

Online

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

The new Kindle; HathiTrust and orphan works; rival scholarship platforms

Amazon

The Kindle Fire Tablet has gone on sale in the US for \$199, combining the Kindle's established e-reader technology with a wifi touchscreen tablet. It uses a new Web browser called Silk, about which there have already been some questions about privacy - see [this article](#) in *Computer-worldUK*. The marketing on the Amazon website brands it as an all-round entertainment centre with TV, films, music and games alongside the traditional e-reader content, all in cloud-based storage. Will e-reader lovers make it their tablet of choice?

Meanwhile [Amazon's new Kindle lending library](#) allows Amazon Prime customers with Kindles to borrow one ebook a month free of charge. This [Authors Guild blog post](#) disputes Amazon's rights to lend the titles it lists.

HathiTrust

Following the lawsuit filed against HathiTrust (see September's Online), the University of Michigan has suspended indefinitely the online publication

of initial sets of orphan works scheduled for October and November 2011. Their [press release](#) cites procedural failures that caused non-orphan works to be included and reports their intention to continue with the project once they are satisfied with their procedures. The Authors Guild (one of the lawsuit leaders) posted examples to their blog of books from the HathiTrust "Orphan works candidates" where their readers had found rights-holders. The University of Michigan has since published a set of [FAQs](#) to explain their digitisation activities.

JISC

The Open University's Knowledge Media Institute (KMi), with funding from JISC, has launched [CORE](#), an open access search engine to "search the full text of items held in 142 approved Open

Access repositories”, in the UK. Find out more in the [press release](#)¹.

Meanwhile more content makes its way online through further JISC collaborations

A collaboration between the Royal Holloway University, the British Library and JISC has resulted in the digitisation of more than 300 books of the world’s earliest printed music from holdings at the British Library. The music is now freely available at [Early Music Online](#).

The new, freely available [History to Herstory](#) site has launched following funding from JISC to the University of Huddersfield and the West Yorkshire Archive Service to “refresh, repurpose and rehome” some 80,000 digitised items, including diaries, letters, photos and artworks. The resource reflects 800 years of women’s lives in Yorkshire, and contains themed study packs and links to the locations of the physical items.

The University for the Creative Arts, based in Surrey and Kent, has been funded by JISC to [digitise the designer Zandra Rhodes’ archive](#). The project is one of 24 chosen for 2011-2013; other projects include Mass Observation data from the 1980s (University of Sussex) and the BT e-Archive (Coventry University).

Royal Society

The Royal Society, the world’s oldest scientific publisher, has made their historical journal archive freely available online from their [publishing search site](#). The [press release](#) notes that content more than 70 years old is included, which adds up to more than 60,000 papers including the first peer-reviewed scientific paper ever published, and that the project is part of their “commitment to open access in scientific publishing”. “Treasures in the archive include [Isaac Newton’s first published scientific paper](#), [geological work by a young Charles Darwin](#), and Benjamin Franklin’s [celebrated account of his electrical kite experiment](#)”.

Thomson Reuters

Thomson Reuters have [announced the launch of their new Book Citation Index](#) which is available via their Web of Knowledge platform. Initially indexing 25,000 books going back to 2005, both titles and chapter titles are indexed and Web of Knowledge will be enhanced by 13.5 million more citations as a result of the launch. Subscribing universities and research institutions will be able to link the books and e-books in their library catalogues.

A further announcement describes another new product: [Cortellis](#), a database of drug research and development data with an API, and a Software Development Toolkit allowing subscribers to “merge it [Cortellis] with their own data, or with public data sources”. Additional features include tools for visualisation, a new search engine and smartphone/tablet compatibilities.

¹ See also “Open access success: be inspired by over thirty compelling stories” below.

University press platform services

Within a few weeks of each other both Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press have relaunched their existing online platforms which host content from other university presses.

OUP's new University Press Scholarship Online, based on their Oxford Scholarship Online, is now available to "house the monograph content of other university presses". In their [press release](#) OUP notes current participating partner presses: Fordham, Kentucky, Florida, Hong Kong and the American University in Cairo, with Edinburgh University Press and Policy Press planned for March 2012. CUP have [announced](#) their new University Publishing Online, based on their Cambridge Books Online service and including Cambridge Journals Online. Their existing partner presses are the Mathematical Association of America (based in Washington D.C.), Liverpool University Press and Foundation Books (based in India), with content from Edinburgh University

Press and Nottingham University Press planned for early 2012.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The UNODC has launched the [first ever database of human trafficking case law](#). With trafficking victims identified in at least 127 countries and a lack of knowledge at the global level, the UNODC intends the [database](#) to "increase the visibility of successful prosecutions and at the same time promote awareness of the realities of this devastating crime". The database includes a growing body of data about the victims and criminals, trafficking routes, the case verdicts and the victims' stories as recorded in court.