

INTELLIGENCE INSIDER

Your Oxford Health Libraries' monthly newsletter

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Hello, my name is Bertha A Calles Cartas

After Sarah Maddock, our Library Services Manager for almost 20 years, retired, I became the Interim Library Services Manager.

It has been a great privilege to continue leading a team committed to supporting educational programmes for the Oxford Health staff, and keen to help enhancing work-life balance, as well as improving staff retention.



Bertha Calles Cartas

Interim Library Service Manager

Our library services also support research by assisting

participants in [Critical Appraisal Topic groups](#). Our team helps professionals within

our organisation, across all disciplines, efficiently access evidence-based information. We are dedicated to [knowledge mobilisation](#), which involves identifying ways for members of the trust to learn from each other and share knowledge. Instead of working in silos, professionals can share insights and expertise to improve patient care and other outcomes.

For the last five years, my professional focus has been on developing my technical skills - I have been responsible for the technical aspects of accessing electronic resources and providing [training](#) - and also my customer service abilities, including communication and marketing. But now my focus has shifted to leadership. Although I have held leadership roles in other contexts, such as education, and was assisting my manager with leading our library team, my new role has given me the opportunity to reflect on what it is like to manage a diverse team delivering complex services.

Attending The King's Fund Annual Summit on 19th of March couldn't have been more timely. It was a great opportunity to reflect on leadership and ensure that it takes us "from surviving to thriving." It was also an excellent networking and learning experience. Today, I want to share two of the most remarkable ideas from the event that resonated with me:

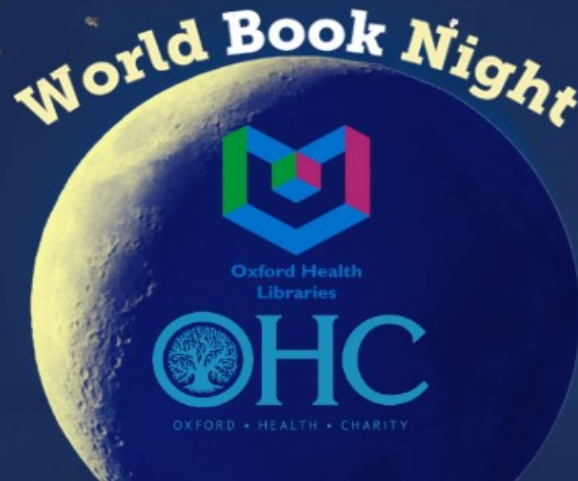
"People want flexibility and purpose."

Our library service is run by [professional](#) that work flexible working patterns, which has helped the retention of team members for a long time. This continuity has contributed to knowledge growth within the team at an incredibly affordable cost. We do not need to constantly recruit new members, and our team members feel that, despite the challenges of their working patterns, they can contribute, grow, and break away from the mentality that prioritising anything other than work makes someone less valuable to the service.

"Diversity is not a nice-to-have addition, but a strength. It is not a modern concept."

I completely agree, this is not a modern concept; most cultures and environments have provided excellent examples of the strength of diversity. The opportunity to be exposed to new points of view, enriched by different experiences from diverse disciplines and walks of life, makes working environments interesting places to be and offers great opportunities to grow and flourish.

In addition to my role as Interim Library Service Manager, I am also the proud co-lead of the Women's Support Group, building great synergies between these two teams, and creating new services and opportunities for staff and patients, such as our [book clubs](#). This demonstrates that when [librarians](#) become involved in the work of teams at Oxford Health, great projects and products to support both teams and patients emerge. It is an enormous privilege to lead a team where each member thrives and finds purpose in their professional role, while also balancing their personal lives and being part of a team that values their contributions.



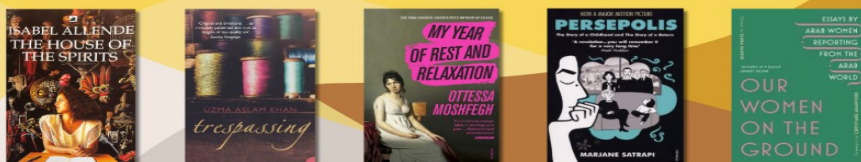
World Book Night 2025 – Free Books For Patients!

World Book Night takes place on 23rd April and this year we have received funding from Oxford Health Charity to enable us to provide books for patients across the Trust. We have a limited number of “Quick Read” titles available on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you would like some copies to give to service users (particularly those who don't read for pleasure and who may have difficulty accessing reading materials), please email us at library.enquiries@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk.

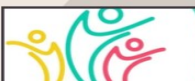
Please note: We have several titles available and will send you a selection of them. If you will be using the books for a patient reading group, please let us know and we will ensure that you receive copies of the same title.

Oxford Healthcare Libraries in partnership with Women's Staff Support Group, celebrate International Women's day 2025 with women's voices



Contact the library to request your preferred Book and/or your Bomb Seed Pack

*Books
and
Bomb Seed Packs
Give Away*



Women's Staff Support Group



Require an article or a book? Want to learn how to perform a quicker and more effective search on specific topics? Need a literature search for guidelines, case studies, research papers or a quality improvement project? Want to keep up to date with the latest information in your field of interest?

Contact us at library.enquiries@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk Follow us [Twitter](#) [X](#) @OHFTLib

The next edition will be published in April 2025.