UK LOCKSS Alliance
Today’s scholarly content, secured for tomorrow

Adam Rusbridge
UK LOCKSS Alliance Coordinator
EDINA, University of Edinburgh

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Summary

- Goal of LOCKSS program: to help libraries build local archives of web published content (journals, books)
  - Trust in their own capacity to respond

- LOCKSS: Digital equivalent of the physical shelf
  - Sufficient rights to access content as needed
  - Financial control and governance over systems
  - Integrated component of library infrastructure

- UK LOCKSS Alliance: collaborative organisation to coordinate and support stewardship
Background to the LOCKSS Program

- Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe founded by Stanford University Libraries in 1998: 14th year!
  - Libraries lease access to content, they no longer acquire content
  - Libraries are outsourcing a key function as memory organizations
  - Libraries are not in direct control of ongoing subscription costs

Institutions use the LOCKSS technology to have custody and control over their scholarship

- Each institution brings online a LOCKSS box
- Library staff administration – a few hours a month
- Periodically configure titles for collection in LOCKSS
  - Consult with academics to determine priorities
  - LOCKSS fetches an exact copy from the publishers website
- University has ownership of that content
  - Library controls local access, even when they can’t access publisher copy
Community Action for Assured Access

UK LOCKSS Alliance

A co-operative organization to ensure continuing sustainable access to scholarly work over the long term.

UK libraries are collaborating to build national ‘network level’ infrastructure and to coordinate the preservation of electronic material of local and UK interest. (since 2008)

17 member institutions
De Montfort University
King’s College London
London School of Economics
Natural History Museum
Open University
Royal Holloway, University of London
University of Birmingham
University of Edinburgh
University of Glasgow
University of Hertfordshire
University of Huddersfield
University of Newcastle Upon Tyne
University of Oxford
University of Salford
University of St. Andrews
University of Warwick
University of York

Steering Committee directs activity (next meeting May 2012)

Phil Adams (De Montfort University)
Lisa Cardy (London School of Economics)
Geoff Gilbert (University of Birmingham)
Tony Kidd (University of Glasgow)
Liz Stevenson (University of Edinburgh)
Lorraine Estelle (JISC Collections)
Peter Burnhill (EDINA)
Adam Rusbridge (EDINA)

Support Service at EDINA provides underlying coordination, support and development
JISC Collections organises membership subscriptions and gives guidance and support
JISC prompted the initial project led by the Digital Curation Centre (2006-08)
Threats to Digital Content

- Media failure
- Hardware failure
- Software failure
- Network failure
- Format obsolescence
- Natural disaster
- Economic failure
- Organization failure
- Operator error
- External attack
- Insider attack

- David S. H. Rosenthal, Thomas Robertson, Tom Lipkis, Vicky Reich, Seth Morabito
- Preserves content as published
  - HTML Standard: web published
  - Preserve the record: web archiving

- Preserves integrity
  - Audit protocol to prevent damage
  - Tamper resistant

- Avoids point of failure
  - Distributed network to avoid points of failure
  - Model on success of print collections
  - Trust success of the library
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Why do we need e-Journal Preservation?

- Continued access in two specific scenarios:
  - Library cancels subscription to journal
    - Library needs assurance of post-cancellation access
    - Largely a problem of licensing, only for subscription content
  - Publisher no longer supplies access
    - Library needs assurance that content available elsewhere
    - Title ceased, publisher bust, or publisher failure
    - Problem for both subscription and open access content
    - Smaller publishers at greater risk: business model is less stable

- Build local collections to address both problems
- Shared technical solution, different legal and business concerns

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Accessing Content with LOCKSS

- LOCKSS integrates with your OPAC library catalogue
  - OpenURL standard: Find a copy you’re allowed to access
  - Link resolver software: Serials Solutions’ 360Link, Ex Libris’ SFX

- Library can provide access as and when needed
  - Access consolidates institutional support, demonstrates success

- Publisher branding is retained
- LOCKSS forwards requests so publisher gets usage statistics
  - Serve from publisher if newer, LOCKSS if identical or unavailable

- Monitor use of LOCKSS as post-cancellation access service
  - Low expectation of cancellation?
  - Publishers provide their own post-cancellation access service
  - Open access? Moving subscription walls?

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Collection Development

- **Growth over time**
  - 2008: 300 publishers
  - 2010: 400 publishers
  - 2012: 500 publishers, addition of eBooks


- **Near future – Books and Journals are evolving**
  - Presentation of content is important now, and becoming more so
  - eJournals and eBooks are part of the web – subject to rapid change.
  - “Container” may increasingly become indistinct (articles in database, blogs)
  - HTML5 to transform environment: static to dynamic?
Collaborative Organisational Infrastructure

- **Locally: JISC funded Community Development Activities (2010–13)**
  - Better embed preservation into university infrastructure
  - Develop well-defined policies and practices
  - Share information and engage with other initiatives

- **National: Governance with UKLA Steering Committee**
  - Collection Management Policies: Manage collections
  - Community Outreach: Build Community
  - Technical Operation and Development: Country-specific expertise
  - Finance, Activity and Resources: Ensure sustainability

- **International: software development and coordination**
  - Build software
  - Recruit publishers
  - Report out to extend trust
Principles of LOCKSS: Building Trusted Archives

- Assured and licensed access to important, at-risk content
- Appropriate control and custody of content
  - Within UK policy and funding control
- Responsibility spread across the community
  - Built upon a strong organisational foundation
- Shepherded by strong universities with strong libraries

- Libraries keep what they buy
- Publishers preserve what they publish
- Readers have continual access
The UK LOCKSS Alliance is a co-operative organization whose goal is to ensure continuing access to scholarly work in ways that are sustainable over the long term.

- If you would like to discover how the UK LOCKSS Alliance can help your institution, learn more about our activities and how to participate.
- Current members can view our bi-annual briefing papers for a summary of recent developments.

Updated Quick Start guide now available

An update to the UK LOCKSS Alliance QuickStart guide (version 1.0) is now available, with an extended section describing how to monitor content collection.

UKLA Roundup: December 2011

http://www.lockssalliance.ac.uk
a.rusbridge@ed.ac.uk
@EDINA_eJournals