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# MANAGING LIBRARY SOCIAL MEDIA AT BCU

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with

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# MANAGING SOCIAL MEDIA

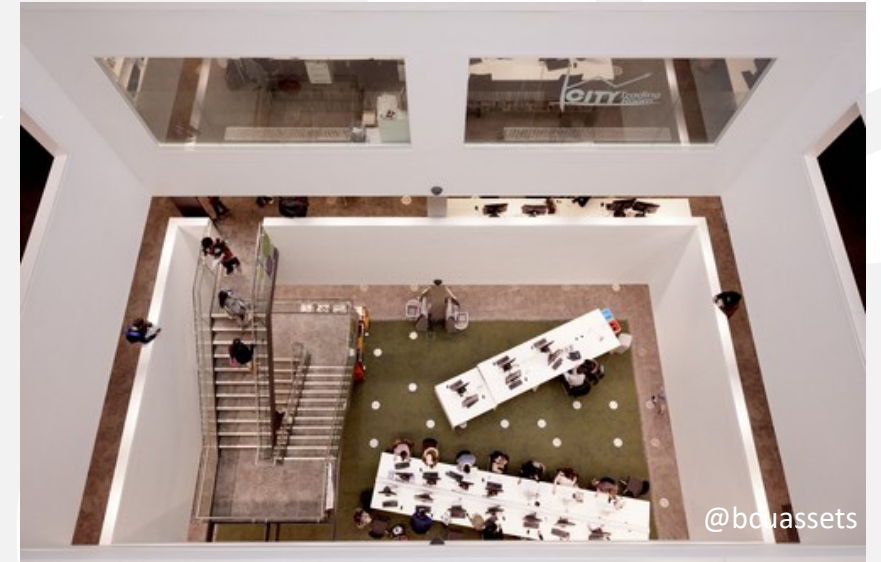
- Building an Effective team
- Developing BCU L&LR Social Media accounts
- Generating Social Media content
  - Content Guidelines
  - Content Planning, Creation & Publishing
- Evaluating Impact

# BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE TEAM



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- Accounts established by volunteers (mainly Librarians)
- Managing enthusiasm
- Library restructure
- Skills audit
- Core team of 4 Customer Services Advisors
- All library teams encouraged to suggest content





# DEVELOPING ACCOUNTS

## Aims

- Introduce the library and create 'brand' awareness
- Encourage use of our services
- Keep users informed of service changes
- Build a relationship with our customers
- Enhance the student experience
- Support Student wellbeing



# DEVELOPING ACCOUNTS

## Goals

- **Increase** awareness of what we do
- **Keep** the library in the mind of our users
- **Engage** with harder to reach subjects/areas
- **Recruit** new users and followers
- **Provide** users with up to date news & events
- **Deliver** critical service updates
- **Enhance** our approachability
- **Provide** light, fun content
- **Encourage** user feedback and dialogue
- **Answer** user questions
- **Promote** specific services
- **Promote** resources / collections
- **Develop** the library brand / reputation
- **Market** the library 'upwards' within BCU
- **Instigate** Partnerships
- **Be Part of** the wider BCU Community
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# DEVELOPING ACCOUNTS

## Appropriate channels

- **Twitter**
- **Instagram**
- **Facebook (retired)**
- **Snapchat (non-starter)**
- **What's next?**



# GENERATING CONTENT

## Content guidelines



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- Tone - **‘friendly professional’**
- Balance between informative and more fun/informal content.
- We trust our advisors fully in terms of content and tone but our two golden rules are:
  - 1) Nothing political, topical or controversial in any way
  - 2) Nothing that will have a negative connotation for the institution

# GENERATING CONTENT

## Content Guidelines



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- We encourage the use of @BCU addresses and #tags, but the language always has to be understandable for both humans and screen readers to meet accessibility rules.
- Ensure image copyright is acknowledged, and Data Protection regulations are followed
- Corporate brand guidelines



# GENERATING CONTENT



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## Content Planning

Suggestions for content come from a range of sources

### L&LR Colleagues

Events  
Academic  
Activities

### Systems development team

Databases & ILS

### Communications Officer & CS Librarian

L&LR activities

### Communications Proposals Spreadsheet

Weird &  
Wonderful

Communications Team & Calendar

# GENERATING CONTENT

## Content Creation



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Suggestions for  
content  
Either from  
Calendar or  
direct

Team member  
will claim  
content on  
calendar

Contact Library  
colleagues for  
resources

Post created  
and scheduled

Content Posted

# GENERATING CONTENT

## Twitter - @BCUlibrary



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BCU Library & LR @BCUlibrary · Nov 8

BCU's Go Green Week starts today! 8-12 November. Book your activities in advance. Just head to [bcu.ac.uk/green-events](https://bcu.ac.uk/green-events) and get your diary filled today! #environment #hedgehogs #climate #cycling @BCU\_Arts @BCUHELs @bcucebe @BCUsocscience @BCUBusiness @BCU\_Law @bcumedia



BCU Library & LR @BCUlibrary · Nov 5

Feel your research is going up in flames this #BONFIRE Night? Let us help. Chat to a member of our library staff via our online 'Chat To Us' service. [bcu.ac.uk/library](https://bcu.ac.uk/library) #BCUbringingthelibrarytoyou @BCU\_Arts @BCUHELs @bcucebe @BCUsocscience @BCUBusiness @BCU\_Law @bcumedia



BCU Library & LR @BCUlibrary · Oct 31

Hopefully, never a trick always a treat when you visit a BCU Library! Happy #Halloween - If you are spooked by referencing today try a guide, [bcu.ac.uk/library/servic...](https://bcu.ac.uk/library/servic...)



# GENERATING CONTENT

## Systems Dashboard



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- Content direct from the systems dashboard to twitter

**LIBRARY**  
and Learning Resources

Library Help

BCU Library / Library Help / Systems Status

### Library Dashboard

Check below for any planned or real-time issues with our systems and services. Outside of staffed working hours information is subject to change and the accuracy and reliability of the dashboard cannot be guaranteed.

BCU Library Search	Scheduled Maintenance	British Library Sounds	News
DCP Online	News	Document Supply service	Issue Reported
Authentication		BCU Digital Library	
Databases	2!	Inter-Library Loans	1!
Library Search	1!	Reading Lists Online	
Self Service Kiosks		Subject Guides (LibGuides)	
eBooks		eJournals	

# GENERATING CONTENT

## Instagram - bculibrary



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View Insights

Boost Post



Liked by enu\_library and 11 others

**bculibrary** This Black History Month visit BCU L+LR Libraries or access the website here <https://bcu.ac.uk/library> to find a range of learning resources.

The online Black Studies and Sociology Subject Guide can be found here:

<https://libguides.bcu.ac.uk/blackstudiesandsociology>

#BlackHistoryMonth2021 #BlackHistory365 #bcu #bculibrary #mybcu #iambcu

1 October



View Insights

Boost Post



Liked by carl.giddings.79 and 10 others

**bculibrary** We don't expect you "to boldly go where No man has gone before" when you visit our library, as that would be "highly illogical!" There will be no "beam me up, Scottys" but remember once you enter and browse our shelves of thousands of resources "resistance is futile" you will not leave without the information or resources that you need! Come and visit us and see for yourself and remember "live long and prosper".

#startrek #startrekdiscovery #drspock #leonardnimoy #williamshatner #beammeupscotty #resistanceisfutile #vulcan #livelongandprosper #trekkies #trekkiesforlife #trekkiesofinstagram #bculibrary #mybcu #iambcu #birminghamcityuniversity

View 1 comment

8 September



View Insights

Boost Post



Liked by sourasky\_central\_library and 16 others

**bculibrary** Black cats are commonly associated with Halloween and witchcraft and are by many considered bad luck omens. However in maritime, British sailors believed that having a black cat aboard their ship brought them good fortune and reassurance of a safe voyage. What do you think? Lucky or unlucky, we think they are fantastic!

If you fancy reading some feline poetry for a purr-fect afternoon try The Poetry of Cats by Samuel Carr #blackcat #blackcatappreciationday #purr #feline #cats #bcu.ac.uk/library #bcu #mybcu #iambcu #birminghamcityuniversity #poetry #samuelcarr #thepoetryofcats

17 August

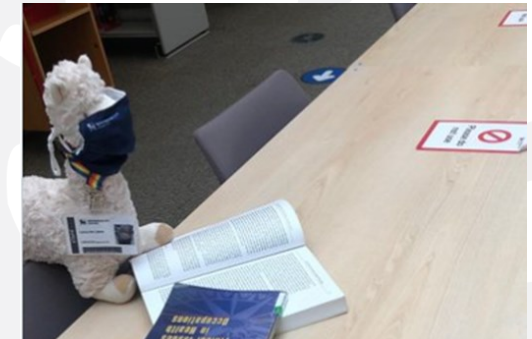


# LENNY THE LIBRARY LLAMA

Our most popular team member



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# EMBEDDED COMMUNICATION CHANNEL



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- Social media is now an embedded part of the Library communication strategy.
- Project planning procedures now require Social Media to be considered as part of a communication strategy
- Investigating how Social Media has impacted on the project

# EVALUATING IMPACT

## 2. FOLLOWERS

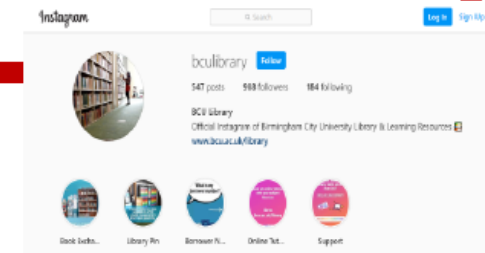
### Example: Twitter as of 16.8.21

- ◇ 2,567 followers (Feb'21 = 2,504)
- ◇ Geographically, 87% are located in the British Isles.
- ◇ Average length of time a Follower has been on Twitter, 11.92 years
- ◇ Profile visits: e.g. July '21 : 2,349 (Jul '20 = 360 p. visits)
- ◇ Stable follower base for both social media platforms.

## FOLLOWERS

### Example: Instagram followers as of 20.08.21

- ◇ 989 followers which is an increase of +0.2%.
- ◇ Profile visits Feb 21-May21 273 (-27.2%)
- ◇ Website taps 3 (-40%)
- ◇ Reached 511 accounts in the last 30 days (-3.1% compared to June 21-Jul 20)
- ◇ Content interactions 82 (+57.6%)





# GOALS AND THEMES

- **Increase** awareness of what we do
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# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

- Investigate new Social Media channels
- Look at impact of our Social Media Messages





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Library Twitter: @BCUlibrary <https://twitter.com/bculibrary>

Library Instagram: bculibrary <https://www.instagram.com/bculibrary/?hl=en>

Library website: <https://www.bcu.ac.uk/library>

Felicity Gittins [Felicity.Gittins@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:Felicity.Gittins@bcu.ac.uk)

Fidelma Bleasdale [Fidelma.Bleasdale@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:Fidelma.Bleasdale@bcu.ac.uk)