

NoWAL



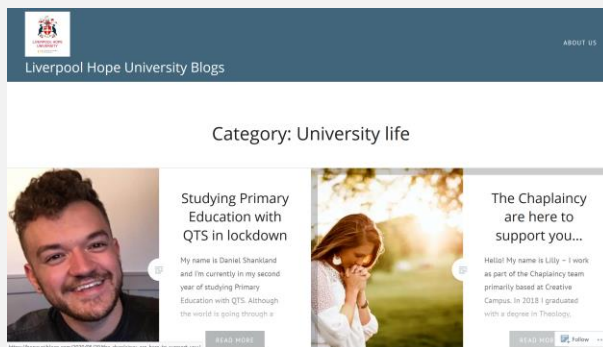
North West Academic Libraries

NOWAL
Newsletter

Summer 2020

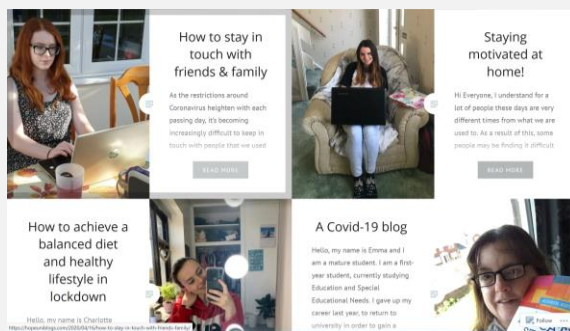
Liverpool Hope student blogs

Liverpool Hope's students have been sharing their tips on how to adjust to life in lockdown through their university blogs.



The students cover everything from how to maintain good mental health, how to stay active, tips for healthy eating and ways to stay motivated. As well as providing first-hand insights into university life to prospective students, the blogs are a way for Hope students to support their peers:

<https://hopeuniblogs.com/category/university-life/>



Images courtesy of Liverpool Hope University

Dead Sea Scroll fragments reveal text

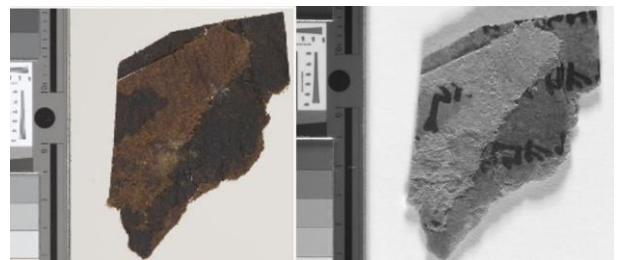


Image courtesy of John Rylands Library

New research has revealed that four Dead Sea Scroll manuscript fragments housed at The University of Manchester's John Rylands Library, which were previously thought to be blank, do in fact contain text. The discovery means that The University of Manchester is the only institution in the UK to possess authenticated textual fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Fifty one fragments were imaged front and back. Six were identified for further detailed investigation - of these, it was established that four have readable Hebrew/Aramaic text written in carbon-based ink. The study has also revealed ruled lines and small vestiges of letters on other fragments.

Staff Changes

Congratulations to James Stephens who has become the new Head of Library Services and University Librarian at the University of Cumbria.

Training & Development Programme

The last part of the NoWAL T&D Programme for 2019-2020 was impacted by the covid-19 lockdown. Of the 17 remaining events, 12 were postponed as many of the hosts were in the process of acclimatising to a new way of working (online and from home).

It was agreed that the other 5 would be delivered online - the programme of online events was as follows:

- **Special Collections** hosted by Lancaster University on 19th May and focusing on digital collections
- **Plan S Online Community Discussion** hosted by the NoWAL Research and NoWAL Procurement Groups on 20th May
- **Sustainability in Libraries** hosted by Liverpool Hope University on 12th June
- **Research Support in Libraries** hosted by the NoWAL Research Group on 9th July 2020
- **Library Administrators** hosted by Lancaster University on 15th July 2020

Feedback from all the events was really positive with participants clearly benefitting from the opportunity to get together online without the time and inconvenience of travelling to and from host institutions.

The programme for the next academic year will be delivered solely online, for the first semester at least, after which time, it will be reviewed and decisions made in line with the advice around travel, entry onto campuses etc. However, the intention is to offer a hybrid programme from now on, with a combination of online and face to face events being a feature of all our programmes.

We are currently looking to draw a programme together for 2020-2021 and have asked our members to suggest ideas and topics for future events.

If you have any ideas of events you would like to see on the programme, please send them to **Nicky Freeman** directly (contact details in the box to the right) or to your **Training & Development representative**. If you are not sure who that is, please contact Nicky and she will put you in touch.

Celebrating Successes

University of Manchester library's Neil Sprunt, a Teaching and Learning Librarian, has been awarded the University's Distinguished Achievement Medal for his role as copyright expert within the University. Neil has built up a very successful University-wide copyright advice service over the last few years.

UCLan's LIS has won the Golden Rose Award for University Service of the Year, organised by the Student's Union. It was in particular recognition of the support all areas of the service had provided in moving into lockdown.

Royal Northern College of Music Library was rated as excellent or good by 98% of respondents in its annual Library survey.

Liverpool John Moores University Two members of library staff were nominated in the JMSU Amazing Teacher Awards & Val Stevenson won the President's award for work on diversification of library collections and the implementation of the Rosetta Stone language online learning platform.

Any news to share?

Please contact **Nicky Freeman**, NoWAL Operations Officer (n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk) if you

- have a news item to share in the next newsletter
- have any successes or achievements to share
- have any ideas for future NoWAL events



Online Events Top Tips

We have drawn up a **Top Tips Guide to Running a NoWAL Online Event**. Please feel free to use it for any online events, and let us have your feedback, ideas and tips for inclusion in the Guide.

News in Brief

UoM digital preservation statement

A digital preservation statement has been produced and published by the Library which is intended to help focus its digital preservation activities and to support funding bids and accreditations. The Digital Preservation Statement sets out the principles and general objectives by which the University of Manchester Library manages and preserves its digital collections. It is available at:

<https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/about/policies/>

50 years of Carcanet Press celebrated in podcast

A **podcast** featuring items from an exhibition celebrating 50 years of Carcanet Press, which was installed in The John Rylands Library in mid-March, is available now. The Rylands Library closed as a result of the covid-19 pandemic the week that the exhibition was due to open, and as a result, it remains unvisited. For the podcast, each week Jessica Smith and John McAuliffe will talk to guests about the poets and poems they chose to spotlight. A digitised image from the exhibition will be up on the library's profile along with a discussion on why it was selected.

Chester's bookable webinars a hit

The University of Chester library ran a series of bookable library webinars for students and staff during April and June. Topics included managing your references using Endnote; researching commercial companies for applications and interviews; finding reliable health information and getting started with your systematic review. The webinars were hosted on Microsoft Teams and booked through Eventbrite. They were very well received and the library plans to continue the series over the summer with a focus on PGR students. All webinars along with bite sized how-to videos have been uploaded to the Library Skills Microsoft Stream channel.



Image courtesy of <https://riskintelliaence.eu/webinars>

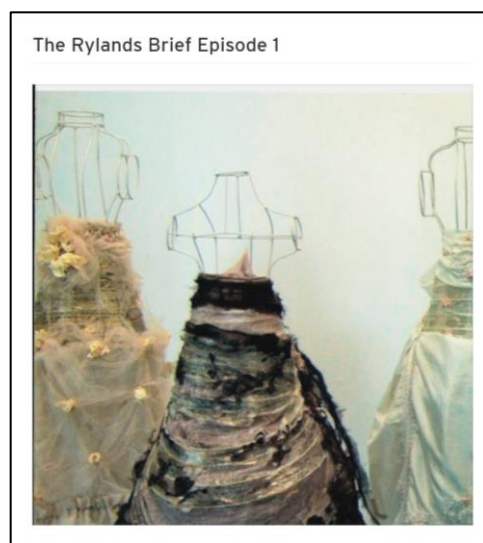


Image courtesy of University of Manchester Library

Bolton establishes Researcher Academy

The University of Bolton library has recently established the Researcher Academy site which can be found at:

<https://libguides.bolton.ac.uk/researchsupport/researcher-academy>

It is a learning platform available to all research students and staff at the University of Bolton. Researcher Academy has been developed by experts at Elsevier, and features videos and presentations, live webinars and learning resources that allow users to work through at their own pace.

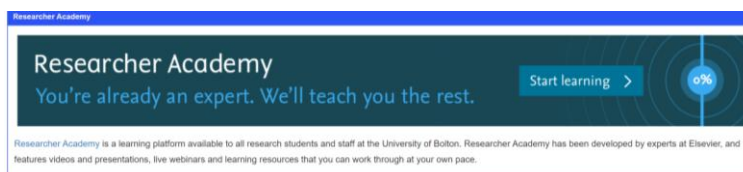


Image courtesy of University of Bolton