



Analytics & metrics ■ Education to employment ■ Reading list solution ■ Transforming literacy ■ World cultures

# welcome



This issue we're on the cusp of our MMIT Conference in September and Internet Librarian Conference in October. We've also

introduced a new regular section to the journal: 'Marketing insights' with some favourite tools and software to use in communications both online and in print.

Warm regards,

Catherine Dhanjal, Managing Editor

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**We'd love to hear your ideas for articles, reviews or case studies.**

**Just email the editor:**

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# contents

## News

MMIT Group Annual Conference 2015 — programme	3
eBook research; bursary winners	5

## BFI News

<i>Vivre sa Vie</i>	6
<i>On Yer Bike</i>	7
<i>Les Yeux Sans Visage</i>	8

## Reviews

Book review: <i>Information Professionals' Career Confidential</i>	9
Book review: <i>Library Analytics and Metrics</i>	10
Product review: iPhone cases	12
Book review: <i>Mobile Social Marketing in Libraries</i>	

## Features

Worldreader, transforming literacy	13
World cultures — ethnography collection	16
New Reading List solution from Ex Libris	19
Digital technology, from education to employment	21
Preview of Internet Librarian International	23
A sound and vision retrospective part 4: multimedia in libraries	25

## Marketing insights

Wordle, Canva	32
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## Technology roundup

Sound+Sleep, Neon Jellyfish Tank, Body Massage Mat, Starlite Luna Body Massage Chair	33
Aduki ni Light, Samurai umbrella, Hedonizm head massager, Brookstone bed fan, Feel Seating System	34
Nightwave Sleep Assistant, Ostrich Pillow, Philips Wake Up Light, Hero Tracking Watch, Headplay Personal Cinema System, AirPort Express	36

## and finally...

Coming soon	37
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# technology roundup

## Gadgets to help relax & travel

We start with a selection of devices which should help people relax.

### Sound+Sleep £80

SOUND+SLEEP helps you 'turn off' your brain at night in the hope that this addresses the 'busy brain' issue which prevents some people from falling asleep.

It is ideal for hotel rooms, bedrooms or the office and offers 11 distinct sound profiles to promote a deeper sleep, relaxation and renewal for the day ahead. It runs all night or can be turned off automatically with a timer.

Sound profiles include White Noise, Electric Fan, Waterfall, Meadow, Brook, Rainfall, Ocean, Train, Fireplace, City and Meditation.

### Neon Jellyfish Tank £59.95

This Neon Jellyfish Tank looks extra special in the dark. It contains ultra-realistic Jellyfish with long flowing tentacles and vivid colour details that will attempt to impress you as they move.

It comes with 18 LEDs that light the tank and can be set to a desired colour, or left to automatically phase through each; including red, green, blue, and pink, creating different moods and ambiances.

Fans gently push the jellyfish around the tank, giving the illusion that they are happily swimming around of their own accord.

Visit: [www.totalsensory.co.uk/shop/sensory-products/203-neon-jellyfish-tank.html](http://www.totalsensory.co.uk/shop/sensory-products/203-neon-jellyfish-tank.html)



The image shows the Starlite Furniture website header with the logo and navigation links: HOME, ABOUT US, PRODUCTS, STOCKISTS, CONTACT US. Below the header are three images of the Starlite Luna inflatable chair in different colors: blue, green, and purple. Underneath these images are four icons with corresponding text:

- COLOURS**: Lights up in 13 colours.
- EFFECTS**: Strokes, flashes and fades.
- FUN & COMFORTABLE**: Starlite Luna furniture is fun and comfortable.
- EXTRAS**: The products comes with a foot pump, remote control and repair kit.

### The body massage mat £75

This 6'-long mat delivers a deep-penetrating compression massage that soothes sore, stiff muscles throughout the upper and lower body.

Seven internal air chambers inflate and deflate to loosen muscles in the shoulders, lower back, and buttocks, while four additional air bladders wrap around the legs and exert a soothing compression.

The air chambers inflate for up to 30 seconds and deflate to help improve blood circulation and relieve muscle tension. It has three massage programmes, two intensities, and you can focus the massage on the upper or lower body using the tethered controller.

It comes with a lifetime guarantee!  
Visit: [www.hammacher.com/product/79157](http://www.hammacher.com/product/79157)

### The Starlite Luna body massage chair £69.95

This inflatable chair claims to mould to your lumps and bumps, supporting you in all the right places, whilst looking super stylish in the process.

The built in LEDs can be controlled via a remote control.

The Luna Chair has various modes such as strobe, fade or solid colours, all easily controlled via the pocket size remote. It even features cup holders in each arm so your hands are free to eat, play computer games.

Could standout at festivals or garden fetes. It is made from durable PVC but also comes with a repair kit as well as a foot pump.

Visit: [www.starlitefurniture.co.uk/starlite-products.html](http://www.starlitefurniture.co.uk/starlite-products.html)



► **The Aduki ni light £55**

The Aduki ni Light looks like a hand-sized teardrop of mercury or hematite. When turned on, it shines a colour of your choosing or cycles through the entire colour spectrum.

Manufacturer Mathmos has been making lava lamps since 1963 and says its mood lights and colour changing lights “help people of all ages remain calm and reduce stress”.

Visit: [www.mathmos.com/mathmos-aduki-ni-light-colours-4925-0.html](http://www.mathmos.com/mathmos-aduki-ni-light-colours-4925-0.html)

**Samurai umbrella £24.99**

The Samurai umbrella features a beautifully detailed handle crafted like a Samurais hilt. It may appeal to males who are too embarrassed to generally carry an umbrella. It comes complete with a shoulder mounted nylon scabbard, so getting your umbrella out can be fun.

Visit: [www.firebox.com/product/2616/Samurai-Umbrella?aff=1888&gclid=CLej48mbhcgCFQfgGwod2nsA2g](http://www.firebox.com/product/2616/Samurai-Umbrella?aff=1888&gclid=CLej48mbhcgCFQfgGwod2nsA2g)



Image: Courtesy of www.pixabay.com



Image: Courtesy of www.pixabay.com. <https://pixabay.com/en/users/mnoeki-609630/>

**Headonizm Head Massager £4.95**

This relaxing Head Massager works by slowly pushing the massager down over your head and then raising it again. Each time you do this the metal flexible fingers massage your scalp, sending a sensual feeling across your head, down your spine and throughout your body.

My wife has them all around the house. It is actually very nice if you get someone else to do it for you.

Visit: [www.shops.uk.com/Headonizm\\_Head\\_Massager-red5\\_co\\_uk-165797321-3584-PM.html](http://www.shops.uk.com/Headonizm_Head_Massager-red5_co_uk-165797321-3584-PM.html)

**Brookstone Bed Fan with wireless remote (£60)**

Too hot to sleep? No more. This Brookstone bed fan blows air directly under your sheets. The bed fan is even good for couples, in case one prefers warmer sleeping temperature

than the other. You may even save money on air conditioning as you only need to cool the bed.

The fan is also height-adjustable to fit any bed frame and size, and comes with a wireless remote to turn it off.

Visit: [www.brookstone.com/bed-fan-with-wireless-remote](http://www.brookstone.com/bed-fan-with-wireless-remote)

**Feel Seating System Deluxe (£5000)**

The Feel Seating Deluxe is modular and shape-shifts to fit your body. It is convertible to use as a bed, lounger, or sofa. It is basically a multi-functional piece of furniture.

It can be especially appropriate if you have a studio home, or spend all your time in the bedroom anyway. It seems a perfect way to relax in the afternoon.

Visit: [www.animicausa.com/shop/Modern-Furniture-and-Lighting/Feel-Seating-System-Deluxe/tpflypage.tpl.html](http://www.animicausa.com/shop/Modern-Furniture-and-Lighting/Feel-Seating-System-Deluxe/tpflypage.tpl.html)

### ► **Nightwave Sleep Assistant (£49)**



The Nightwave Sleep Assistant uses soft, patterned light movements to help relax the mind, hypnotizing you right to bed. The machine displays soft beams of blue light and follows breathing pulses to help to soothe and relax, causing you to fall sound asleep in due time.

Nightwave comes in 7-minute and 25-minute cycles.

Visit: [www.nightwave.co.uk/](http://www.nightwave.co.uk/)

YouTube video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=AXpUgZTkBho](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AXpUgZTkBho)

### **Ostrich Pillow (£60)**

Ostrich Pillow is a handy gadget to have when you want to catch a quick snooze wherever you please. It may be at work, in the car or on a plane.

You simply slip the feather-soft, cushiony Ostrich Pillow over your head and it should be instant nap time ....without anyone seeing you sleeping.

Visit: [www.ostrichpillow.com/](http://www.ostrichpillow.com/)

### **Philips Wake Up Light (£48)**

The Philips Wake Up Light was designed to help people who suffer from SAD. Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that has a seasonal pattern. The episodes of depression tend to occur at the same time each year, usually during the winter. So this lamp gradually glows to stimulate sunrise so your body can adjust to waking up instead of that blaring alarm you hit snooze to twice every morning.

The wake up call is gentle and pleasant. The Philips Wake Up Light comes with 20 different light settings so you can adjust your preferred light intensity, and the machine is UV-free. My wife has been using one for about 5 years now. She loves it.

Visit: [www.philips.co.uk/c-m-li/light-therapy/wake-up-light/latest#filters=WAKEUP\\_LIGHT\\_SU&sliders=&support=&price=&riceBoxes=&page=&layout=12.subcategory.p-grid-icon](http://www.philips.co.uk/c-m-li/light-therapy/wake-up-light/latest#filters=WAKEUP_LIGHT_SU&sliders=&support=&price=&riceBoxes=&page=&layout=12.subcategory.p-grid-icon)





## Travel gadgets

### HereO Tracking Watch

The hereO GPS watch is the world's smallest real-time GPS location device created for children age 3 and up.

It comes with WiFi, a built-in SIM card and built-in USB connector. The idea is to allow parents to keep track of their young children whereabouts at any time directly on their smartphone via the hereO family app. The app which it is used with is free and available on iOS and Android.

You can use the app to programme in safe zones, and you will receive a notification when your kids arrive or depart from these specified locations.

There is also a Panic Alert function allowing children to send you an alert, which pinpoints their exact location and provides directions if they are lost, hurt or in danger. It is water-resistant, so it can put up with the odd water spill.

*Price: £105 with 3 months subscription included and thereafter USD 4.95 per month*

*Visit: [www.hereofamily.com](http://www.hereofamily.com)*

*YouTube video: [www.youtube.com/watch?t=1&v=N1QyZ-L3fpc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?t=1&v=N1QyZ-L3fpc)*

### Headplay Personal Cinema System (£350)

The Headplay Personal Cinema System is a portable headset that includes a pair of displays that simulate the experience of watching a 52-inch TV from 6 feet away.

The visor-mounted goggles block most of your peripheral vision, so the whole experience is very immersive.

The package includes three main components: the visor, the Liberator module containing the video inputs and playback circuitry, and the small Navigator wired remote.

It ships with a set of earbuds. You can connect the Headplay PCS to a computer, game console, DVD player, or other video source, and you can display files directly from a memory card. An optional battery lets you use the PCS while traveling.

Owners of certain nVidia graphics cards can download stereoscopic drivers and view some games in 3D. The composite/S-video inputs support video-capable devices like the iPod and Zune. You can also plug in a CompactFlash card or USB flash drive and view MPEG, Quicktime, Xvid,



Image: [www.pixabay.com/en/users/ThePixelman-406384/](http://www.pixabay.com/en/users/ThePixelman-406384/)

AVC/H.264, and AVI files.

The Liberator will also let you view JPEG images and play back MP3 music. The removable battery delivers about six hours of playback. It is a bit bulky, however.

*Visit: [www.headplay.com](http://www.headplay.com)*

*YouTube video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lg3hALuU2w8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lg3hALuU2w8)*

### AirPort Express (£79)

If you and your kids spend a lot of time in hotel rooms tethered to a 3" blue Ethernet leash or racking up £10+ a day on wireless charges, then this little white box could be the most useful gadget in your computer bag.

It was originally sold as a device for extending the range of any WiFi network or for streaming music from a computer to a home stereo system but the Apple Airport Express can also double as a wireless base station in its own right.

You simply plug that ethernet cable into the box and the box into an unoccupied outlet. When you boot up your computer, the transmitter shows up, ready to be configured into your own private WiFi domain.



Images: © Apple, shows Airport Express

You can then share it with your family.

*Visit: [www.apple.com/uk/shop/product/MC414B/A/airport-](http://www.apple.com/uk/shop/product/MC414B/A/airport-)*



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# coming soon...

## November 2015

Features, including:

Crowdsourcing the library and archive

Role of Twitter data in research projects

Library and technology turmoil

News

Reviews

Marketing insight

Technology roundup

## MMIT Conference 2015

The presentations will be available on the Group's blog:  
[mmitblog.wordpress.com](http://mmitblog.wordpress.com)



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*Your articles, photographs, reviews, thoughts and suggestions for the journal are always welcome, just contact Catherine Dhanjal on [catherine.dhanjal@theansweruk.com](mailto:catherine.dhanjal@theansweruk.com) or call +44 (0)800 998 7990.*



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