The case of the vanishing journal:

A ten minute short story by Theo Andrew
(University of Edinburgh)
No 1 (2009)

AFRICAN STUDIES AND ETHNOGRAPHY'S PRIMITIVE TURN

Edited by Joost Fontein

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Background

- Centre of African Studies Occasional Paper series
- Replaced with OA journal launched in 2009
- Pilot OJS service from EUL
- 6 issues published under CC-BY licence
- Dec 2012 left OJS and signed with Taylor & Francis
Clue #1

Visibility, profile & reputation
Clue #2

Money & Sustainability
Clue #3

Professional production
Reaction and lessons learnt

- Took down OJS website
  - temp redirect in place 6 months
- Option to archive content in IR
- Learnt to better manage expectations of new journal editors
- Think about exit strategy at the start of the process
- Resounding success or dismal failure?
Arthur Conan Doyle born in Edinburgh.

One of the university’s most famous alumni.


Lived for a time in George Square.

http://www.era.lib.ed.ac.uk/handle/1842/418