

Online

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Please send your submissions for the next edition to jrc@aber.ac.uk.

More news about large-scale collections of content, and responses to them

British Library

In June the British Library announced a partnership with Google to digitize a quarter of a million books from the period 1700-1870 with plans to make them freely available online through the British Library website, Google-books and Europeana. Google will cover the costs of digitisation, while the British Library will select the texts. Their [press release](#) describes previous digitisation projects with the private sector and notes some example texts. Other British Library news from over the summer includes the launch of [e-book Treasures](#), with Leonardo da Vinci's *Codex Arundel* and Gerardus Mercator's *Atlas of Europe* available to buy and download to iPads via the iBookStore.

HathiTrust

The Authors Guild, the Australian Society of Authors, the Canadian authors' organization Union des Écrivains et des Écrivains Québécois and eight authors, including Fay Weldon, have filed a suit against [HathiTrust](#) and five of its member libraries. HathiTrust founder member, the

University of Michigan (U-M), announced in May that they were [identifying orphan works](#), then in June that they were to [make thousands of orphan works available online](#) to students and staff; specifically those titles whose details that have been posted on the U-M library website and HathiTrust for 90 days, and that are not claimed by their authors. More HathiTrust member institutions joined the Orphan Works Project in August. The lawsuit was announced on September 12th. The [Authors Guild blog post](#) indicates their intention to block the planned release of the first two sets of orphan works scheduled for October and November. The HathiTrust shared online repository was formed in 2008 by the thirteen libraries of the [CIC](#), the University of California system and the University of Virginia, and now comprises more than 50 member libraries, a number of which have taken part in collaborative scanning projects with Google.

JSTOR

In July, the FBI [arrested digital activist Aaron Swartz](#) for downloading four million articles from

JSTOR, an action that was followed up a few days later by the upload of 33 gigabytes of pages from the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* to Pirate Bay, by someone calling themselves Gregory Maxwell, in support of Mr Swartz. This article in the [Chronicle](#) includes sections of email correspondence with Mr Maxwell who says he is “a 31-year-old who works in the telecommunications industry”. Although the content uploaded to Pirate Bay is also in JSTOR’s archive, an update to the article reports that the files on Pirate Bay were digitized by JSTOR but are from the Royal Society (they don’t have JSTOR cover sheets). [JSTOR’s public statement](#) about Mr Swartz’s arrest indicated that once they had secured their content they had, “no interest in this becoming an ongoing legal matter”.

Oxford University

A five-year project with a fund of two million Euros from the European Research Council has begun investigating the changing English landscape, “from the middle Bronze Age to the Domesday Book (AD 1086)”, and how English people lived and worked. The [English Landscapes and Identities project](#) will include large-scale data analysis, the use of county archives, coin databases and local history experts, and will culminate in the creation of a new website, *A Portal to the Past*. Partners in the project include the e-Research Centre at Oxford University, English Heritage, who will provide aerial photographs, the [Portable Antiquity Scheme](#), a voluntary scheme to record archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales, the British Museum and the [Archaeology Data Service](#).

Project Gutenberg

The founder of Project Gutenberg, Michael Hart, has died (06/09/11) aged 64. This [obituary](#), by Dr Gregory B. Newby, describes a visionary man who created the first e-book on July 4th 1971 when he typed the American Declaration of Independence into the University of Illinois mainframe computer, and went on to make over 100,000 e-books in 60 languages freely available on the Internet, through Project Gutenberg.

Referencing software

Zotero, the referencing software plug-in for Firefox, is now freely available as a standalone desktop application for multiple operating systems. [Zotero beta downloads](#) are available for Mac, Windows, and Linux, and include word-processing plug-ins for Microsoft Word and OpenOffice. “Connectors” are also available to gather references into Zotero from Safari and Chrome.

In July Mendeley, the free reference management and research networking application, announced their [1.0 desktop release](#) after 3 years in beta, promising future enhancements such as an easy-to-use citation style editor and an Android phone app.

Research Libraries UK (RLUK)

The RLUK’s campaign for fairer journal pricing gathers pace. The publication of RLUK’s Executive Director David Prosser’s paper, “[Re-assessing the value proposition: first steps towards a fair\(er\) price in scholarly journals](#)”, in March outlined the growing difficulties faced by academic libraries in meeting hefty subscription costs to scholarly

journals in so-called “big deals”. I was very excited to see George Monbiot weighing in with [his viewpoint](#) in the Guardian on August 29th, which spawned a healthy comment thread and further correspondence through the letters page. The [Times Higher Education Supplement](#) has also reported on the story. The so-called “big deals” with Elsevier and Wiley come up for renewal at the end of 2011.

the source archive to see if a viewing copy is available. A search for Steptoe, for example, finds catalogue entries for individual episodes with titles and descriptions, a 2008 interview with Galton and Simpson and a 1963 Royal Variety Performance listing Wilfred Brambell and Harry H. Corbett as cast members.

Search your film archives

Visit the beta site <http://unionsearch.bfi.org.uk/>, currently called *Search your film archives*, which conducts federated searches of regional TV archives, the BFI and Amber films. Although content is often not available, due to copyright restrictions, readers are encouraged to contact