

NoWAL Newsletter

Spring 2017

NoWAL



North West Academic Libraries

End of an Era for Margaret

Margaret Weaver, the Head of Library & Student Services at the University of Cumbria and Chair of NoWAL from 2012 to 2015, is leaving the University at the end of March.



Margaret has led and managed the Library and Student Services department, delivering the student learning, advice, and employability support services of the University, for the past 14 years. During that time, she has established a reputation for excellent student support across all professional areas, leading her team to achieve exceptional results such as a THELMA in the 2014 awards for Outstanding Student Services & being shortlisted in 2016 for Outstanding Library Team.

As Chair of NoWAL, Margaret's drive and enthusiasm were infectious and she was instrumental in developing the consortium's reputation. She was the driving force in the development of business continuity and shared resources. She successfully steered NoWAL through its transition from company and charity status to partnership with SCOUNL, helping to ensure a more efficient and secure collaboration. She continued to be an advocate for the benefits of sharing best practice and expertise even after her role as Chair ended in August 2015. Everyone at NoWAL wishes her all the best for the next adventure!

University of Salford celebrates 50 years

The University of Salford is 50 this year and the library has been organising a number of events and activities as part of the overall celebrations:

- **Memory:** an exhibition comprising materials from the Libraries, Archives & Special Collections and from the University's Art Collection; and reflecting the themes of memory, sense of place and journeys.
- **Dear Library:** an initiative conceived by Chancellor and writer-in-residence, Jackie Kay, to champion libraries and celebrate the breadth of services they offer.
- **Timeline:** Salford library's archivist worked with colleagues from marketing and external relations to create a timeline telling the story of the university. The timeline can be viewed here: www.salford.ac.uk/we-are-50/the-past/timeline



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

1967 - 2017 50 YEARS

Love to Read at Manchester Met

Manchester Met is involved in the 'Love to Read' project in Manchester, aiming to encourage staff and students to enjoy reading for pleasure and not just for academic purposes. Provided by Manchester Public Libraries, 150 books, mainly popular fiction, plus some non-fiction material such as cookbooks and biographies are available for Manchester Met staff and students to borrow, in addition to their normal borrowing allocation. They can relax in style with the funky 'Love to read' cushions (pictured). Further info is available here: <http://libguides.mmu.ac.uk/lovetoread>

Library staff have also designed and produced a Reading Challenge to go with it, available both in Libraries and online. As it states on the Manchester Met website "The challenge is for personal gratification only, there won't be any prizes other than a great sense of achievement and a pat on the back from us!"

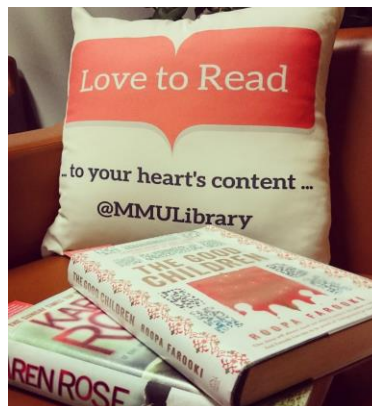
MMU Library 2017
READING CHALLENGE

Love to Read

Let us know how you are getting on with the challenge via social media:
 @MMULibrary
 @mmulibrary
 #LoveToRead

#MMUReadingChallenge

1. A book first published this decade	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. A book from a genre you have not read before	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. A book recommended by a friend or family member	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. A book originally published in a language you do not know	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. A book first published before you were born	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. A book of non-fiction	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. A book of poetry	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. A book of short stories	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. A book from the Library's Love To Read recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. A book written by someone or featuring a character who is LGBT	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. A Children's or Young Adult book	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. A book that was turned into a movie	<input type="checkbox"/>



You can get involved by sharing your favourite books and reading selfies from your workplace online with: #ReadMCR and #LovetoRead. There is more information on the National Literacy trust website at:

http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/communities/literacy_hubs/manchester

Photos courtesy of Manchester Metropolitan University

UCLan innovation wins prize

In December 2016, two new members of staff at UCLan, Megan Benson and Esther McLaughlin, won the [George Pitcher Award](#) (launched in 2016 by Ingenta Connect) looking for examples of new ideas for technical innovation to help industry. They submitted a pilot project, set up in response to the new disability legislation, to digitise reading list items for Visually Impaired (VI) students, using a ScanRobot. Their prize was tickets to the next LILAC conference, so if you do see either of them there, please feel free to ask them about the project!

NoWAL website hacked!

Thanks to everyone who has contacted me about the issues with the NoWAL website. As it's looking unlikely that the existing site will be operational again, details of the T&D programme will continue to be sent out via email, with direct links to Eventbrite for registration.

A [temporary blog](#) has been created with details of the 2017 conference, events, and news. If there is anything else you need access to, you have anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter or have any ideas for future NoWAL events, please contact Nicky Freeman: n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk / 0161 295 6768.

Lancaster's good behaviour drive

The Library at Lancaster partnered with the Students' Union to combat inconsiderate behaviour. There has been a massive upsurge in the popularity of the newly refurbished Library, which has brought with it an increase in noise, litter & "hogging" of popular workspaces. The Considerate Working Campaign is student-led, collaborative & empowers students to challenge their peers.

They have created banners, posters and e-screens, smaller notices have been placed in workspaces, and the campaign has been highlighted on social media & in student newsletters. Given student support for the initiative, the Library feels it has a student mandate to manage behaviour.



Photo courtesy of the Library at the University of Lancaster

T&D Events April 2017 – July 2017

Here's what's coming up April to July - click on each of the links for more information:

Who? What? Why? Models and factors for library purchasing

19 Apr 2017 10:00 – 1.00

Liverpool School of Topical Medicine

<http://bit.ly/2lyzgGJ>

Relationship Management – working with academics

26 Apr 2017 12:45 – 4.00

Edge Hill University

<http://bit.ly/2lcaMXv>

Sharing Best Practice on Equality & Diversity

17 May 2017 10:00 – 1.00

Manchester Metropolitan University

<http://bit.ly/2mEISjU>

Library Staff Development and Training Initiatives

24 May 2017 1:00 – 4.00

University of Salford

<http://bit.ly/2lqkkcJ>

Active Learning TeachMeet

7 Jun 2017 10:00 – 1.00

University of Chester

<http://bit.ly/2mKpckT>

Generating Content for Social Media

21 Jun 2017 10:00 - 1.00

University of Liverpool

<http://bit.ly/2m7ViCW>

Special Collections & Archives: Smart Strategies for Tough Times

27 Jun 2017 10:00 – 1.00

Liverpool John Moores University

<http://bit.ly/2jdrkJZ>

Who's talking about our research: the real-world application of Altmetrics

6 Jul 2017 10:00 – 1.00

RNCM

<http://bit.ly/2m8cece>

If you have ideas for events, please contact Nicky to see if we can get it organised: n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk.

Celebrating NoWAL Successes

Liverpool Hope University has welcomed Jayne Burgess, formerly at Manchester Metropolitan University, in the role of Deputy Director of Library Services.

Liverpool John Moores University has launched its new website www.ljmu.ac.uk/library.

In the final CSE Surveillance Assessment in the current recertification cycle, the Library at the **University of Salford** has maintained its Compliance Plus scores and was given no development points to address.

UCLan's subject librarians delivered information literacy sessions to 8000 students during semester one, the highest figure they have ever recorded!

RNCM's Geoff Thomason was awarded his PhD, entitled *Adolph Brodsky and his circle: European cross-currents in chamber music in late 19th and early 20th century Manchester*, at the College's annual Congregation of Awards ceremony in December 2016.

University of Cumbria's Kim McGowan features in the latest LILAC video on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) highlighting the Credo Digital Information Literacy Award. Kim, a former winner of the award, gives her view of what the award meant to her, including raising the profile of academic librarians in her university.

University of Manchester The Library Office won Gold in the 2016 Green Impact Awards, gaining the one of the highest points totals ever achieved. A range of activities were undertaken including lunchtime drop-in sessions with UMBUG (University of Manchester Bike Users Group), promotion of sustainable travel & purchasing recycled and environmentally friendly supplies. Continuing the 'green' theme, the Library is trialling an electric van in place of its current diesel vehicle. More information on how the trial went will feature in a later newsletter.

In January 2017, **Edge Hill's** Learning Services was assessed as being fully compliant in all elements of the CSE framework. It was awarded compliance plus in 7 areas of its work. EHU has been a CSE holder since 2005 and been awarded 19 compliance pluses over those 12 years.

Special Collections Community of Practice at Hope

Community of Practice (COP) groups are being used at Liverpool Hope to spread good practice in Learning and Teaching. A group of academics, with library support, have set up a COP to focus on and share experience of using materials in teaching from the Special Collections. Through this process, new subjects have engaged in using these materials including the Science Faculty. Library staff have also been involved with COPs looking at student mentoring and academic literacies.



Winged Figure returns to Cumbria

A sculpture created by Dame Barbara Hepworth is on display at the entrance to the refurbished library at the University of Cumbria's Lancaster campus. 'Winged Figure', which has been in store for months, is a maquette or miniature of the larger sculpture of the same name on the outside wall of John Lewis' Oxford Street store, unveiled on 23 April 1963.



The sculpture has a special connection with St Martin's College, a legacy institution of the University of Cumbria. The first principal of St Martin's, Dr Hugh Pollard, had what he described as a passion for Hepworth's work, so he urged a student who lived near the sculptor to 'call upon her and tell her of S. Martin's College'. The student secured a piece for the cost of the materials only, and an anonymous donation enabled the college to make the purchase in 1968. Since its arrival, it has been displayed in various locations on campus.

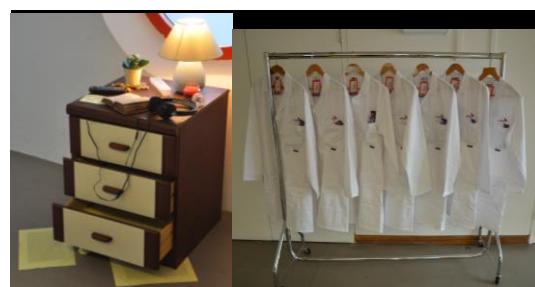
In redisplaying Winged Figure at the heart of the Lancaster campus library, the university recognises and celebrates an important part of its heritage.

Information and photo courtesy of the University of Cumbria. You can find further information here: <http://bit.ly/zmKKYoJ>

LSTM, LJMU and Liverpool Tate collaborate

In November 2016, Tate Liverpool displayed an art exhibition inspired by the science and history of LSTM and developed by the Artist Teachers Association and undergraduate art students from Liverpool John Moores.

The exhibition was a culmination of work by the artists over several months before, working closely with LSTM's Digital Resources and Collections Manager Sarah Lewis-Newton, as well as Honorary Fellow Meg Parkes and Vector Biology's postdoctoral researcher Dr Lee Haines who hosted a number of visits by the artists to LSTM. During the site visits, the artists investigated the archives, and explored the historical and scientific imagery of LSTM further. The diverse exhibition included sculptural pieces, the use of watercolour, laser-cut acrylic and the thought-provoking use of light and film.



Information and photos courtesy of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. You can find further information here: <http://bit.ly/2mESgUC>

'My Library tab' introduced on Learning Edge Hill

The library at Edge Hill has been working on developing its presence on the VLE – Learning Edge Hill. The library having a central and visible presence on the VLE is essential to students' perception of its value to their learning.

Since the introduction of the library tab in 2013, considerable developments have been undertaken to improve the look and feel, the most significant being in the summer of 2016. Using UX techniques, library staff investigated what the student experience looked like when accessing resources, help and support. One of the crucial improvements made as a result was renaming the tab which was re-launched as 'My library tab' in July 2016. A key feature is access to specialist subject web pages, including eResources and also a search box for the discovery tool 'Discover More'.

Following the recent improvements, staff report that they have seen the biggest increase in students accessing both the library tab and resources. With the improvements made at the start of the academic year, usage of the tabs overall has risen by 12% with the largest increase for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences which has risen by 35%.

Chester catch the mindfulness colouring bug!

Since the expansion of the Seaborne Library, students at the University of Chester are increasingly using the social areas of the Library to meet for a coffee or relax with friends between studies and were in need of some way to prevent themselves from burning out. A team within the Library decided to create a colouring poster specific to the surroundings and experiences of the university. The idea has been a great success and students are engaging well with the poster, as well as with the A5 handouts of the most popular sections which have been created for students to take away and use when they most need to de-stress and refocus away from the Library. The university hopes to roll the idea out across its other campus Libraries in the near future.

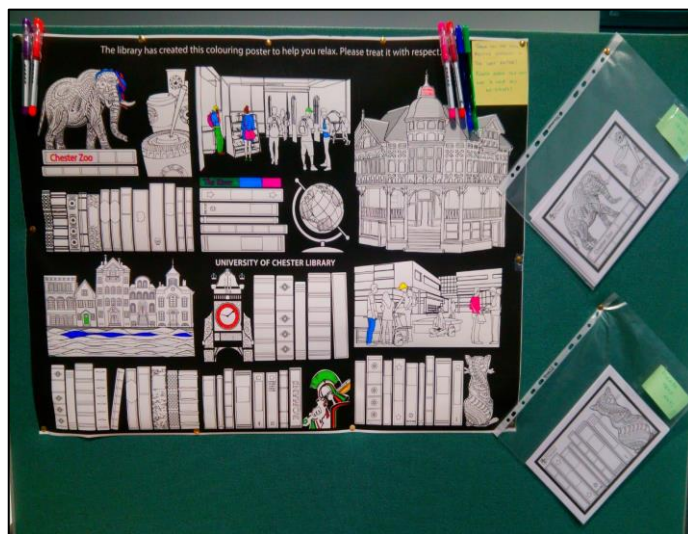
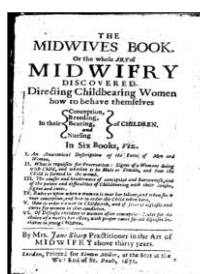


Photo courtesy of the Library at the University of Chester

Did you spot John Rylands Library on the TV?

The John Rylands library featured twice on TV in January 2017!



In the first feature, 'British History's Biggest Fibs', a revealing take on the lineage of English monarchs, Lucy Worsley focused on the Wars of the Roses and featured Latin MS 113, an exquisite 20ft long scroll from the late 15th century.

In the second, 'Call the Midwife – The Casebook', Stephen McGann (Dr Patrick Turner in Call the Midwife) explored social and medical changes in the 1950s and 60s relating to childbirth, interviewing a Manchester academic and featuring 17th century detailed anatomical drawings from The Midwives Book.