Journals

When you have looked at DiscoverEd and have searched it for a journal title, the next thing to do is, from the results list, open up the full DiscoverEd record and see where we have bought access to, or where the journal is held and for what years.

The top screenshot on this slide is of a journal we have online access to and the bottom screenshot is an example of one for which we have some issues held in print.

In both cases, the arrows point to information about the years or volumes/issues which are available in each of the different places. This sort of information is important, even for the online journals, because we may be able to buy a journal online from more than one place but for different years. If you are wanting to read an article from one particular issue then you want to be able to go to the right place to be able to do that.

The kind of information you see here, about the “available from” and what most recent years may not be available, can sometimes explain why the journal site you had gone to hadn’t let you read the article you wanted.

Where you see a straight underlining, in red, for the screenshot for the online holdings, this is highlighting that the most recent issues are supposed to be available from that particular online location, ie where an online journal has “Available from 2000” or “Available from 2007” and has no closing date that indicates the most recent issues are taken.

The very top entry on the screenshot (“Gale Cengage General OneFile”) the information underneath the holdings availability, the years that are available, tells you the most recent one year is not available from this intermediary supplier site. Therefore, you wouldn’t go there if what you wanted to read had been published last month.

Instead, from the options for the online holding, you would choose the third one down, “Nature Publishing Group” (ringed on the screenshot, in green) that says “Available from 2007 volume: 445 issue 7123.” But with no closing volume/issue after it and with nothing beneath it suggesting the latest year or eighteen months is not available. This is the link to use if you want to read an article published in the most recent issue of the journal for which this is the online holdings information in its DiscoverEd record.

The information in the print holdings tells you that, for example for this particular journal, we have volume 1 to 61 in the Special Collections area of the University Collections Facility which is a storage area at South Gyle. But we also have from 1997 onwards, still in the University Collections Facility. So we a gap there of 96 years or so but should you need print issues or articles from years that were published within either of those date ranges, then you would be able to get them because we do have them in print.

You are able to request material from the University Collections Facility just not at the moment [as of 1st September] You can also make requests for scans of particular journals we only have in print. Again that is not running at the moment. N.B. this service may recommence 4th October 2020 but is not confirmed.