



Who are you, where are you based and what do you do?

Hi, I'm Sara Burnett, I'm the Information Specialist for Kingston School of Art at Kingston University. There are four of us Information Specialists, (one for each Faculty), each responsible for a team of subject specialist librarians and all of the Faculty related liaison. That is a hugely simplistic description as we are also part of the Library and Learning Services Leadership team and all regularly take active roles within wider institutional projects. And....

beginning in August 2021 I will become the Chair of cpd25.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

I know that this is not an original answer, but it is very much the variety. There are always so many projects and initiatives happening within our Libraries and across the university. One day you may be focused on the more traditional sourcing of resources or teaching, another you may be involved in consultations around the virtual learning environment or even planning a new building!

What motivates you in your work?

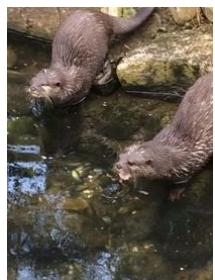
Definitely the people that I work with. However many challenges we may face, I am super fortunate to be surrounded with committed and inspiring colleagues, who thankfully have a great sense of humour, definitely needed at times! It is a genuine pleasure to work in ways where you really feel that you have helped people develop their potential.

How has/can the M25 Consortium support you in your career?

I have benefited hugely from attending the various events, visits, conferences, networks that make up M25 and of course cpd25. As well as the practical application of skills and knowledge, the chance to meet with so many people from other institutions is incredibly valuable. People are often so generous with their experience and we certainly bust the myths about librarians not being sociable.

What would it surprise people to know about you?

I aspire to owning ferrets... that is actually not quite the full truth. Since I was very young I have always had a thing about otters, which I would really like to have living nearby, but I reckon a ferret is about the closest I'm ever likely to get!



Complete the sentence:

If I wasn't working in a library I would be... I would be doing some form of work with nature (ideally otters, surprise surprise) **because...** I do very much enjoy being in the natural environment and there is such a lot of work that needs doing to ensure that what remains of our wild habitats is protected. Lockdown certainly reminded me of the value of our green spaces in general – there is huge pleasure to be gained purely by being able to see the seasons change.