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**A**frican Journals OnLine [<http://www.inasp.info/ajol/>] is a worthy project that aims to make a range of print-only African journals more accessible to researchers in other countries. Paper journals will be digitised and made available through the site so that people can get easy access to them. At this stage, only tables of contents and abstracts will be offered, with full text a possibility some time down the track. Areas covered include agricultural sciences; arts, culture, language and literature; health; science and technology and social sciences.

### Needing a life?

We all make mistakes, and Terry Ballard, a US-based automation librarian from Quinnipiac University, Connecticut, is keeping track — at least of the kinds of typing mistakes we make when we look for terms in a library catalogue [<http://faculty.quinnipiac.edu/libraries/tballard/typoscomplete.html>]. Many websites cover the minutiae of daily living and they don't get much minuter than this. Interestingly, the most commonly misspelled word is information — people leave out the R and turn it into 'infomation'. All the usual suspects are there — 'reserach', 'government' and the nasty-sounding 'mangement'. Perhaps library systems could do a Google and offer 'Did you mean?' alternatives for obvious misspellings. Anyone contemplating that could use Terry's list to identify the most common errors.

### Cut down on paper

If your institution circulates a lot of paper-based table of contents alerts, you might want to consider subscribing to the free e-mail newsletter, *Informed Librarian Online* [<http://www.infosourcespub.com/ilofreesubscribe.cfm>] instead. Issued monthly, the newsletter compiles tables of contents information from more than 180 library-related journals and newsletters, some print, some all-electronic. To join up, visit the site and enter your e-mail address in the subscription box. The site offers article delivery as well (though this may be a chargeable service).

### Too much work?

If the thought of 180 TOC alerts seems too many, try the library science clipping service offered by the University of Illinois. UI Current LIS Clips [<http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/clips/>] is a free service that provides summaries of key recent publications. It is written by librarians for librarians and researchers. The October 2002 issues covers continuing professional development, while upcoming

issues will tackle successful web searching, electronic resources and information services marketing.

### Project central

The United Kingdom higher education sector seems to keep churning out projects despite persistent dire reports of funding cuts. They also come up with creative names and acronyms. ParaCite [<http://paracite.ecs.soton.ac.uk/>] is an article finder service, still very much on the drawing board. You can use it to locate a copy of an article for which you have a bibliographic reference. Once you type or paste in your citation, ParaCite will break the citation up into its component parts such as author, title and so on, and zoom off to search for it in a range of services such as Scirus, CiteBase, OALster, Google and PubMed. When (or if) it has found it, you may or may not be able to see the full-text depending on where the article is located. OALster and CiteBase will most likely provide the full-text for free, since these are tools for searching open archives. Material found by Scirus may be free but some of the articles will probably be available to subscribers only. ParaCite does try to provide links that will provide the full text article at no charge, but it is all very experimental at present.

### Copyright questions

As anyone building an ePrint archive knows, the question of copyright soon appears over the horizon. The RoMEO Project (Rights Metadata for Open archiving) [<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/lis/disresearch/romeo/index.html>] has been recently set up to investigate the rights issues surrounding the 'self-archiving' of research in the United Kingdom academic community under the Open Archive Initiative's Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH). Rights issues include ownership and assignment of copyright, concerns about free availability, restrictions and conditions placed on use. The site has two surveys currently available — one for academics, and one for journal publishers. Two more — one for OAI data providers and one for OAI service providers — are planned. It would be interesting to see the views of the journal publishers on this issue.

### While we are on the topic...

Another ePrints project, ePrints-UK, aims to develop a national service to allow cross-searching of the collective output of Open Archive repositories provided by UK

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universities and colleges. This project seems to bear a bit of similarity to OALster [<http://oaister.umdl.umich.edu/>] which is now up and running with 110 institutional collections on board. You can use the OALster form to search across all the collections registered with OALster. These include arXiv, ANU's eprints, CogPrints and a range of other eprint archives, image collections and services offering digital theses. EPrints-UK [<http://www.rdn.ac.uk/projects/eprints-uk/>] is being run by the Resource Discovery Network which has used the OAI-PMH to create the aggregated search facility, ResourceFinder, which cross-searches all the hubs, such as EEVL and Biome, in the RDN.

#### Who's using what?

The Research Support Libraries Group, which consists of representatives from UK higher education funding bodies, the British Library and the national libraries of Wales and Scotland, have published a weighty report entitled *Researchers' use of libraries and other information sources: current patterns and future trends* [<http://www.rslg.ac.uk/research/libuse/>]. The study examines that kinds of resources UK researchers want and need, how they work with and use resources, and tries to identify emerging trends that will need to be addressed. The full report is available in Word, PDF or as a zipped file for faster download, and the full appendices (which include the research specification, the survey questionnaire and focus group summaries) can be got in those formats as well. The whole gamut of resources from print to digital is examined as are interlibrary lending and document delivery services. Another report from the group, *Collaboration in research library provision: international comparisons*, is also available from the site <http://www.rslg.ac.uk/research/incollab/>.

#### Two from New Zealand

Anyone searching for New Zealand public libraries can now click on a map and find them [<http://www.libraries.org.nz/>]. The New Zealand Public Libraries site links to all libraries that currently have Web presences and announces public library and other events such as the LIANZA 2002 conference. There is no text listing of libraries, just the map. Also new online is the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, the leading agency for the protection of New Zealand sites and buildings in New of historic and cultural significance. It also includes a link to the searchable New Zealand Historic Places

Register [<http://www.historic.org.nz/>]. The Register is as yet unfinished and only links to around 1000 of the more than 6000 places it hopes to include.

#### Online from Geneva

Anyone who couldn't make it to the recent second Workshop on the Open Archives Initiative, called 'Gaining independence with eprints archives and OAI' can catch up online [<http://documents.cern.ch/age?a02333>]. Many of the sessions were captured on video and can be seen and heard using RealPlayer. Also available are many of the Powerpoint presentations given at the conference. Some of the sessions will open with both video and Powerpoint — choose the synch\_video link if you want to see these. Case studies were presented from both discipline-oriented and institutional-oriented archives. Other streams included practical steps — both technical and political — on promoting open archives initiatives. The sound and video in some sessions is a little dodgy but many of the presentations are interesting, especially for anyone considering setting up an ePrint repository or any other kind of open archive.

#### Out of the past (and present)

If you have ever wondered what George Bernard Shaw or Enid Blyton sounded like, wonder no more. The BBC has put up a website, Voices from the Archives [<http://www.bbc.co.uk/voices/>], that provides audio clips of a range of twentieth century cultural figures. Biographical details are also given, for people as diverse as Le Corbusier, Michael Ondaatje, Margaret Atwood, Kingsley Amis, Dylan Thomas and Steven Spielberg. The site has clips for artists, performers, artists and philosophers, as well as writers.

#### Reading online

Could you read a book online? Page by Page Books thinks you can, and has offered a range of public domain books to put the idea to the test [<http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/>]. You click on a title and the contents are presented. You can then go through the book a page at a time, using bookmarking to keep your place for next time. The site offers titles such as *King Solomon's Mines* and lesser known works by Herman Melville and Henry James. The range is eclectic. Martin Luther King is there, as is Machiavelli. You can see lists of authors and titles. ■

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**Contributions and suggestions for this column are always welcome. Please contact Belinda Weaver via e-mail.**

*The whole gamut of resources from print to digital is examined as are interlibrary lending and document delivery services...*

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