

OCLC® and The Combined Regions (TCR) are currently developing the UK's first online public library catalogue. Very soon, users will be able to conduct a simple Web search of holdings from over 80 percent of the UK's public libraries. Due for launch in late 2011, the initiative seeks to make public library holdings far more discoverable and accessible, improving awareness and driving significantly increased traffic back to local libraries.

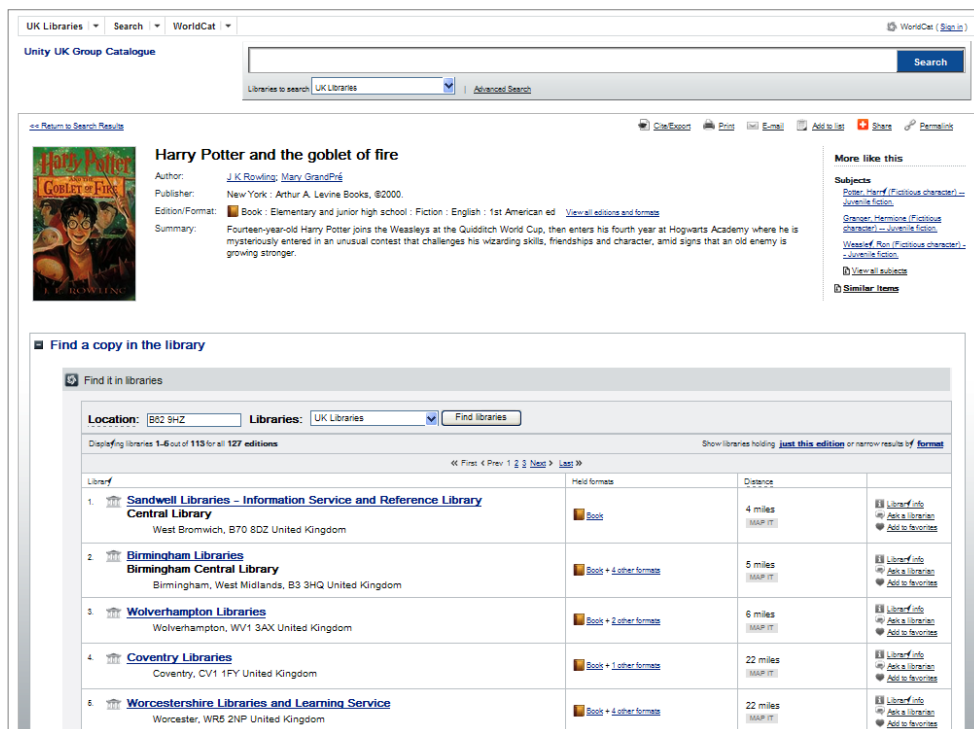
Increasing visits to your library

Initially based on holdings indexed in WorldCat®, the world's largest database of bibliographic information, the catalogue provides a view of holdings contributed by the 149 local authorities that currently subscribe to UnityUK, the UK's only nationwide network for resource sharing service.

The catalogue demonstrates the combined value of public libraries by making this data discoverable on the open Web. Indexing WorldCat information through search engines such as Google and Yahoo! increases visibility and ultimately usage via direct links to the individual catalogues of the participating libraries.

The catalogue provides:

- A simple Web interface allowing users to search across 9 million records and 50 million holdings from the UK's public libraries
- Links to your library's website, combined with 'closest copy' information, means greater access for your collections
- The option to include a compact search box on your website, so your users can find additional, verified information beyond the scope of your collection
- Increased relevancy and user engagement through enriched record data, clear item summaries, cover art, social tools and reviews.



The screenshot shows a search results page for 'Harry Potter and the goblet of fire'. The page includes a search bar at the top, a book cover image, and a detailed record with author, publisher, and edition information. Below the record is a section titled 'Find a copy in the library' which displays a table of library holdings. The table lists five libraries: Sandwell Libraries, Birmingham Libraries, Wolverhampton Libraries, Coventry Libraries, and Worcestershire Libraries and Learning Service, each with details on the number of copies, distance, and available formats.

Library	Held formats	Distance	Actions
Sandwell Libraries - Information Service and Reference Library Central Library West Bromwich, B70 8DZ United Kingdom	Book	4 miles MAP IT	Library info Ask a librarian Add to favorites
Birmingham Libraries Birmingham Central Library Birmingham, West Midlands, B3 3HQ United Kingdom	Book + 4 other formats	5 miles MAP IT	Library info Ask a librarian Add to favorites
Wolverhampton Libraries Wolverhampton, WV1 3AX United Kingdom	Book + 2 other formats	6 miles MAP IT	Library info Ask a librarian Add to favorites
Coventry Libraries Coventry, CV1 1FY United Kingdom	Book + 1 other format	22 miles MAP IT	Library info Ask a librarian Add to favorites
Worcestershire Libraries and Learning Service Worcester, WR5 2NP United Kingdom	Book + 4 other formats	22 miles MAP IT	Library info Ask a librarian Add to favorites

A new way of using public libraries...

Making your library truly public

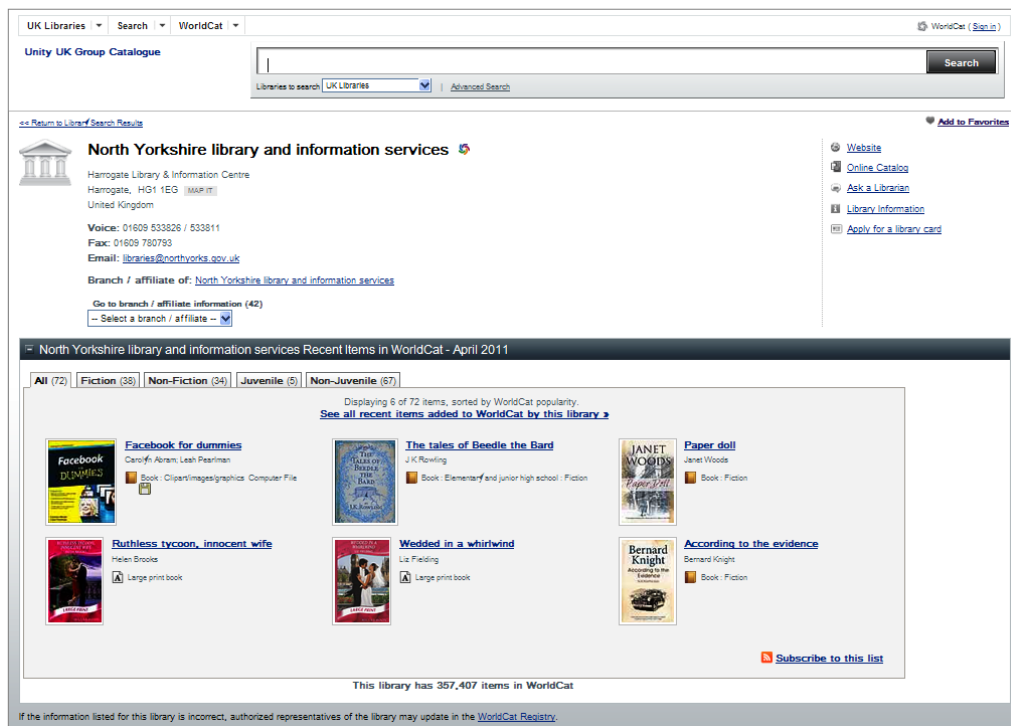
Public access to the catalogue will be available at anytime via a dedicated home page. This 'portal' will act as a gateway for users, providing a comprehensive view of public library holdings, and also connecting them with a range of relevant content and services, including:

- **Access to Enquire** – the national, real time, 24/7 digital reference service provided collaboratively by librarians.
- **The Reading Agency's various national initiatives such as the Summer Reading Challenge**, which is run in 95 percent of UK public libraries. With 750,000 children ages 4–11 taking part, the Summer Reading Challenge is the biggest national reading initiative run in libraries.

Be a part of it

Inclusion in the national catalogue is based on a full UnityUK subscription (for public libraries) or a WorldCat.org™ subscription (all other library types), and requires the regular submission of catalogue data via a MARC21 export.

To find out more about this exciting initiative, including how to get involved, please e-mail elisabeth.robinson@oclc.org.



The screenshot displays the WorldCat interface for the North Yorkshire library and information services. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'UK Libraries', 'Search', and 'WorldCat'. Below this is a search bar with a 'Search' button and a dropdown menu for 'Libraries to search' set to 'UK Libraries'. The main content area features the library's name, 'North Yorkshire library and information services', along with its address, contact information, and a dropdown menu for selecting a branch or affiliate. A section titled 'Recent Items in WorldCat - April 2011' shows a list of books with their covers and titles, including 'Facebook for dummies', 'The tales of Beedle the Bard', 'Paper doll', 'Ruthless tycoon, innocent wife', 'Wedded in a whirlwind', and 'Bernard Knight'. The page also includes a 'Subscribe to this list' button and a footer note about updating library information.