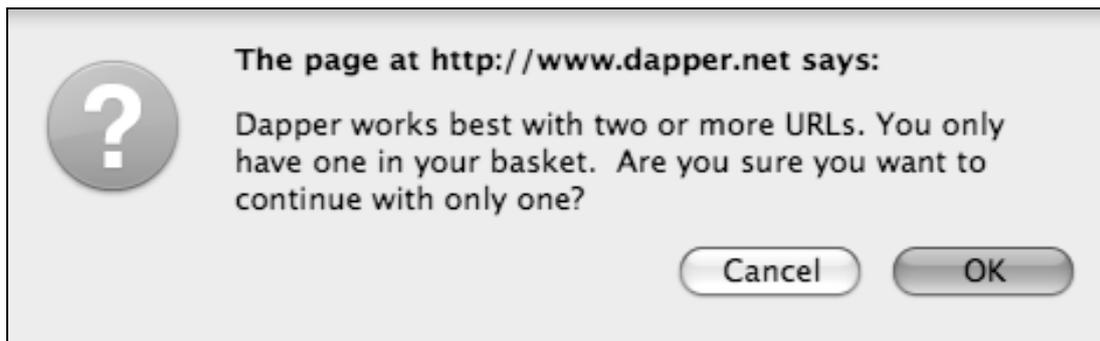
The following page will appear.
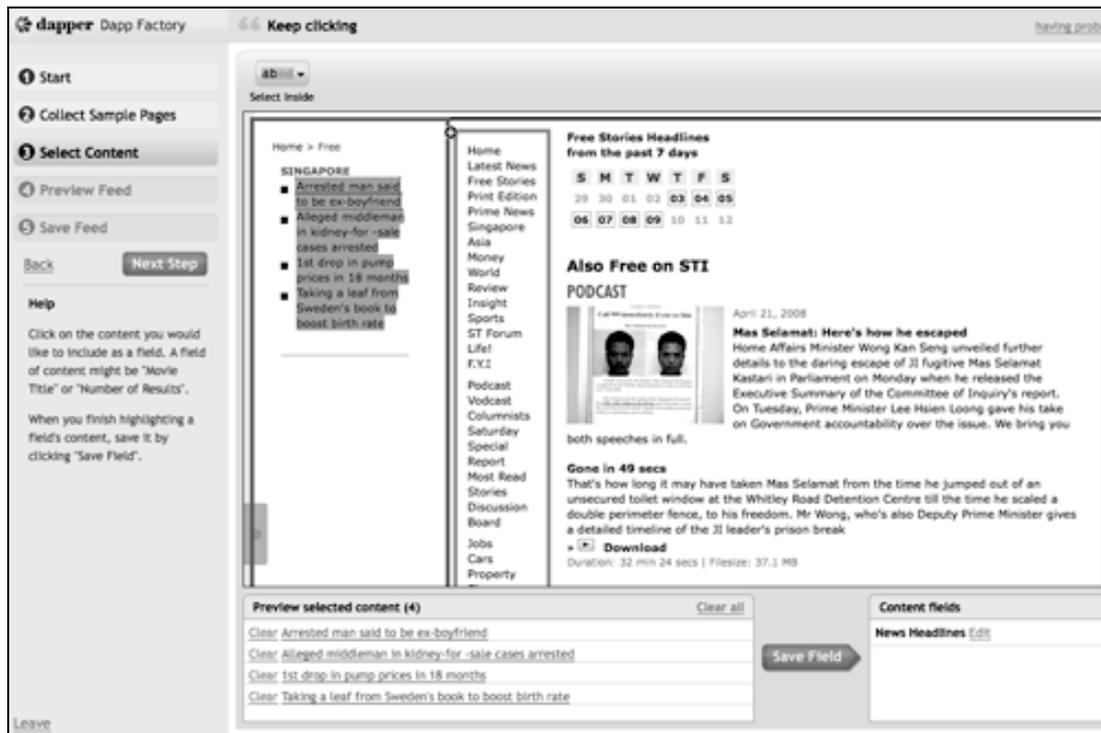
You will now need to select the type of content that you wish to appear in your RSS feed reader. I have selected the news headlines. They will be highlighted. See the example below.
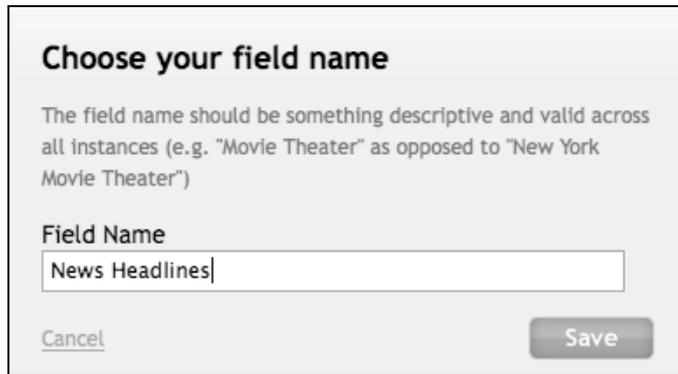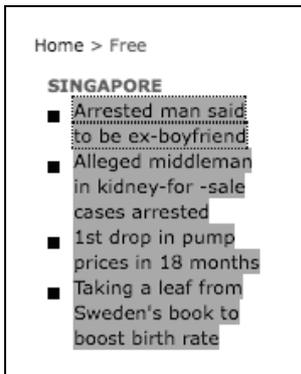
You will also not that each headline is listed in the **Preview** selected content window on that page. There are four headlines in total.

Click on the **Save Field** button. The window illustrated on the right above will pop up.

Give a suitable name to your field. I chose News Headlines. Click on the **Save** button.

The following page will appear.
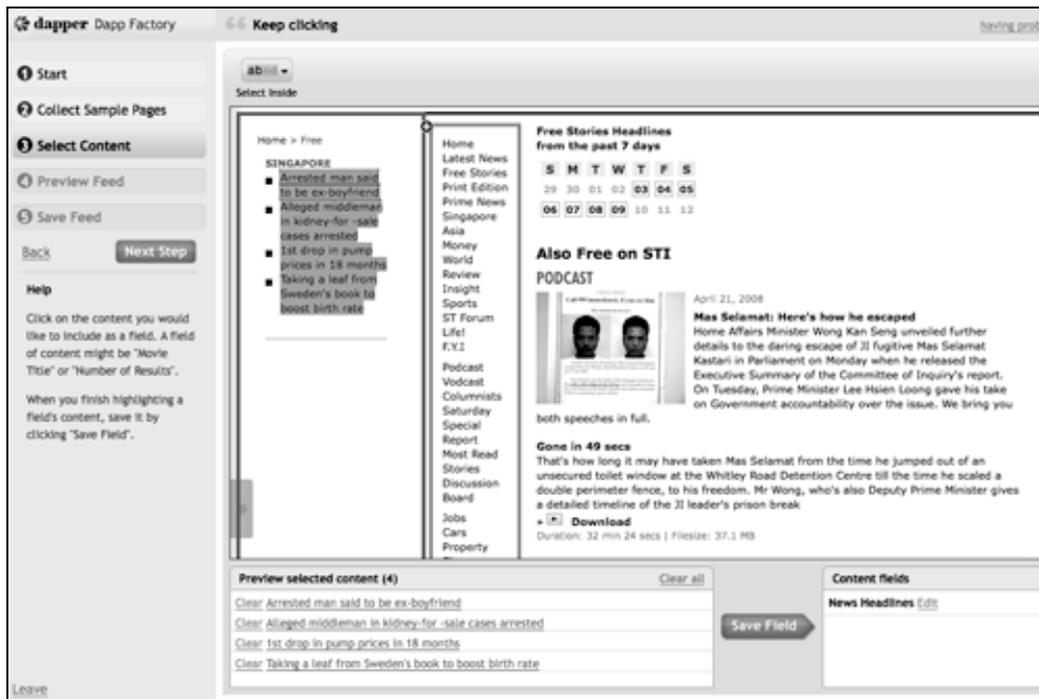
Click on the **Next Step** button. The following page will appear.
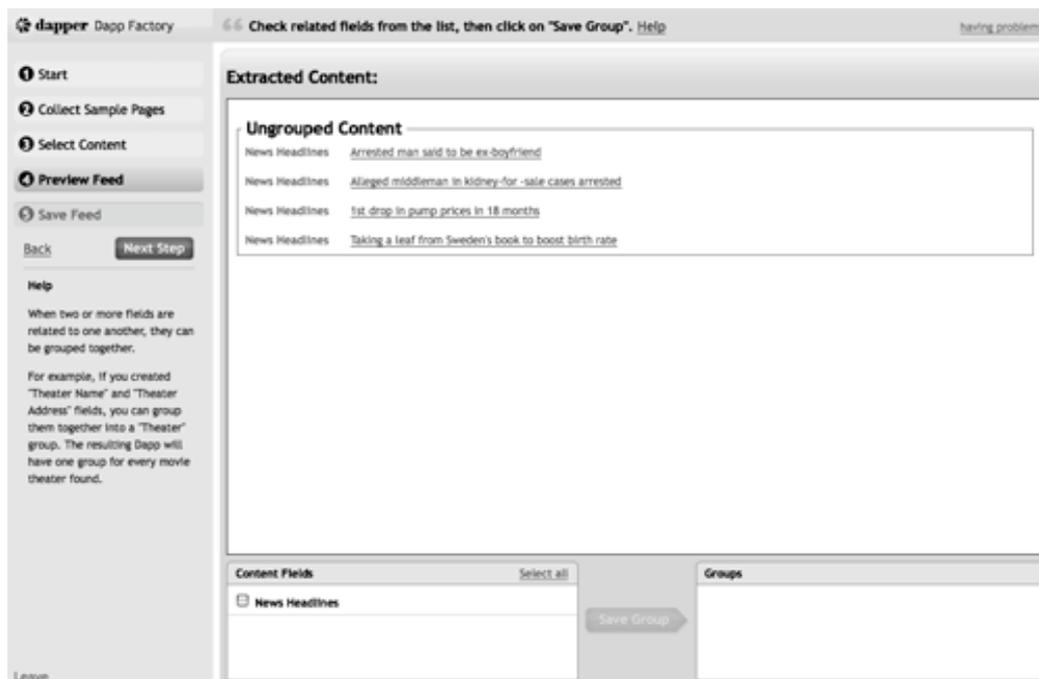
Select News Headlines in the **Content Field** and click on the **Save Group** button, giving it a name in the process, such as STI News Group. Click on **Next Step**. The following page will appear.

Click on **Next Step**. The following page will appear.

Type in a **name** and a **description** for your new 'Dapp' RSS feed. You may give some **tags** to the dapp as well. Mark it as a **Test** dapp and make it a **Private** dapp. Click on the **Save** button. Click on the **Next Step** button. The following page will appear.
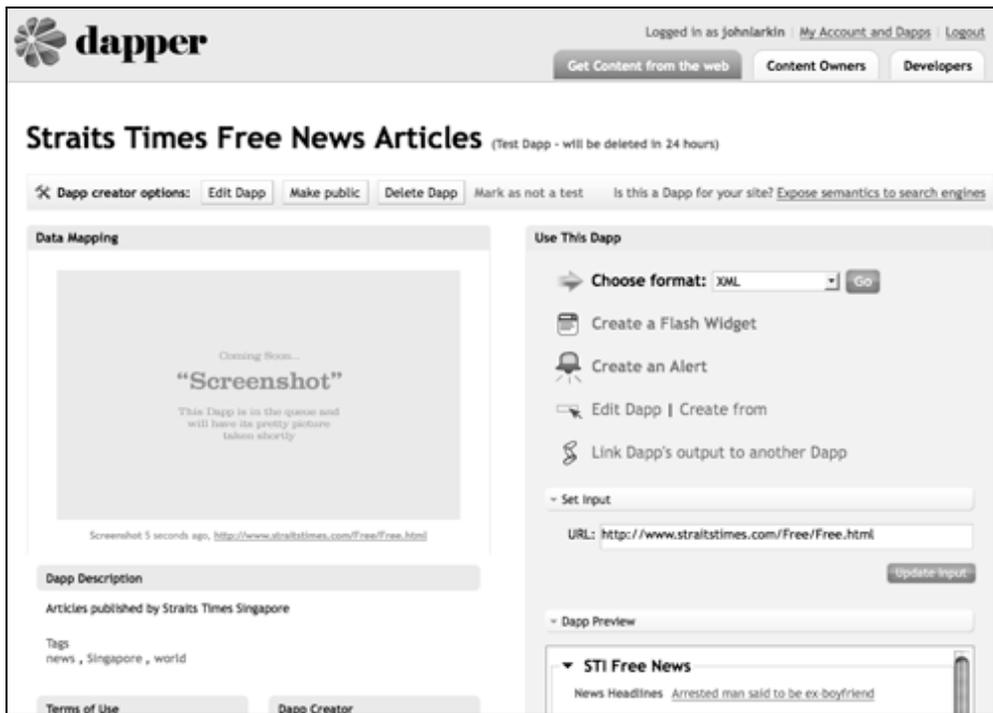
This is the main page for your new **Dapp**. A screen shot of the page will appear shortly. See the example below.
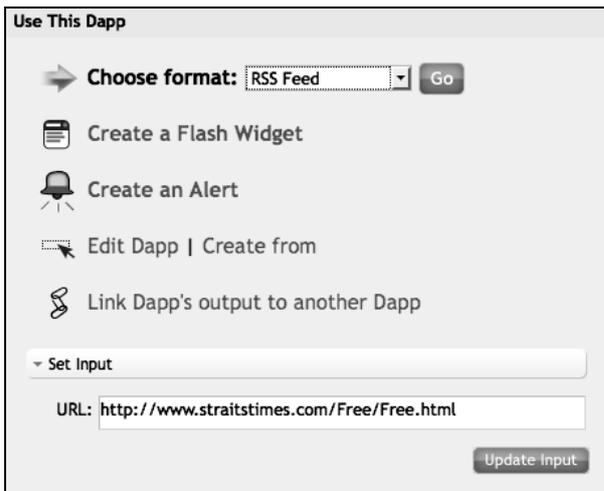
Click on the drop down menu and change the format from XML to **RSS Feed**.

Click on the **Go** button.
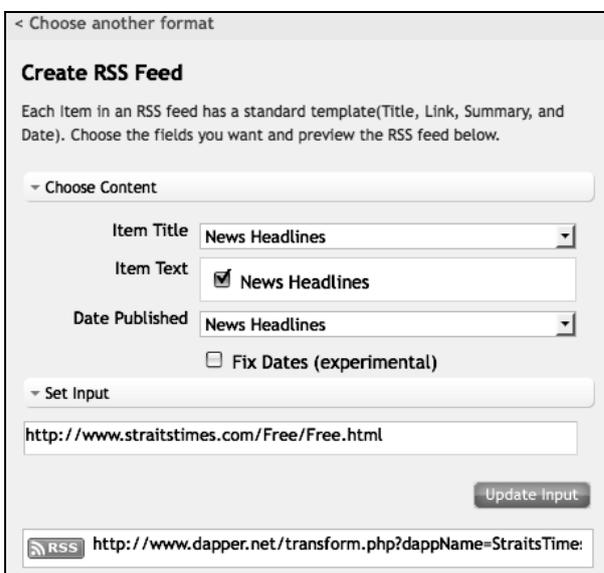
Set the **Item Title** and **Date Published** using the drop down menus.

Click on the **Update Input** button.
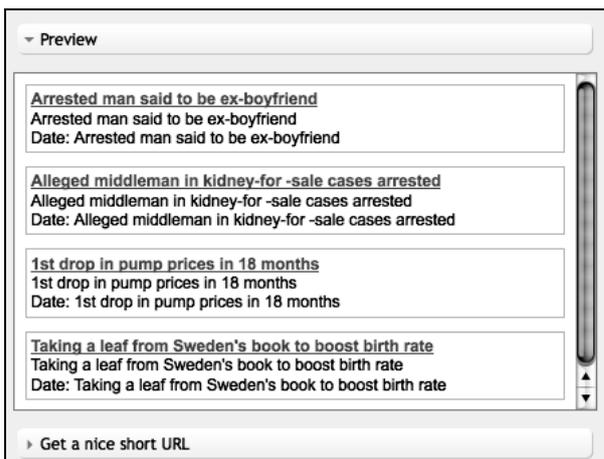
The following **Preview** will appear.

Copy the RSS feed address that appears in the RSS field.

Open up your favourite RSS feed reader such as Google Reader.

Paste the RSS feed address into the **Add Subscription field** and click on the **Add** button.
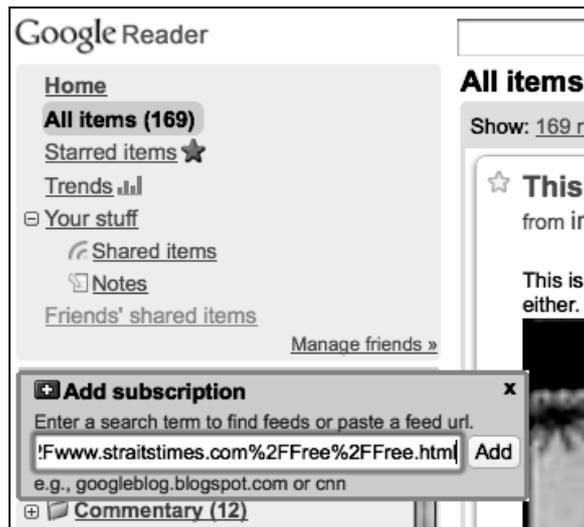
Your new Straits Time RSS news feeds will now appear in Google Reader as they are updated each day. See below.

Sometimes Dapper is not functioning and the following page will appear.