

Read to **Learn**

Read to **Engage**

Read to **Discover**

Read to **Grow**

Read to **Relate**

Read to **Relax**



Just Read!

A library initiative to get students reading

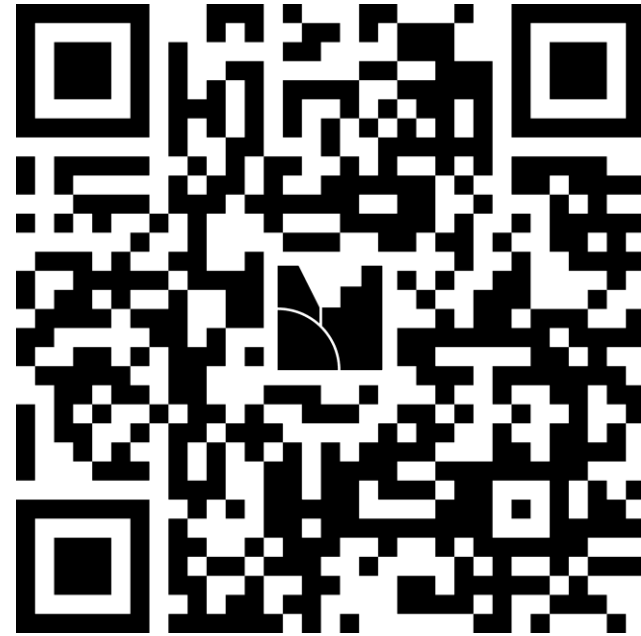
Hayley Chevell

Academic Liaison Librarian

Coventry University

Your reading habits

Scan the QR code
or visit Menti.com
and enter the code.



Background to project

Previous engagement events



- Wellbeing and inclusion
- Included various activities
- Did include related books for students to browse
- Wanted to concentrate on reading

Just Read! Project Group

Head of Academic Liaison

Julie McCall

**Academic Liaison
Librarian**

**Hayley Chevell
Suzanne White
Olivia Llewellyn
Lee Dickerson
Gill Evans
Lisa Lawrence**

**Senior Library
Assistant**

Rachel Savery

**Library
Assistant**

**Kirsty Grimley
Melanie Benford**

**Deputy Campus
Librarian**

Will Johnson

**Partnerships &
Outreach
Coordinator
(Archives &
Special
Collections)**

Paul Nolan

Research into reading – The Reading Agency



The State of the Nation's Adult Reading: 2024 Report

19 July 2024

Half of all adults in the UK don't read regularly, and 1 in 6 – that's **8.5 million** – struggles to read at all. ¹ Our mission is to create a world of opportunity where every adult can access the benefits of reading. Reading not only makes us more aware and informed but also more empathetic, understanding of other people and cultures, and supports our health, wellbeing, and ability to learn new skills and communicate effectively.

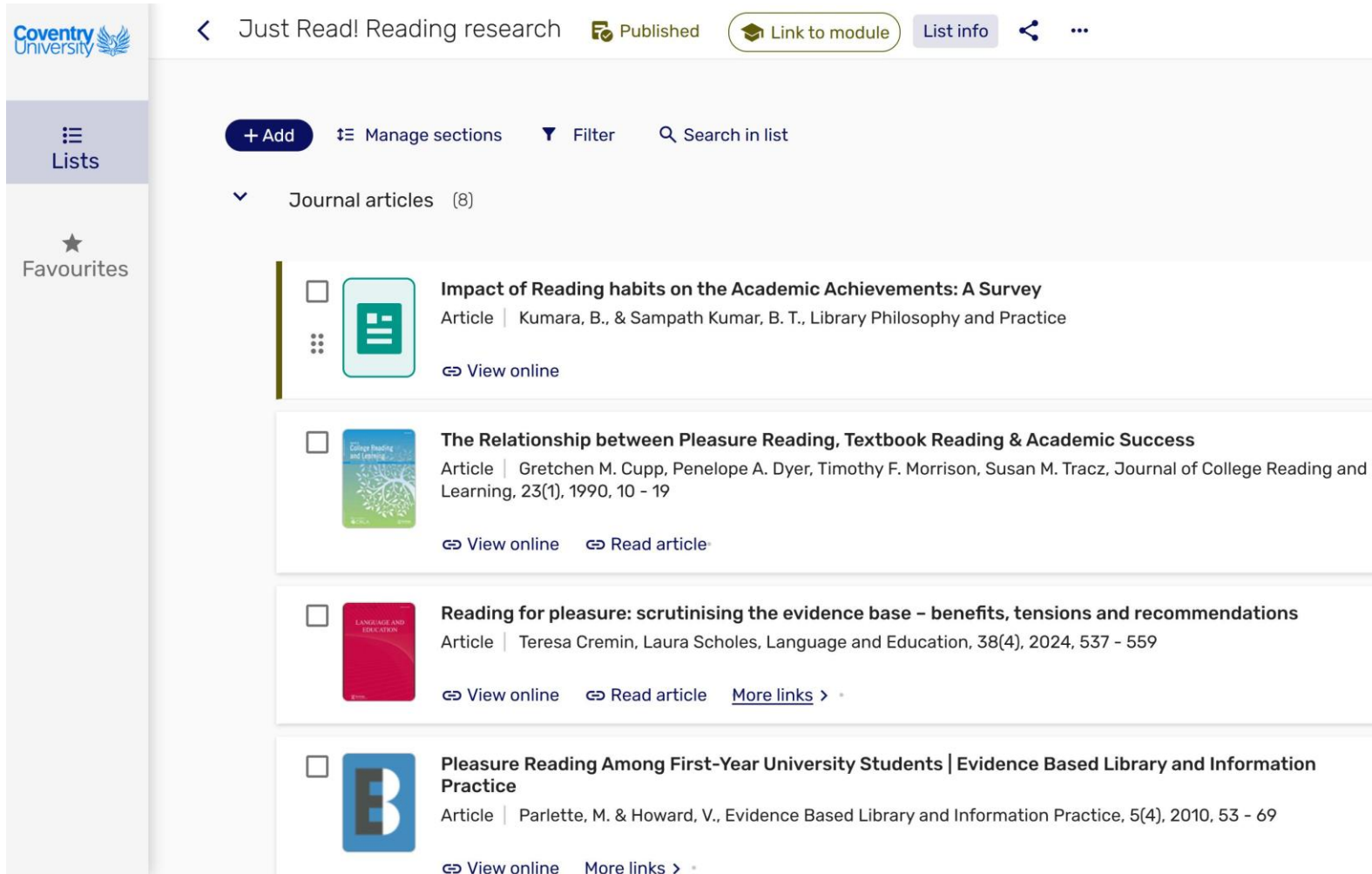
“Generational Differences

Young adults (16-34) face the most barriers to reading, including lower enjoyment (55%), difficulty focusing (42%), and challenges finding relatable content (39%)”

(Reading Agency, 2024)

The Reading Agency. (2024). *The state of the nation's adult reading: 2024 report*. <https://readingagency.org.uk/adult-reading-research-report-2024/>

Research into reading habits of students



The screenshot shows a web interface for a research list. On the left is a sidebar with the Coventry University logo, a 'Lists' button, and a 'Favourites' section. The main content area is titled 'Just Read! Reading research' and includes a 'Published' filter, a 'Link to module' button, and a 'List info' button. Below this is a search bar and a 'Journal articles (8)' section. Four articles are listed, each with a checkbox, a thumbnail, the title, author information, and links to view online or read the article.

Coventry University

Just Read! Reading research Published Link to module List info

+ Add Manage sections Filter Search in list

Journal articles (8)

- ☐  **Impact of Reading habits on the Academic Achievements: A Survey**
Article | Kumara, B., & Sampath Kumar, B. T., Library Philosophy and Practice
[View online](#)
- ☐  **The Relationship between Pleasure Reading, Textbook Reading & Academic Success**
Article | Gretchen M. Cupp, Penelope A. Dyer, Timothy F. Morrison, Susan M. Tracz, Journal of College Reading and Learning, 23(1), 1990, 10 - 19
[View online](#) [Read article](#)
- ☐  **Reading for pleasure: scrutinising the evidence base – benefits, tensions and recommendations**
Article | Teresa Cremin, Laura Scholes, Language and Education, 38(4), 2024, 537 - 559
[View online](#) [Read article](#) [More links >](#)
- ☐  **Pleasure Reading Among First-Year University Students | Evidence Based Library and Information Practice**
Article | Parlette, M. & Howard, V., Evidence Based Library and Information Practice, 5(4), 2010, 53 - 69
[View online](#) [More links >](#)

Just Read! Reading Research list



TASK – 5 mins

Discuss with your neighbour/table what reading issues you have come across in your roles, this could be related to students or any other library users.



Feedback to the group.



What we've done so far

Launch event – Read the World!

- Asked for book recommendations from students – post-it notes
- Promoted international newspapers/magazines on Pressreader
- Public library provided foreign language books
- We ordered in new fiction books written by international authors to create a display



Book Displays



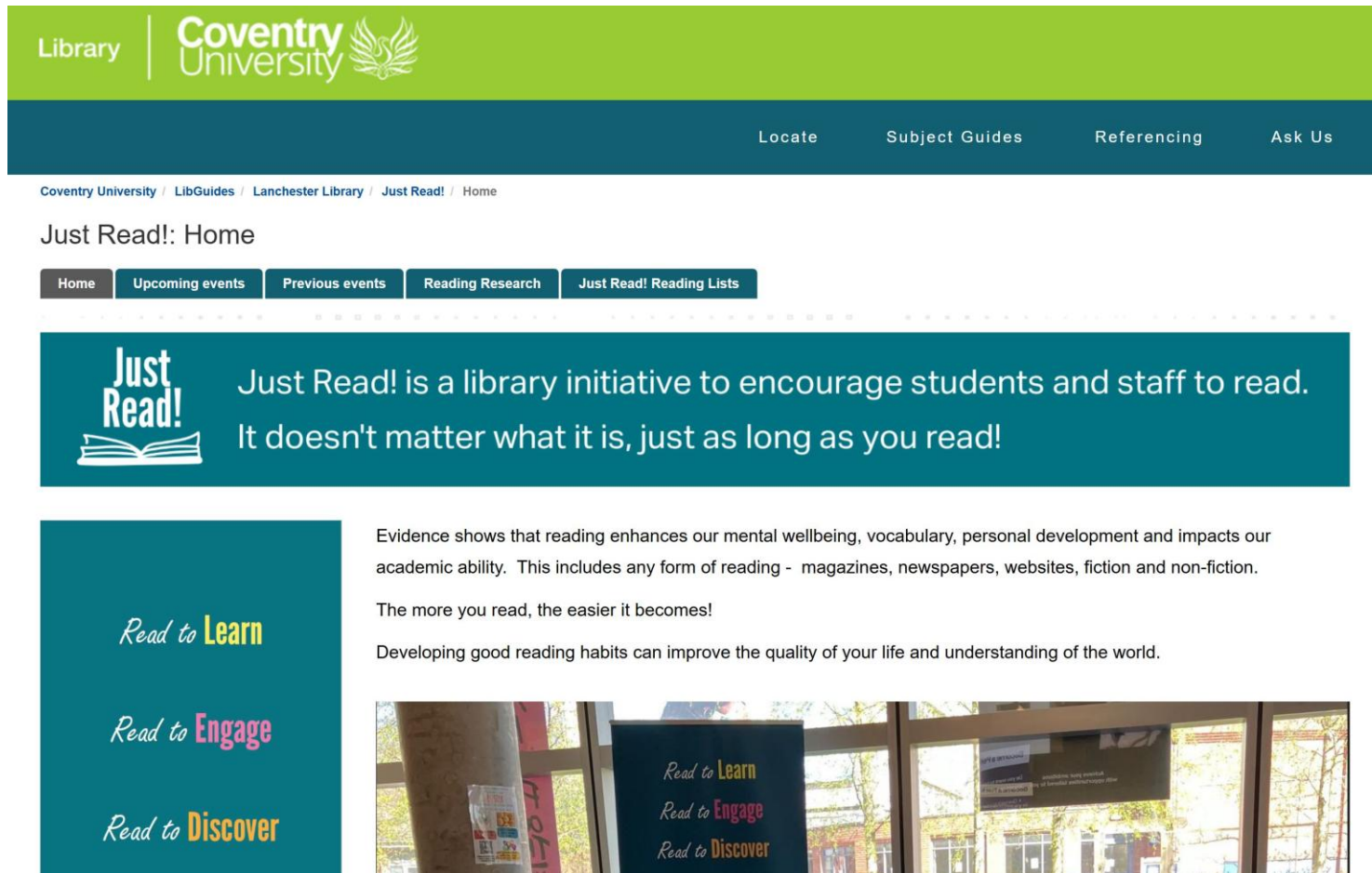
- All displays will have the Just Read! bookmarks
- Themes include Pride Month, BHM, International Women's Day, Green Week
- Message is, it doesn't matter what you read, just read!

Book Camp

- Set up in the Student's Union – wellbeing events
- Mobile library
- Fiction, graphic novels, personal development and hobby books.
- Good opportunity for informal chats with students about reading habits



Library Guide



<https://libguides.coventry.ac.uk/JustRead>

- A link we can share with staff and students
- Promotes upcoming events
- Reading lists for book displays
- Disability page coming soon

Bookmarks

- Designed a bookmark to capture the ethos of the project
- These are given out at events and placed on displays
- Printed by external company

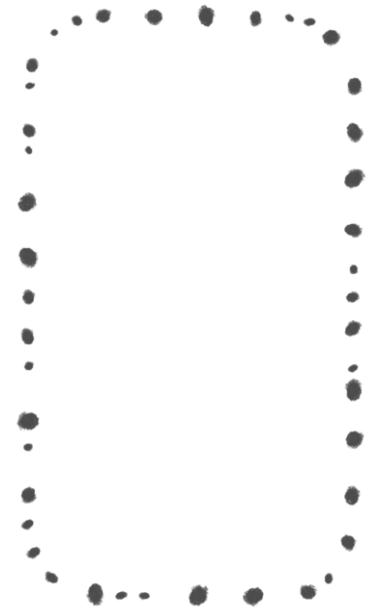


- Created a bookmark which allows staff to recommend books to students.
- Creates a sense of community
- Printed in house
- Plans to create a student version

This book was recommended by staff member.....



because.....



Conversations with students – why they don't read

Lack of attention span

Dyslexia “words
are the enemy”

Don't have time

Don't know what to read

Don't have the patience to read



TASK – 10 mins

Think of the reasons why someone might not engage with reading and design an event to address this.

Go back to Menti and add your ideas!



Future plans

Future plans

- Work experience student suggestions for events:
 - comics/graphic novels for reluctant readers
 - Art books – like an art gallery
- Collect data from book collections to see usage
- Events surrounding lack of attention span
- Digital Detox event

The background of the slide is a light blue-grey color. It is decorated with numerous small, light-colored wooden blocks, each featuring a black question mark. These blocks are scattered across the entire surface, some overlapping the central text box. The central text box is a solid dark teal color and contains the text "Any questions?" in a large, white, sans-serif font. The word "Any" is on the top line, and "questions?" is on the bottom line, both centered horizontally.

Any questions?