



cottage labs

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SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR OPEN RESEARCH

**MAKING RESEARCH DATA ACCESSIBLE,
USABLE, AND BUILT TO LAST**



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[CottageLabs](https://github.com/CottageLabs)

ABOUT COTTAGE LABS



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

We design and build software that helps organisations manage, share, and make sense of their data.

Working across research and publishing, we create open access platforms and data repositories that are reliable, scalable, and built for the long term.

Our **open source** approach gives organisations full control over their systems and data, avoiding vendor lock in while contributing to the wider research community.



WHAT WE DO

- **Build custom platforms and repositories**
- **Improve and scale existing systems**
- **Provide long term support and development**

Trusted by organisations like **DOAJ**, **DeepGreen** and **cOAlition S** supporting platforms used by researchers worldwide.

We work closely with our partners from idea through to delivery and ongoing support, building relationships that last.

We also deliver **open repository solutions** that help organisations manage, preserve, and share research outputs.

OUR SERVICES



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

We design and build software tailored to research and publishing, supporting organisations at every stage.



Build open source infrastructure that helps organisations manage, share, and preserve research data.



Create systems that are scalable, sustainable, and built to evolve



Give organisations full control over their technology and data



Work in partnership from early ideas through to long term support



Contribute to the wider research ecosystem through open standards and shared tools

These are the principles that shape our work and the partnerships we build, ensuring everything we create is open, sustainable, and designed to last.

OUR APPROACH



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

We take a collaborative, end to end approach to every project, from early ideas through to long term support.



Understand your needs

We start by listening and learning what matters most.

Design the right solution

We create systems tailored to your goals and workflows.



Build and deliver

We develop and launch software that works reliably in practice.

Support and evolve

We provide ongoing support to keep everything running and improving.



We don't just deliver projects, we **build long term partnerships** that evolve over time.

OUR CASE STUDIES



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

A selection of projects where we've designed, built, and supported research infrastructure.



We partnered with DeepGreen to improve a platform that delivers open access articles from publishers to repositories, making it more reliable and scalable.

THE CHALLENGE

DeepGreen began as a prototype to deliver open access articles from publishers to repositories.

As it grew, it needed to handle greater complexity, more integrations, and a wider range of content while remaining reliable and compliant.

THE IMPACT

WHAT WE DID

- Streamlined metadata processing and workflows
- Improved system reliability and performance
- Enhanced matching between publications and repositories
- Strengthened integrations across publishers and repositories
- Provided ongoing development and service support

- More reliable delivery of open access content
- Performance improved to support growing demand
- Greater visibility and control for repositories
- A system built for long term sustainability

OUR CASE STUDIES



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA



We've worked with DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) since 2013 to build and support a platform that helps people discover trusted open access journals and articles at scale.

THE CHALLENGE

As DOAJ grew, it needed to support increasing volumes of content, a global user base, and more complex data and review workflows.

The platform also had to remain reliable, scalable, and easy to use while adapting to the evolving needs of the open access landscape.

WHAT WE DID

- Developed a scalable, modular platform
- Built tools to support editorial and review workflows
- Created APIs and integrations for external systems
- Improved data management and automation
- Provided ongoing development and long term support

THE IMPACT

- **Supports millions of open access articles & journals worldwide**
- **Reliable performance under continuous global use**
- **Trusted source for open access discovery**
- **Integrated across a wide range of scholarly systems**

OUR CASE STUDIES



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA



We partnered with Ruhr University Bochum to deliver a flexible research data repository supporting multiple disciplines and a future shared service across Germany.

THE CHALLENGE

RUB needed more than a standard repository. With multiple research centres across disciplines, each with unique data and workflows, an out of the box solution was not enough.

The platform also needed to support complex metadata, structured data, and scale as a shared service for other universities.

WHAT WE DID

- Implemented DataCite with custom fields
- Built multi step submission and approval workflows
- Introduced structured storage with scalable S3 integration
- Developed tailored datasets, search, and user interfaces
- Provided ongoing development and long term support

THE IMPACT

- **A flexible platform that supports diverse research needs**
- **Improved efficiency and reliability across research workflows**
- **Greater visibility and control over research data**
- **A foundation for a shared, sustainable service for the future**

OUR CASE STUDIES



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA



We worked with EUI to develop a research repository to support COVID-19 data, improving how metadata is collected, managed, and shared.

THE CHALLENGE

EUI needed a reliable repository to support COVID-19 research, built on new software and tailored to their specific requirements.

The challenge was to ensure high quality metadata, stable performance, and a system that could evolve over time.

WHAT WE DID

- Developed a customised InvenioRDM repository
- Improved metadata harvesting and data pipelines
- Enhanced data quality and consistency
- Optimised system performance and reliability
- Provided ongoing support and version upgrades

THE IMPACT

- **A stable, reliable platform supporting research use**
- **Improved metadata quality and data consistency**
- **Faster, more efficient data processing**
- **A system maintained and evolved over time**

OUR CASE STUDIES



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

JOURNAL CHECKER TOOL

cOAlition S is a consortium of 25+ funders working to improve Open Access publishing.

Cottage Labs supports the consortium through the Journal Checker Tool, helping authors check whether their publishing route complies with Plan S.

THE CHALLENGE

Plan S requires funded authors to publish under specific Open Access conditions.

The coalition needed a tool that could combine journal information from multiple sources and guide authors towards compliant publishing options.

WHAT WE DID

- Developed and maintained Open Access data sources.
- Built a data aggregation and caching system using Crossref, DOAJ and ROR.
- Created a layered query system delivering detailed compliance guidance.
- Kept external data integrations accurate and up to date.

THE IMPACT

- **Over 1 million compliance checks delivered.**
- **Widely used by authors worldwide.**
- **Customised guidance for multiple funders.**
- **Improved visibility of publisher Open Access policies.**

YOUR DATA LIFECYCLE



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

We help you collect, organise, and manage data so it's easy to use and supports better decisions.

We design systems that support every stage of the data lifecycle.



Capture

Collect data from the right sources, with quality control built in from the start.



Store

Store data securely for efficient access and long term preservation.



Manage

Organise data through tailored workflows and tools.



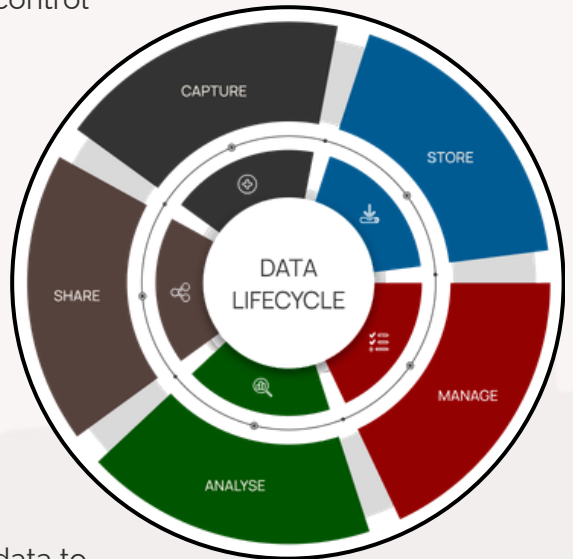
Analyse

Process and explore data to generate insights and support decision making.



Share

Make data accessible through platforms, interfaces, and integrations.



The data lifecycle covers every stage from creation to use, sharing, and long term preservation.

MEET THE PARTNERS



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

The partners behind Cottage Labs, combining deep technical expertise with long term partnership working.

Richard Jones

An experienced software engineer working comfortably across back end, data management, and front end visualisation.



Steve Eardley

Full stack developer and DevOps engineer specialising in cloud infrastructure, Kubernetes, and automation.



Anusha Ranganathan

Expert software engineer specialising in repositories, research information, and research data management.



A bigger team. Shared purpose.

At Cottage Labs, we are a collection of engineers and specialists working together at every stage, from early ideas through to long term support.

GET IN TOUCH



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DATA

Whether you're starting a new project or improving an existing system, **we'd love to hear from you.**



CONTACT



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