



## *CoLRiC Impact*

---

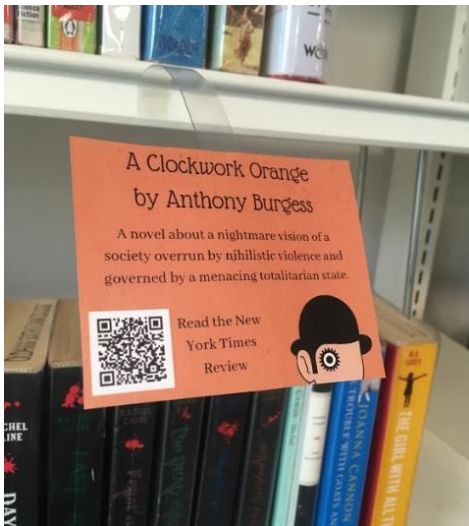
CoLRiC Impact is a regular e-bulletin that showcases exemplary practice and innovation across the FE and Sixth Form College sector. As a CoLRiC member you are invited to submit your own examples of good practice for publication to the CoLRiC community. All contributions that demonstrate the value and impact of libraries and learning resource services are welcome: case studies, reports, reviews, exemplar documents, features on local projects, national initiatives, cross sectorial collaborations and any good news stories you want to share. CoLRiC is written by the CoLRiC membership for the CoLRiC membership, and will engage colleagues, initiate discussion and support the exchange of ideas.

---

Welcome to the third issue of CoLRiC Impact for 2019. This bulletin showcases Oldham Sixth Form College's innovative approaches to repurposing and improving library spaces. OSFC's Library Resources Manager and CoLRiC Co-Chair Corinne Walker kicks off the first in a series of Executive Committee profiles entitled "Getting to know you." It's a great opportunity to meet the CoLRiC team, but also to read about the challenges and opportunities they encounter in their working lives. Sue Eaton, Subject Librarian at Kirklees College is also profiled in this issue. Approved CoLRiC supplier Browns Books for Students showcase their services and announce a summer of discounts of up to 40% on over 20, 000 titles.

This issue also features a call for CoLRiC members to apply to join the committee. Volunteering offers fantastic career development opportunities during a challenging time for the Further Education and Sixth Form College sector.

**Book now:** Please also ensure that you and your colleagues book to attend our conference on Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> 2019. During the event we will be presenting CoLRiC's prestigious Best Practice Awards and the Jeff Cooper Inspirational Information Professional of the Year Award.



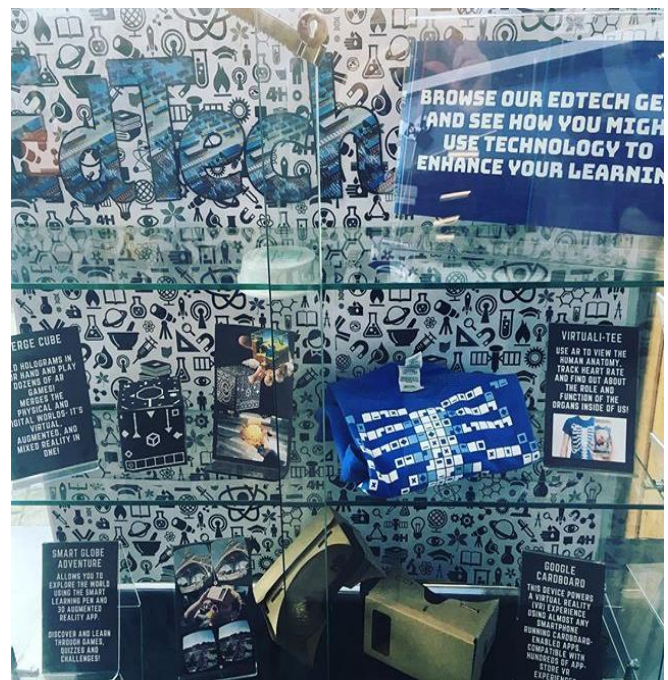
## Watch this Space: creating innovative library spaces in an FE college

*This article explores how Learning Resource Facilitators in an FE College utilise library spaces to create visual, engaging, digital and interactive displays which ultimately benefit learners*

### Display making 101

When beginning to change up a learning space within the library, the first question we always ask is “What purpose is this serving?” Often, the answer can be a simple: “Because the students might like it”, but the time and effort that go into making innovative learning spaces should usually feed into what is happening around College. At OSFC, we plan our learning spaces around the library’s own annual plan - a summary of important dates, weekly themes and college-wide promotions (such as revision week, careers week and healthy living). This helps us to ensure the displays we’re creating have relevance to our students and are related to what they see around the whole of campus every week, giving our library space a purposeful environment.

This doesn’t mean every single display we create has to be meaningful in this way. We create “subject of the month” displays to showcase the relevant books and resources we have for subjects, so students may find a useful textbook or revision website for their course. We also promote literacy and reading for pleasure by creating fiction displays in every genre from fantasy, horror and war to our selection of graphic and manga novels. What might appear to be a fun Game of Thrones display serves multiple purposes: it’s an interesting, interactive display that students enjoy seeing, and it might even get them to read something new too.



*Example of an EdTech display promoting Digital Resources*

## Digital displays

You can utilise digital technologies to make your promotions visually interesting, more engaging for students and easier for them to interact with. For instance, as part of our World Book Night promotion, we had a dozen copies of a previous WBN winner. Instead of simply giving these to students who wanted them, we added a QR code to our display. This code led students to a Google Form, which they had to complete to earn a copy of the book. This was much more engaging and productive than a traditional poster promotion and giveaway; it allowed students to interact with the library space, improve their digital skills, and generated user feedback about a specific product and service we offer. We've also utilised QR codes to promote stock; a short summary about promoted books and a QR code leading to an online book review adds an extra dimension to our fiction section.

If your library has TV screens, these are another great way to use technology to support learning. At OSFC library, we utilise TV screens around the library areas, as well as a touchscreen display at the library reception. Recently, we were inspired by the Twitter trend in libraries called "Bookflix", a Netflix-version of browsing books to binge. We created our own version to promote our stock by displaying titles on the touchscreen with interactive links to our library catalogue. This enabled students to discover new books, something they wouldn't necessarily pick up from a regular bookshelf.



## Take a leaf out of someone else's book

Don't worry if you're not the "techie" person or don't have a ton of ideas about creating interesting displays or learning spaces. Browsing resources like Twitter and Pinterest can give you lots of ideas for displays, events and competitions that you can try out. Just search for relevant terms on these sites or apps. Also, don't forget other social media sites! Finding other library institutions can be a great source of inspiration and can foster collaboration between libraries. Having your own library accounts on Twitter/Instagram can mean more students see your content too, further increasing engagement between you and your learners. Using these as a springboard for your own library means you can adapt them to suit your learners' needs and interests. If you try something and it doesn't quite work, don't worry! Analyse what worked and what didn't and feed this into future projects. Asking students for their views and comments via Google Forms or a quick paper survey can also garner valuable feedback about your library spaces.



There are lots of ways to make your displays stand out without needing a degree in graphic design! A great website used in our College library is Canva. This site allows you to design posters, cards, presentations, social media banners and more. Canva has loads of free designs for you to customise with text, images, hyperlinks and more, and it's easy to use. You can use it to make a whole host of professional-looking content for displays and library spaces.



These are just a few of the ways library spaces and displays have been implemented to facilitate student learning and engagement. You can get inspiration from this or try something new in your library. You don't always have to do it by the book! If you have any questions or want to get in touch for some help or inspiration, I'm always available for a chat about anything libraries!

Hayley Hewitt- Learning Resource Facilitator at Oldham Sixth Form College [HHT@osfc.ac.uk](mailto:HHT@osfc.ac.uk)

## Getting to know you: Corinne Walker



**Name:** Corinne Walker

**Title:** Co-Chair CoLRiC and Learning Resources Manager, Oldham Sixth Form College (since 1992).

**Committee area of responsibility:** Co-Chair, GDPR/DPO, Strategic planning, Conference planning.

**Cross college/academic responsibilities:** Cross College Managers Group, Resources Group, Health & Safety Committee, Staff Engagement Group, Chair of LEGO (Librarians in Education Group Oldham).

**Professional areas of specialism:** GDPR/DPO, Copyright, reading for pleasure, refurbishments.

**Professional areas of interest:** Reader development, maximising value for money and flexible use of space, using new technologies to enhance the student experience.

**Current professional challenges:** Value for money with declining budgets and prioritising workloads with fewer staff. Ensuring ongoing CPD to keep staff upskilled with new technologies.

**What are the top three issues all librarians need to address in order to provide proactive, responsive provision?**

- Know your users
- Be creative with budgets, time and space
- Work closely with the curriculum to place yourselves at the centre.

**What do you like to read?**

I love reading and read daily, whether it be a newspaper, magazine or books. On holiday I can easily get through a dozen books. My tastes are very eclectic, and I do read just about anything. However, my favourite fiction genre is Crime/Thrillers/Mysteries; normally the gorier the better; nothing like a bit of slice and dice, or research as I like to call it! I probably know enough now on how to commit the perfect murder, so you've been warned.

I like historical biographies, particularly those relating to early and medieval Britain and have just finished a book on the War of the Roses. I'm not overly keen on Fantasy and sci fi genres but did enjoy the Game of Thrones series and do enjoy dystopian/post-apocalyptic fiction. I really enjoy popular science books, and I'm particularly fascinated with ones about quantum/theoretical physics, even though I don't necessarily understand them!

### **Any favourite authors?**

I find Bill Bryson very entertaining. Also, David Starkey and Alison Weir who write historical biographies; and any thriller writer.

### **Do you have any favourite books?**

My all-time favourite book is "Watchers" by Dean Koontz, which I re-read at least three or four times a year. It's a sci-fi thriller about a genetically enhanced golden retriever called Einstein, which I first read over twenty years ago, and I still cry every time. My other favourite is "A Short History of Nearly Everything" by Bill Bryson, which I regularly re-read.

### **Anything you wouldn't read/don't like?**

Most fantasy fiction (except Game of Thrones) leaves me cold and I've never read a classic by such authors as Jane Austen, Dickens and Bronte, for example - (shock, horror!).

### **What do you like to watch?**

I love The Walking Dead. I know what to do and where to go in the event of a zombie apocalypse and I'm secretly in love with Darryl Dixon. Other favourites include; Game of Thrones, Modern Family, Friends (I am Monica!) and The Big Bang Theory; the latter particularly appealing to my inner nerd/geek and fascination with physics. Cooking and baking (I love GBBO) are important to me, and I aspire to be as good as Mary Berry, but that may take forever. I'm a sucker for a good kitchen gadget.

### **What are your pet hates?**

Peeling oranges (fiddly, messy, smelly, although glorious taste), white socks with black shoes (fashion crime of the century), cruelty to animals, rudeness/arrogance.

### **Fun facts**

I've been on TV three times, including Noel Edmonds Late Late Breakfast Show in the 1980s (how many American footballers can you fit on a double bed!). I am a big rock/metal fan and I've seen all the big bands many times. I have a penchant for 1980s "Hair Metal" and particularly for bands such as Kiss, AC/DC, Whitesnake, Thunder and Y&T.

### **Any words of wisdom?**

- Never judge a book by its film!
- Read what you like, not what people say you should. There's no such thing as reading the "wrong" books. Reading is reading
- If you don't like reading you just haven't found the right book
- Be kind, it costs nothing
- Choose your battles wisely!



# BROWNS BOOKS FOR STUDENTS

*The Leading Educational and Library Supplier*

**Buy with confidence from the leading supplier of books to  
education**

*The one stop solution for all your book, eBooks and audio-visual  
needs*

## **Browns Books for Students: approved CoLRiC supplier**

Every UK publisher in print with over 800,000 in stock titles

Choose to add plastic jackets by order

Departmental separation

Competitive discounts

FREE next day delivery on orders placed before 4pm

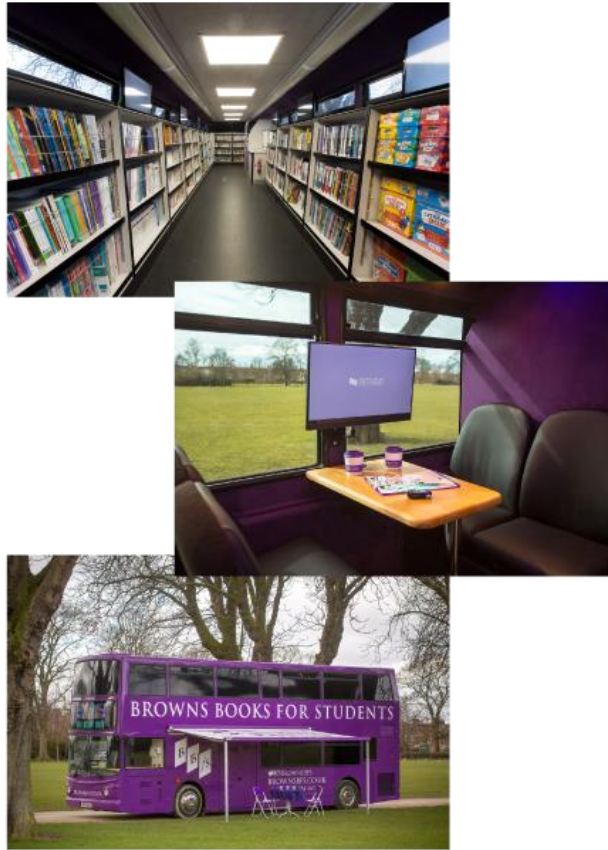
Customer Care help and support

Mobile Educational Showroom "The Book Bus" All deliveries are invoiced to the colleges

Put all of your summer text orders together and receive in one delivery

**We tailor our services to your needs**





## Summer Promotions 2019

Running May 1<sup>st</sup> until July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, Discounts of up to 40% on over 20,000 titles including BTEC, A-Level, City & Guilds and Revision.



# CoLRiC Conference - 'The Road Ahead - Being Stronger Together'

*“Libraries play a critical role in supporting organisational goals and strategies. Our resources and services have demonstrable value and impact helping create and sustain an institution-wide lifelong learning environment.”*

Mirna Peach and Corinne Walker, the Co-Chairs of Council for Learning Resources in Colleges

CoLRiC is delighted to announce that bookings are now open for its 2019 Conference: “The Road Ahead – being stronger together.” The event will acknowledge and celebrate exemplary practice and innovation across the FE and Sixth Form College sector.



Date: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019

Venue: University College Birmingham

Click [here](#) to download the full programme.

Click [here](#) to book online.

The event will feature a programme of plenary sessions and a keynote presentation from Liz McGettigan, Director of Digital Library and Cultural Experiences, SOLUS UK. There is also a choice of break-out workshops.

The focus of the conference is on sharing strategies to help us adapt and thrive during challenging financial times.

Liz McGettigan writes: “Libraries and learning resource centres are facing many challenges, not least the chronic underfunding of resources and staffing that have become ‘the new normal’ for most of us.”

How do we revitalise our libraries to deliver an engaging, exciting and collaborative future? How can we harness effective internal and external partnerships and support from the intersection of technology, business and people? How can we share ideas and build more collaborative communities?

Themes the conference will address include:

- Being creative in an uncertain world
- Delivering cutting edge digital services
- Embracing, managing and driving change.

“The Road Ahead” will also celebrate innovation and team working with the presentation of CoLRiC's prestigious Best Practice Awards, alongside the CoLRiC Jeff Cooper Award for Inspirational Information Professional of the Year.

Throughout the day there will be plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues and fellow CoLRiC members. Our sponsors will also be exhibiting and presenting their latest products and services.

To book your place [please click here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact CoLRiC's administrators Val Skelton and Gary Horrocks.



*CoLRiC Executive Committee members old and new reunite at the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference held in Birmingham in 2018*



*CoLRiC Co-Chairs Mirna Peach and Corinne Walker with CoLRiC's founder Jeff Cooper*



*CILIP's CEO Nick Poole opens the 2018 CoLRiC 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference with an inspiring keynote*



*Food for thought. Delegates at last year's conference*



*Helen Crowther, Library Manager at Blackpool Sixth Form College. Proud recipient of the 2018 Jeff Cooper Award*



## Getting to know you: Sue Eaton



**Name:** Sue Eaton

**Title:** Subject Librarian (Literacy) with responsibility for Adult Learning and Skills; Foundation Learning and Teacher Education, Kirklees College (since 2007)

**Committee area of responsibility:** Committee member. To date involved in conference planning and website development.

**Cross college/academic responsibilities:** LRC Disability Liaison; Read&Write Trainer – Level 2; Customer Service group member and Equality and Diversity recruitment champion.

**Professional areas of specialism:** Adult Literacy, Volunteering, Service Area accessibility and refurbishment.

**Professional areas of interest:** Reader development, maximising value for money, flexible use of space, using new technologies to enhance the student experience.

**Current professional challenges:** Student engagement, providing value for money in terms of stock with declining budgets, academic staff liaison.

**What are the top three issues all librarians need to address in order to provide proactive, responsive provision?**

- Know your customers and their needs
- Building stronger relationships with all faculties
- Try to do more with less in terms of budgets and staffing.

**What do you like to read?**

I have always loved reading, despite having a visual impairment. As a child I devoured any books that I could get my hands on, either by borrowing them from the public library or by spending all my pocket money in the local bookshop; much to my parents' amazement!

The arrival of the e-book format has truly changed how I read. No more having to cart around large print tomes or hand-magnifiers for me, reading for me is now truly accessible.

Like most people I do enjoy a bit of crime, the more complicated the better as I like to be challenged. One of my favourite authors is Ann Cleeves, since I was lucky enough to work with her when she was the Reading Development Officer for Kirklees Libraries.

Historical mysteries are also a favourite as I often find that they make me want to find out more about the period in which they are set. However, my guilty secret is that I am a big fan of the Outlander series. It is taking me age to read them for two reasons. Firstly, when you read an e-version of a book, you have no idea how enormous the book really is, and secondly, I keep getting side-tracked by historical figures and events and want to find out more about them!

### **Any favourite authors?**

Agatha Christie, C.J. Sansom, Ann Cleeves, S. J. Parris and of course Diana Gabaldon.

### **Do you have any favourite books?**

My "Desert Island" book is "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee, which I have read several times, since first reading it in my teens. I discover something new every time I read it.

### **Anything you wouldn't read/don't like?**

I have always struggled with the sci-fi and fantasy genres, although I have been forced to read some classic ones by authors such as Ray Bradbury and Phillip K. Dick because of reading group choices

I can't read Shakespeare! I hated reading "Macbeth" and "King Lear" at school and still can't bring myself to read them again even now. For me in order to appreciate the beauty in the language of Shakespeare's plays they must be seen on stage.

### **What do you like to watch?**

To be honest my viewing habits are a bit eclectic! I am a real sucker for a US crime series, especially the psychological ones which make you concentrate, such as Elementary (and am currently hooked on Perception).

I've recently subscribed to Amazon Prime, which has enabled me to finally get to watch the whole three series of Versailles as well as The Man in the High Castle (based on the Phillip K Dick books).

Having spent the past five years working on our house, I love watching anything to do with home renovation / restoration, such as Grand Designs, The Restoration Man, Salvage Hunters and the Repair Shop to name a few.

My guilty pleasure is watching Neighbours and getting to discuss the latest ludicrous plotlines with two of my colleagues who also watch the show (much to the amusement of the rest of the team!)

### **What are your pet hates?**

Being "labelled" by society, rather than just being judge on my own merits / failings. People sitting on tables when there are perfectly serviceable chairs available, and I'm not just taking about the students, staff are equally as guilty.

Foodwise, it's got to be sprouts, an abomination on the vegetable world as far as I'm concerned.

### **Fun facts**

I'm actively involved as a volunteer Front of House (FOH) manager / steward at several local theatres but have never been in a stage production in my life. (Even just the idea of being in a production completely freaks me out.)

I am an arctophile! (For those of you who don't know it's someone who collects or is very fond of teddy bears.)

I am allergic to snowdrop bulbs, but my sister is allergic to the flowers. So, she plants 'em and I pick 'em.

### **Any words of wisdom?**

- "We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak" (Epictetus)
- "Life is not a dress rehearsal" (Rose Tremain)
- "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today." (Benjamin Franklin)
- All reading is good reading, regardless of how and what you read. (I always say this to all new students during inductions.)

# An invitation to join the committee

Are you a CoLRiC member looking for an opportunity to collaborate with like-minded colleagues?

We are looking to enhance our Executive Committee with additional members, and we'd love to hear from you.

CoLRiC is run *for* members *by* members. Our Executive Committee is made up of volunteers who are committed to championing excellence in libraries and Learning Resource Centres in Further Education.

## Why join us?

- Work collaboratively with like-minded individuals all committed to impact, excellence and making a real difference
- Committee work is an excellent way to develop a range of skills and work with - and learn from - a variety of people outside your own organisation
- Being part of a national committee can help raise your profile and that of your service within your own organisation

## How we work

Our CoLRiC committee works collaboratively, agreeing responsibilities, roles and tasks and working in smaller groups or teams to deliver agreed targets and outcomes. The Executive Committee is supported by two administrators and meets approximately three times every year. Some of our meetings are virtual, so will not disrupt your working day. Any travel expenses are covered by CoLRiC, and lunch, refreshments and chocolate biscuits are provided!

## What we are looking for

Applicants should be CoLRiC members and we welcome applications from under-represented communities/regions.

We are looking for 'all-round' members to join us, but we are also looking for colleagues who are specifically interested in:

- Working on our annual Best Practice Awards
- Providing support to and learning from our Treasurer
- Training to become an assessor as part of CoLRiC's prestigious peer accreditation scheme
- Providing technical and digital content support for the new website we plan to launch in the new year

We are also interested in working with new/early career professionals who are interested in the CPD value of committee work or who are in the process of CILIP chartership.



## Interested? Here's what to do next

Please contact our Admin team expressing your interest in joining the team. Email:

[colric@colric.org.uk](mailto:colric@colric.org.uk) Tel: 07879667347

We can send you more information and a brief application form. Please specify which areas you are interested in working with us on. We look forward to hearing from you!

---

CoLRiC encourages the submission of articles by all members for publication in CoLRiC Impact. To discuss ideas for articles in advance please give us a call on 07879 667347 or send an e-mail with a short outline of proposed content. To submit an article please email the following to [colric@colric.org.uk](mailto:colric@colric.org.uk): (a) an unformatted Word document; (b) any associated files or images; (c) any recommended further reading; and (d) any links to any external content to be embedded into the final e-bulletin. There are no limits on the number of articles or the word count. The CoLRiC administrative team will be responsible for formatting, editing and proof reading all contributions before publication. Please include the email addresses and job titles of all contributing authors. All authors will retain their copyright.

[www.colric.org.uk](http://www.colric.org.uk)

---