

“It’s in the FUN channel!”

Teambuilding through writing a library research paper

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What am I going to learn?

- Background
- How we feel about research
- The journey – and the destination
- Everyone's favourite: group work
- Did somebody say... key takeaways!



Background

NEW REVIEW OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIANSHIP
2020, VOL. 26, NO. 1, 31–55
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13614533.2019.1630450>

 **Routledge**
Taylor & Francis Group



Engagement With Impact: Enhancing the Student Learning Experience During Year One of a Functional Library Model

Tamasine Ashcroft, Lisa Bird, Stephen Bull, Polly Harper, Ann-Marie James, and Catherine Robertson

Library Services, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

ABSTRACT

In summer 2017, the University of Birmingham reconfigured from a subject librarian model of academic library support to a functional or task-based model, including the creation of a dedicated Engagement Team. Using case studies from the new team, an internal survey of staff across the University alongside a survey of librarians from other institutions, the article highlights the many perspectives on the debate: the Library management impetus for consistency and strategic engagement, academic perspectives on how well the Engagement Team works for them, and views of Library staff. The case studies demonstrate the team's contribution to the institutional teaching and learning agenda, particularly around academic skills enhancements, creating connections with staff and students, and through improved processes of collection development. This article adds to the relatively small body of literature on the impact and value of a functional model configuration that includes a dedicated Engagement Team.

KEYWORDS

Relationship management;
academic libraries;
functional library model;
academic engagement;
teaching and learning



<https://doi.org/10.1080/13614533.2019.1630450>



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Background

- Five years since last paper
- Gap in the market
- New staff in team
- Neat CPD opportunity
- For the fame



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How do we feel about research?



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How do we feel about research?

- Publishing landscape
- Skills involved
- Opportunities/Threats
- Confidence vs Inexperience



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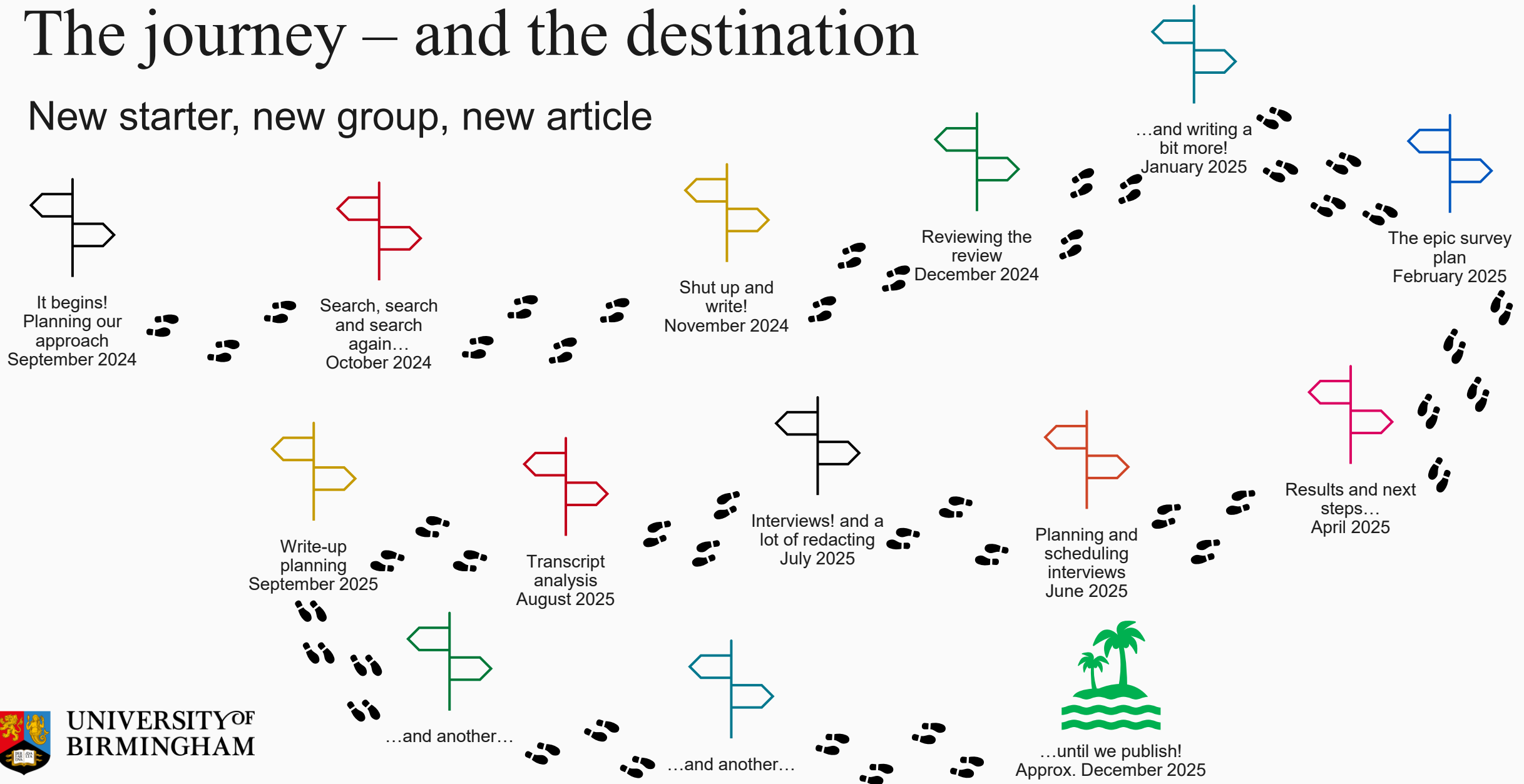
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The journey – and the destination

New starter, new group, new article



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The journey – and the destination

Six people, two institutions, one paper

Time	Location	Expertise	Personal preference
• Protected time together • Flexibility of individual schedules • Collaboration	• Change of scenery allows focus • Making use of campus space • Scheduled shut up and write	• Everyone brings their own skills • Opportunity to try something new • Support from colleagues	• May be good at something, doesn't mean you have to do it • Many hands make light work



Everyone's favourite: group work



Step 1

Introduce yourself

Tell everyone about:

- Your first library job
- What you still enjoy about libraries



Step 2

Decide on a research question

You are NOT expected to form a plan – just decide, as a group, on a library-related research question you would like to investigate



Step 3

Tell us all about it!

Let us know:

- What your research question is
- Why you decided on it

There are no right/wrong/better/worse questions!



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Everyone's favourite: group work

START PLANNING!

3 MINUTES

WHAT ARE YOU WRITING? (Case study/Literature review/Blog post/Survey analysis/Systematic review etc.)

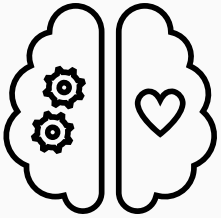
WHAT IS YOUR DEADLINE (3 weeks, 3 months, 3 years...?)

WHO'S DOING WHAT? (Are you dividing the workload equally or according to skills/interests/existing workloads?)

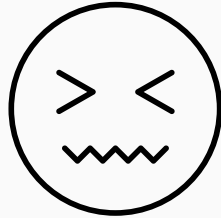


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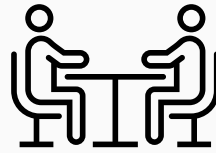
Did somebody say... key takeaways!



Keep it
interesting



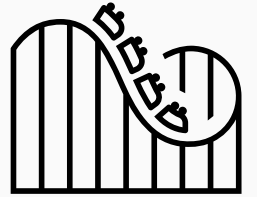
Make life
easy for
yourself



Communicate



It's the
journey
AND the
destination



It's meant
to be FUN!



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Any questions?



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