

currently available via [Ingenta.com](http://Ingenta.com) and [IngentaSelect.com](http://IngentaSelect.com). While the final site launch is planned for late summer 2004, the site does currently allow for searching and browsing and further enhancements will be released before the final launch. Until [IngentaConnect.com](http://IngentaConnect.com) goes live, [Ingenta.com](http://Ingenta.com) and [IngentaSelect.com](http://IngentaSelect.com) will continue to run as normal alongside the Beta site and will remain the access platform for users until the unified platform is completed.

### **BRITISH LIBRARY**

JISC (<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/>) and the British Library ([www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)) have announced 2 new collaborative projects which aim to provide digital resources to support learning, teaching and research in HE and FE. The latest is "British Newspapers 1800 – 1900", a £2m project with funding from the Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE). This online Newspaper Archive project will digitise over one million pages of fully searchable texts and associated images from out-of-copyright 19th century newspapers from the British Library. The newspapers will be selected through an online consultation with the further and higher education communities in the summer of 2004. This project follows closely on from a project to digitise 12,000 items of sound recordings from the British Library's Sound Archive. The Archival Sound Recordings is a £1m project, with funding from HEFCE. This online resource of nearly 4,000 hours of recordings will include classical and popular music, broadcast radio, oral history, and field and location recordings of traditional music and will be made freely available to further and higher education.

### **CROSSREF SEARCH PILOT**

A group of journal publishers are participating in the CrossRef Search Pilot (<http://www.crossref.org/crossrefsearch.html>) during 2004 which will assess the value of "a free, federated, full-text, interdisciplinary, interpublisher search focussed on the peer-reviewed scholarly literature". This pilot initially involves 9 of the 290 CrossRef publishers: American Physical Society; Annual Reviews; Association for Computing Machinery; Blackwell Publishing; Institute of Physics Publishing; International Union of Crystallography; Nature Publishing Group; Oxford University Press; and John Wiley & Sons. Through a special, reciprocal arrangement between Google and CrossRef, this Pilot launches a Google search with filtered results limited to the full text of journal articles from the participating publishers. This cross-publisher search can be launched from the site of any of the involved publishers' websites or from [Google.com](http://Google.com) itself.

### **BIOMED CENTRAL**

Following news last year that JISC had funded a 15-month BioMed Central membership agreement, allowing all UK HE staff to freely publish in BioMed Central's 90+ peer-reviewed journals in which all research content is freely accessible, BioMed Central (<http://biomedcentral.com/>) now report that all universities, polytechnics and research institutes in Finland have become BioMed Central members. This involves 25000 publicly funded researchers and teachers who will now have free publication in and access to all BioMed Central journals.

### **OPEN-ACCESS JOURNALS INDEXED IN ISI**

Thomson-ISI has reported that ISI currently indexes content from nearly 200 Open Access journal titles. A list of titles covered is available from (<http://www.isinet.com/oaj/>).

### **DOAJ**

The Directory of Open Access Journals (<http://www.doaj.org/>) has been updated to include article level records. Of the over 1100 open access journals indexed on DOAJ, 270 of these are now searchable at article level – providing direct access to freely available full text online of peer-reviewed scholarly journals.

## **Internet News**

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### **The Last Mile**

This is a term given to the final stage of internet access and, for some hopeful users, can be the most difficult. A recent development is a wireless technology that utilises roadside furniture, lampposts, road signs etc., containing low-powered transceivers thus enabling very localised access <http://www.lastmilecoms.com/>. Could this be the technology to bring broadband to everyone?

### **Bye bye IE**

Not being particularly "techie", I always resisted changing from Microsoft products on the basis that at least they, sort of, worked together and had a familiar feel. However, there seems to be a major problem with Internet Explorer, which may have caused my recent computer crash due to a virus. I have found an item on the why's and wherefore's of replacing IE and will be taking my courage in both

hands and getting rid of this potential open door to my computer. You can read the article and get a replacement browser here:  
<http://software.newsforge.com/software/04/07/01/123233.shtml?tid=78&tid=82&tid=90> I just hope it doesn't all end in tears!

### Full circle?

I may be missing the point here, but AT&T are marketing a service that sends phone calls over the internet  
<http://www.technewsworld.com/story/news/34901.html> . It's probably something to do with the US system of privatised telephone networks as discussed in this follow-up article:  
<http://www.technewsworld.com/story/34574.html> .

### MSN Search revamp

Microsoft has announced the public preview of its search engine, designed to take on the likes of Google and Yahoo! There is a very full article about it at the following link:  
<http://searchenginewatch.com/searchday/article.php/3376041> , which describes the changes and where Microsoft sees the development leading. At this stage, all that is happening is that MSN Search is getting a cleaner look with the more weighty changes taking 5 to 10 years to develop.

### The UK, the US and Australia to fight unwanted spam e-mail

It was reported on the ITV news website that agents from the three countries will work together to track down rogue e-mail marketers who send their messages across national borders to avoid prosecution. The agreement means agencies in the three countries will share information and work together to investigate and prosecute these irritating people who send out billions of dubious pitches each day. Unfortunately, the first meeting is only scheduled for October, so I will have to keep adding to my Blocked Senders list – I wonder how long it is now?

### Directgov

Further to my last report about Directgov, the Office of the eEnvoy has carried out a user survey that indicates they have produced an easily used website:  
[http://www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/news/2004/040428\\_digital.asp](http://www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/news/2004/040428_digital.asp) . Their efforts are to be applauded as it is now very much easier to find that elusive official information. The site is also to be made available on digital television, bringing it within the reach of nearly ten million households.

This is to be my final column for UKOLUG, and I would like to express my gratitude to Peter for giving me the opportunity to practice newsgathering and editorial skills in a most supportive environment. I hope someone will step forward to keep the column going and I wish them every success.

## Intranets and Content Management

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### How many intranets are there?

At the Internet World exhibition in June I was struck by the number of low-cost CMS products, with server license fees in the range £15000 -£40000. The vendors are all keen to target the intranet market, especially in smaller organisations and in the public/not-for-profit sector where they felt there was more growth than the web market. This started me thinking about just how many intranets there are in the UK.

Each year National Statistics carries out an E-commerce survey among some 12,000 businesses in the UK. National Statistics have had very considerable definitional issues with this survey, and so it is classified as 'experimental', meaning that the results should be used with some care. The 2002 E-commerce Enquiry to Business results were published in late 2003 and are the most recent available. Among the questions asked were whether the business had an intranet. This is of course where there is an immediate definitional issue, as many larger companies have multiple intranets. One of my clients is certain that they have 350, and suspect there may be twice that number!

By taking the percentage adoption and the number of companies per band I came up with a figure of 150,000 intranets in a total of 1.6 million businesses, roughly 9%. Of course this varies widely with the size of the business. For businesses with more than 1000 employees the adoption level is around 80%. The survey excludes the public sector, education and other not-for-profit organisations, so perhaps in 2002 there might have been 200,000 overall. I doubt that the growth in new intranets has been high so I'll take the 200,000 as a conservative figure for the UK.

I have not been able to find comparable data for the US but there is another UK survey, Business in the Information Age – International Benchmarking Study 2003. This study has been carried out by the Department of Trade and Industry since 1997 as a means of showing how advanced the UK is as an e-