

Libraries Week 2017 : Meet the Team @Newcomb Library



#Hellomynameis...Kaye Bagshaw and I spend my time on a myriad of tasks! Some of them help keep the library running smoothly, such as setting up electronic resources, recruitment and keeping an eye on our finances. I also carry out literature searches to support quality improvement, service development and patient care, I run some of the inductions and training we offer and occasionally (wo)man the library enquiry desk. No two days are ever alike and that's good!

What gives you job satisfaction?

Knowing that our role has an impact on patient care

Earliest library memory?

Going to the children's library in the Woodhouse village library in Sheffield

Favourite library?

For the architecture Senate House library, for the contents the British Library

What are you reading now?

"Ghostwritten" by David Mitchell – rich and engrossing, like all his novels – working my way through them all

Favourite book?

Pride & Prejudice – a bit predictable, possibly

Favourite library resource?

The staff – there would be no library service without them

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#Hellomynameis...Phil and I am an Assistant Librarian at the Newcomb Library. I split my time between cataloguing new stock, training and delivering inductions, and literature searching.

What gives you job satisfaction?

Helping people find up to date and accurate information

Earliest library memory?

The children's section of the brutalist old Birmingham central library, searching through the audiobooks

Favourite library?

The old Birmingham central library, mainly for its heroic ugliness

Fictional library you would most like to visit

Miss Saeki's Takamatsu library in Murakami's Kafka on the Shore

What are you reading now?

The last book I finished was Cat on a hot tin roof

Favourite book?

Of Human Bondage by Somerset Maugham. Or 1984, depending on the company

Favourite library resource?

If I were a doctor I imagine I'd find UpToDate pretty useful

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#Hellomynameis...Dalia and I am the first point of contact in the library as I work mainly on the front desk dealing with all queries. As a Library Assistant my tasks are many and varied, for example; I carry out literature searches for Trust staff and students, and supply articles to other medical libraries. I never get bored as every day is so different.

What gives you job satisfaction?

Helping people and especially when I get feedback on how they are satisfied with the level of our service. My colleagues and library users are the best in the world and this makes me really happy. I always go to work with a smile on my face.

Earliest library memory?

I remember going to a secondary school library, whilst still being a primary school pupil, and the librarian couldn't offer me any books as I had already read all of them!

Favourite library?

Definitely the British Library. I used to work there. It has all materials you would need, great service, very comfortable reading rooms and nice, cosy atmosphere. There is a very lovely roof garden too!

Fictional library you would most like to visit

My fictional library would be one with bean bags on the floor, free tea and coffee, a garden leading from the reading rooms, and with basic gym facilities!

Favourite book?

I have lots of favourite books. I like Scandinavian authors such as Herbiorg Wassmo and her beautiful trilogy, family saga 'Dina's Book' and Axel Munthe 'The Story of San Michele'. They are absolutely beautiful stories about very strong people.

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#Hellomynameis...Heather

and I am the other Assistant Librarian. I sometimes staff the enquiry desk, as well as responding to email enquires, deliver training and inductions, supply articles to library users and other libraries, and do quite a lot of tweeting (on behalf of @NewcombLibrary) !

What gives you job satisfaction?

Signposting library users to information resources they may not already know about to make their job easier. I also enjoy doing a bit of library detective work – I recently tracked down, with the help of library colleagues in an American university, an elusive article that was wanted by a library user!

Earliest library memory?

Visiting my aunt who worked in a children's library and inspired me to be a librarian. Also visiting my local public library every Saturday to borrow the maximum 4 books

Favourite library?

The Reading Room at the Wellcome Library, in Euston Road is a fantastic space, visit it if you haven't already

Fictional library you would most like to visit

The "L" space in Terry Pratchett's Discworld novels, 'Knowledge is Power'

What are you reading now?

The Moonstone by Wilkie Collins

Favourite book?

Jane Eyre – a classic

Favourite library resource?

Not a resource as such, but a key to many others, my OpenAthens account