

### **Encountering digital collections:**

Understanding and developing innovative interactions





Hi!
I'm Andy Corrigan
... And I'm on an adventure!



### **Encountering digital collections: Practical** approaches to using digital collections in research and pedagogy

A mixed methods research project, inspired by our own digital collections, that includes aspects of:

- Action Research
- Ethnography
- Case Study
- Phenomenology
- Journaling

## Gewit-hring.com



The human eye can only be in one place at a time, it takes its visible world with it as it walks

John Berger, Ways of seeing 'Episode 1', 1972

### Welcome to Gewit-Hring

Andy Corrigan's Journal | Walk | Knowledge Circle



I wanted to try a new way of working. To create a space for myself to think. A space to try. A space to document

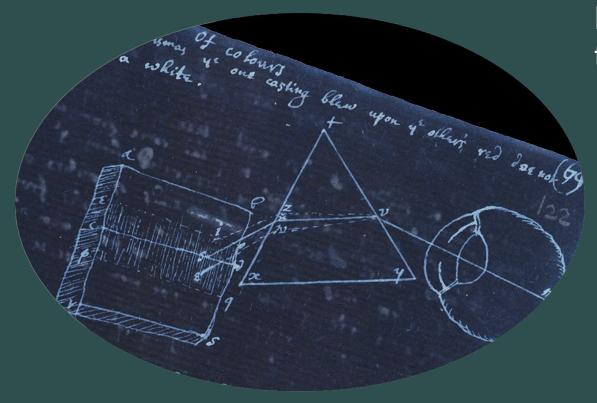
I was always terrible at making notes, and I've come to realise that perhaps that is not a reason not to try ... and perhaps, it might even be

Funded by the AHRC-RLUK Professional Practice Fellowship Scheme for research and academic libraries.









# Exploring some of the questions raised by the challenges posed by the "digital shift":

- Can we understand the relationship between the digital and our cognitive processes by bringing elements of our interaction with it back into focus?
- How does incorporating the digital into our physical lives impact research and teaching?
- What are libraries, in their role as a nexus for research and teaching, doing to understand and facilitate encounters with the virtual world we have created?





### Situating project [Research Libraries UK]

### • 2019:

Digital scholarship and the role of the research library

Libraries are taking a more active role in pioneering new processes, there was less confidence with more technically complex activities, and challenges exist to sustainability and skills retention

### 2020:

Manifesto for the digital shift in research libraries

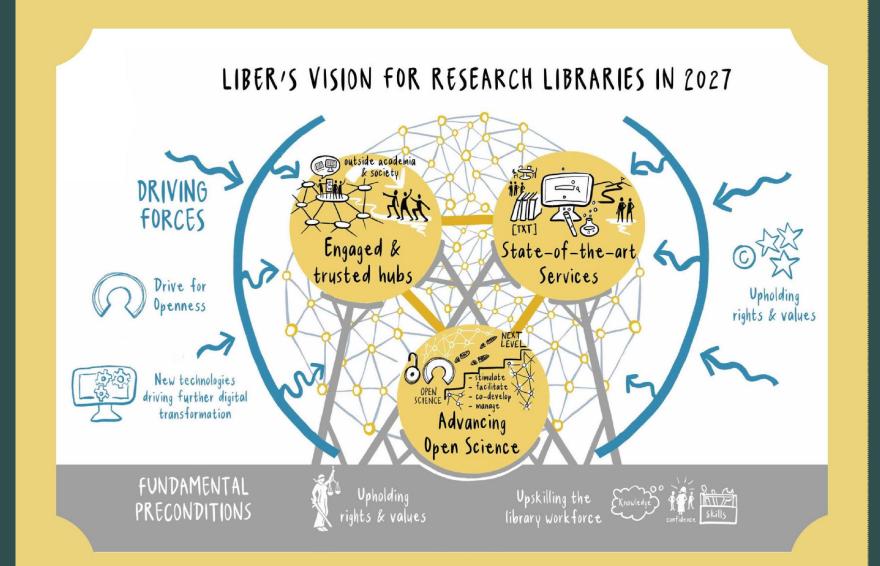
Transition from transactional to more creative operations, a more adaptable approach that fosters digital curiosity and experimentation would be required

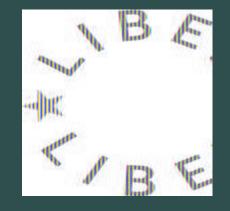
### • 2021:

Covid-19 and the Future of the Digital Shift amongst Research Libraries: An RLUK Perspective in Context

The pressing nature and future of digital shift thrown into sharp focus by the Covid-19 pandemic, which demonstrated and cemented the value of the manifesto.











I proposed to explore the impact of digital collections and technology on research and learning activity through the following themes that are drawn from some of the embodied actions involved in the matrix of our digital landscape:

- Methods of note making
- Practices of walking
- Processes of collaboration
- Acts of creation
- Impact on wellbeing

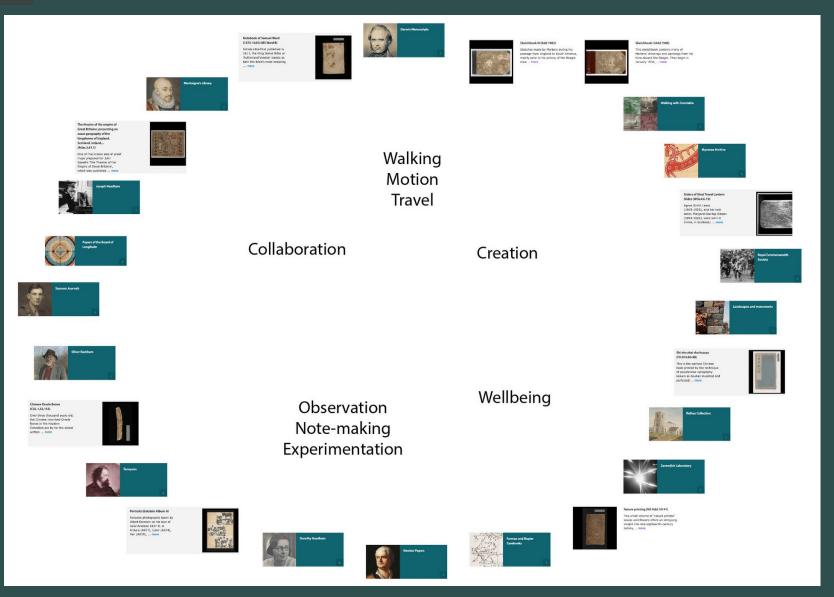
Doing so provides an opportunity to identify commonalities on which to build support and inspire putting theories into everyday practice.



### Situating practice in Cambridge Digital Library

### Themes:

- Practices of walking
- Acts of creation
- Impact on wellbeing
- Methods of note making
- Processes of collaboration

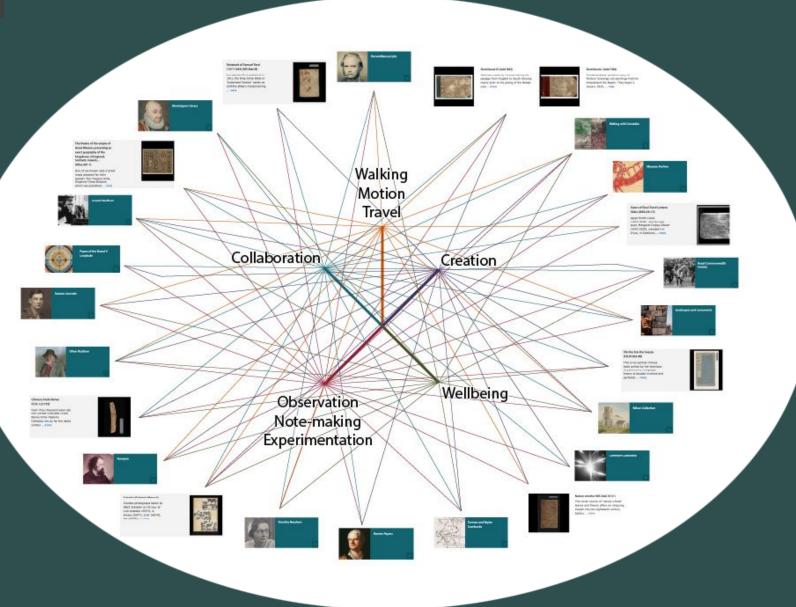




### Situating practice in Cambridge Digital Library

### Themes:

- Practices of walking
- Acts of creation
- Impact on wellbeing
- Methods of note making
- Processes of collaboration







Cambridge University Libraries



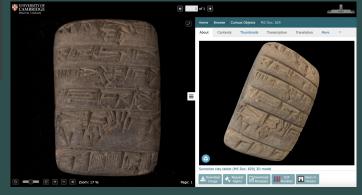
Weaving, Institute of Educa Collection - Ghana CUL RCS Y3011U:243



Deer fence, Hayley Wood, 08/03/68, Oliver Rackham Slides, Corpus Christi College,

Japanese flower arranging Ikenobō rikka no zu

CUL FJ.978.12 (p41)



Sumerian clay tablet & 3D Model Receipt for pig fat dating to 2200 BC CUL MS Doc. 829



Hand holding a writing brush, Shi zhu zhai shu hua pu CUL FH.910.83-98 (p99)



Isidore of Seville at writing desk Bestiary, CUL MS Ii.4.26 (p63v)



Acts of

Baratre Bridge under construction Hawkes collection of Indian Railway Photographs CUL RCS Y3022S: 29



'Crowning of Nature', creating the philosophers' stone CUL MS Gg.1.8 (p136r)



Masons building a cathedral, Breviary of Marie de Saint Pol CUL MS Dd.5.5 (p253r)

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Libraries



Sanskrit visualisation of mandala gestures for a rite for the elimination of all evil destinies, CUL MS Add.1278



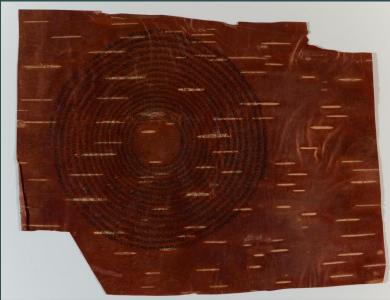
St Christopher, Book of Hours, CUL MS li.6.2

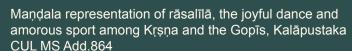
Sanskrit charm on birch bark, Devīkavaca, CUL MS Add.1578

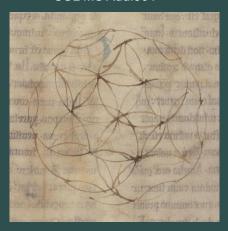


Good luck charm, Cairo Genizah, CUL T-S AS 183.272

# Impact on wellbeing







An apotropaic compass pattern in 'Didactic miscellany, containing a bestiary and other texts', CUL MS Kk.4.25





Album Amicorum of Abraham Ortelius. Pembroke College MS LC.2.113

Elizabeth Lyttelton's commonplace book, CUL MS Add. 8460

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Draile to his name that Javed us

from all an Enemyes

602- Hear



Geoffrey Brito's florilegium (C13th) Sol meldunensis, CUL MS Gg.6.42

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tal Americanies homicidal

ueneficia- poolating - 7

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Magdalene College, Pepys MS 1236

> Note-making: Commonplace books

Demonstration of his Existence . - m' Low I ful that I exist; & consequently I am Something. I there was a time, in which I did not exist. hing or Non Entity only never produce a real Being this laure is Something, that really exists. has none it is itself the dernal cause of my Being , there was a lause antecedent to it. ble to the same Question as before, & must b be in the end occasioned by a First Cause,

the new from eternity intelligency or now a manufacture in the latter of these is true. It was the reasonable long either is took last private the reasonable long either is hard beauther being should private a mentioner is also play a transless temps should private it must be by Mortion. I want to be the more than the more intelligence to the property of the private intelligence of the private intelligence is the most be over some apprinter some rights that between it of Mortion must be over some apprinter some rights that between the most be over some apprinter some rights. external with it. the Motion is still undirected to no lind.

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Eternal Powerful Intelligent Being is either Material, or not.

Thomas Gray, Commonplace Book, Volume I, Pembroke College, (GBR/1058/GRA/1/1)

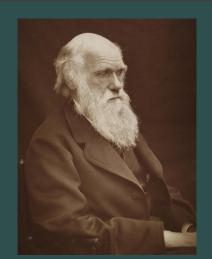
If abde be white as cost black you rode is red. It above be black & easy which it sade is blan. It ald be blew & der white y' rode is blewer. white white ( Blew 19 00 Black Elew Greene or Rais VEDDEN. 95 abd 68 ) ved white ( blaw. VEDD GN white blan v=22. whiter white Greene or when Blacke black Blan The more uniformaly the globali move y' ophick arrows y's more Bodys same to be coloured ved yellow blow greene are but you more variously they more them there more bodys appears white black or grays.

Ino Prismas we one casting blaw upon 4 others, red das not 99

product a white.

Isaac Newton. Trinity College Notebook, CUL MS Add. 3996





CUL MS DAR 225:119



https://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/commentary/human-nature/expression-emotions/darwin-s-queries-expression

Collaboration: Charles Darwin didn't work alone

Andy Corrigan acc60@cam.ac.uk gewit-hring.com

CUL MS DAR 186

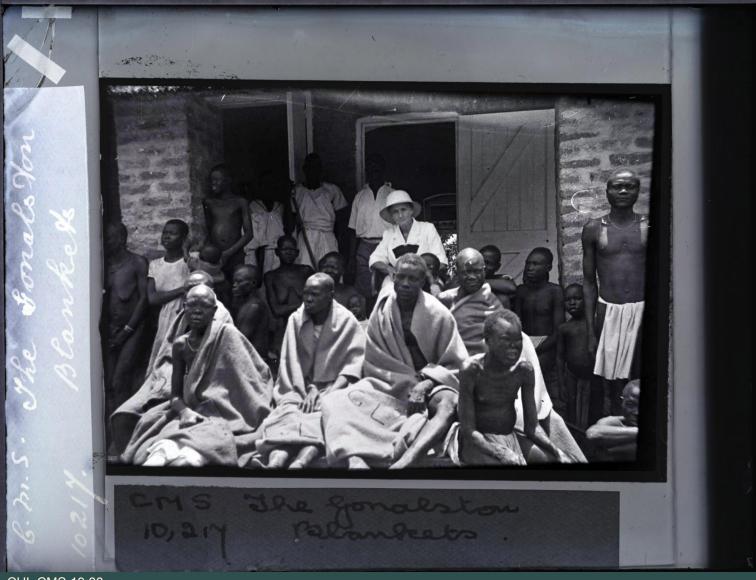


Case



# Studies





# "From the magic lantern to the digital archive"

### The Gonalston blankets:

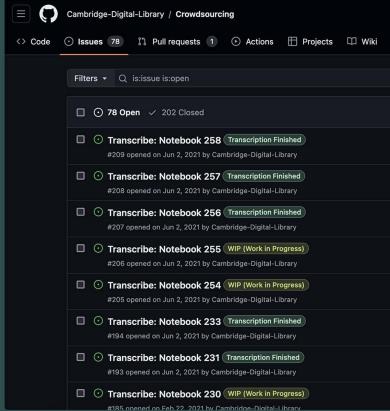
Critical approaches to archives for teacher training in Uganda using digitised Church Missionary Society / Royal Commonwealth Society collections.

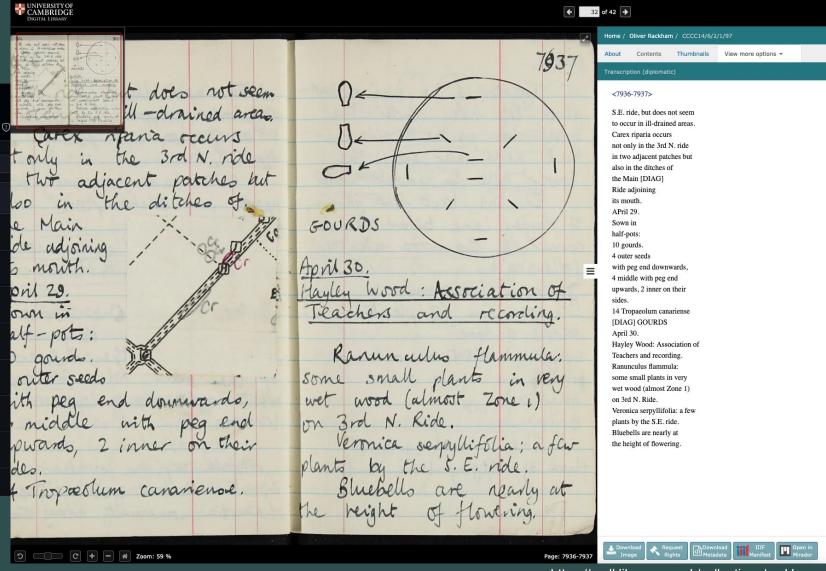
### By:

Anne Alexander - Cambridge Digital Humanities

<u>Dorothy Sebbowa</u> - Makerere University



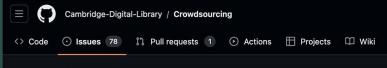




https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/rackham

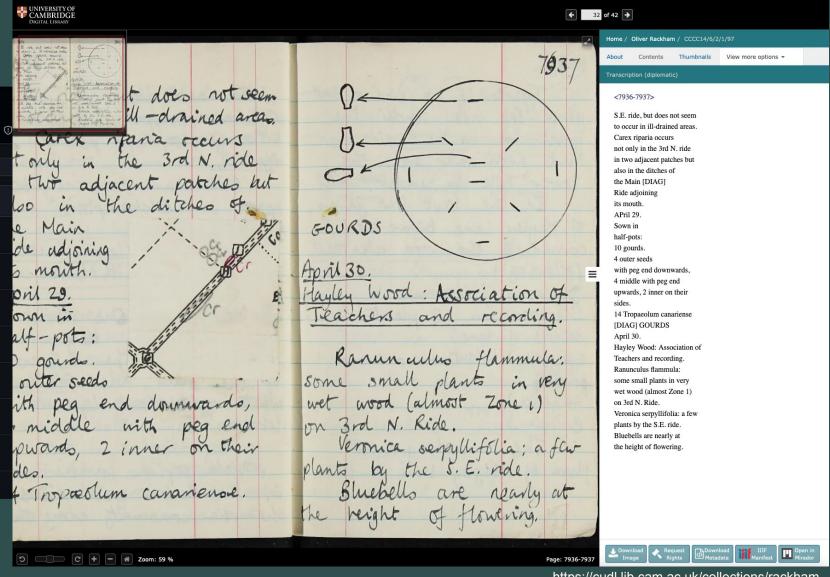
Oliver Rackham Archive: Crowdsourcing transcription





"I have very much enjoyed being reminded of plants, places and people I have known: Hayley Wood and those who worked with Oliver there and on other sites as he gathered information for his amazing work on the history of woods and hedgerows. Even better, I have learned a lot about many places, plants and fungi of which I was quite ignorant. I have chosen to transcribe books about local places, which are close to my interests."

Fay Bendall our star contributor!



https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/rackham

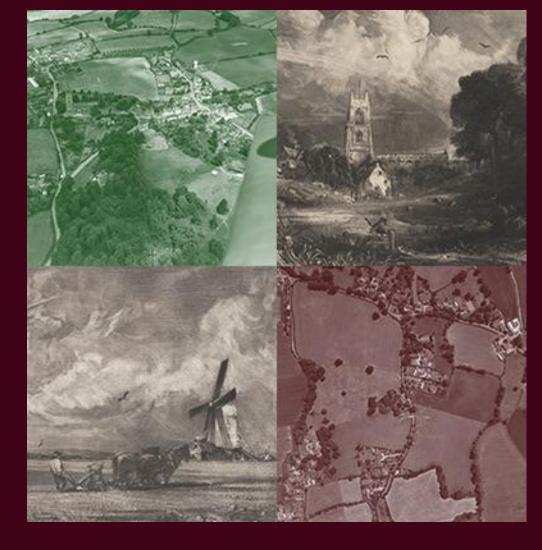
Oliver Rackham Archive: Crowdsourcing transcription

# Walking with Constable

Caroline Bassett
Andy Corrigan
Leo Impett
Elenor Ling
Kate Noble

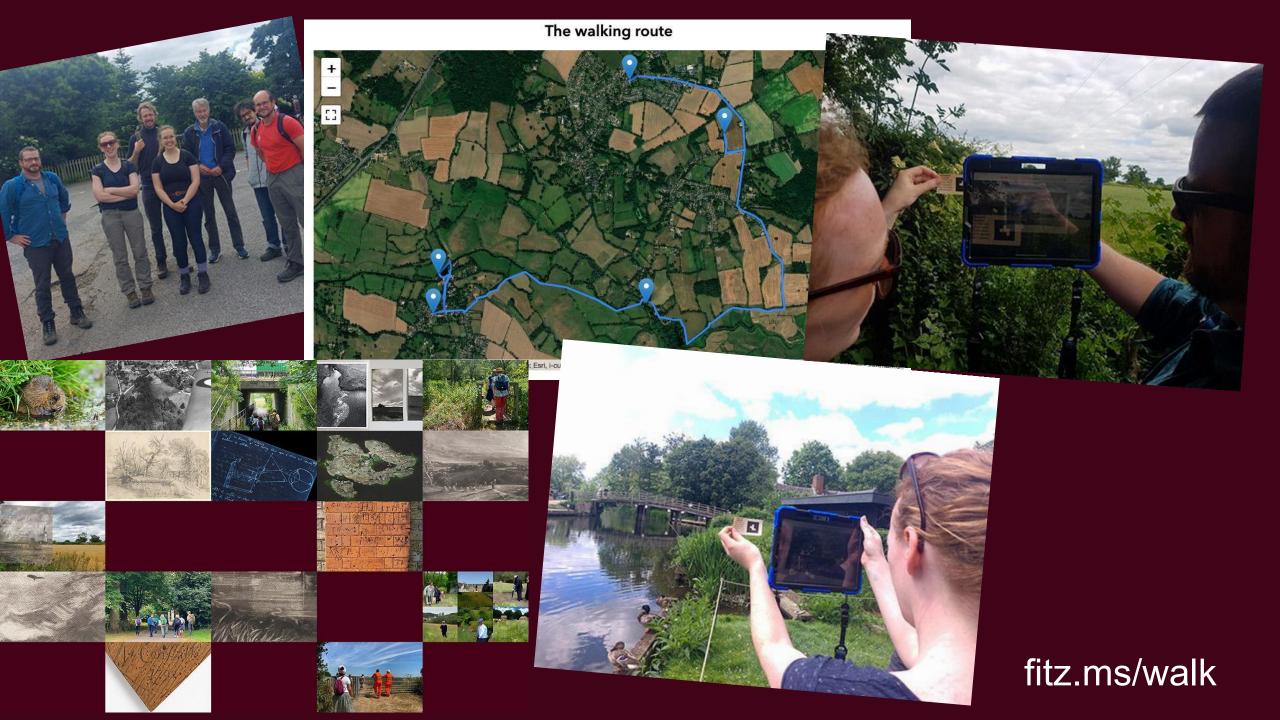
fitz.ms/walk





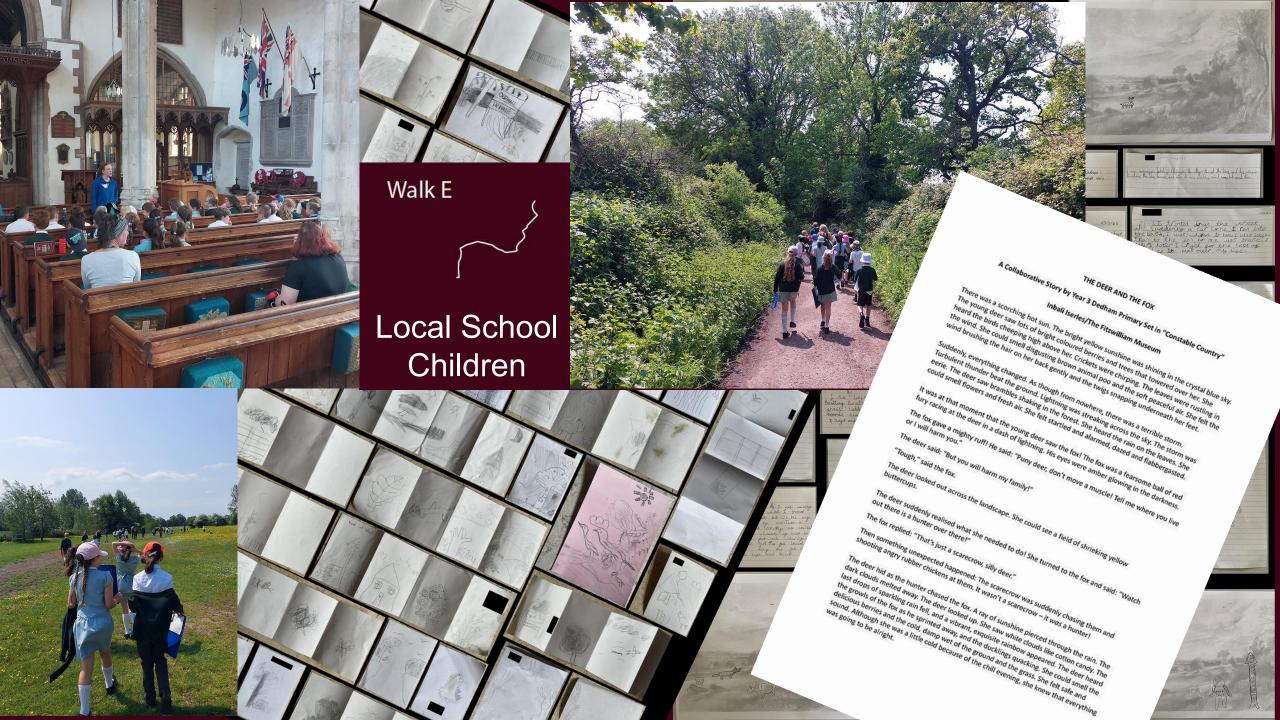
The
Fitzwilliam
Museum
CAMBRIDGE







fitz.ms/walk





fitz.ms/walk





Stroke Working Age Group Suffolk+



fitz.ms/walk





Digital Scholarship & Data Science
Essentials for
Library
Professionals

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#### **ABOUT**

#### Welcome

Project Background Contribute to Our Project Author Guidance and Style Guide

Licensing & Re-use Contact

#### **TOPIC GUIDES**

AI & ML in Libraries Literacies

Collections as Data: Getting Started

Linked Open Data in Library Use Today

IIIF

Data Visualisation

ABOUT > Welcom

### Digital Scholarship & Data Science Essentials for Library Professionals

#### Welcome

Digital Scholarship & Data Science Essentials for Library Professionals (DS Essentials) is an open and collaboratively curated training reference resource. It aims to make it easier for LIBER library professionals to gain a concise overview of the new technologies that underpin digital scholarship and data science practice in research libraries today, and find trusted training materials recommendations to start their professional learning journey.

The project began in late 2023 as a joint collaboration between the Digital Scholarship & Digital Cultural Heritage (DSDCH) and the Data Science in Libraries (DSLib) working groups of LIBER. Work is currently underway to create a first edition ready for the LIBER Winter Event 2024. Contributions to this work are very much welcome!

#### **Our Aims**

- Present a central destination for newcomers to become more familiar and conversant with the foundational concepts, methods and tools of digital scholarship and data science practice in libraries.
   Examplar topics include:
- Help library staff gain a better understanding of digital scholarship and data science practice in libraries by providing
  contextualised and gentle introductions to key topics through guides, self-guided training materials, project case studies,
  jargon busting and recommended reading lists
- Enable staff, in LIBER membership and beyond, to explore and immediately access a wealth of self and group study educational resources, available to them through a curated catalogue with faceted search and discovery

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Our Aims

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Why this resource?

What are Topic Guides?

How to use this resource

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https://libereurope.github.io/ds-essentials/



# Encountering Digital Collections Event

Cambridge

17-18 September 2024

Get in touch
And keep an eye out for further information soon!



# Thank You!



Funded by the AHRC-RLUK Professional Practice Fellowship Scheme for research and academic libraries.



