Lessons Learned and Future Directions for the Research

We were fortunate to be able to meet all of our deadlines and to keep the project on track from the outset. We were also fortunate to find that the participants in our study were very generous with their time, and their contributions far exceeded our initial expectations. On reflection, we would in future consider providing financial or other incentives to boost the numbers of people responding to our survey. We also found during the course of the project, that support with admin and the organization of events would have been very helpful.

In the short term, we will be presenting a paper based on our initial findings at the Digital Humanities Conference in Sheffield in September 2012. We expect to publish further papers in academic journals over the coming year, and we will pursue further sources of funding to help develop and refine the research. We feel confident that we can build on this preliminary study to continue to provide valuable insights into the activities of readers online, in ways that will be of benefit to educators, those in the creative industries, publishing, and library and support services.

We will continue to update the project website as we go forward.