INTELLIGENCE INSIDER

Oxford Health

Your Oxford Health Libraries monthly newsletter

In this issue,

- ♦ Be inspired!
- Reading for Recovery
- Oxford University
 Press new eBooks

My name is Bertha A Calles Cartas

I listened to <u>Camila Sosa Villada's</u> auto biographical novel, The Queens of Sarmiento Park- or <u>Las Malas</u> in Spanish, its original language. It wasn't the story of a feminist woman I expected but of an Argentinean trans woman born in the 80s. I don't know much about Argentina, apart from whatever is printed and broadcasted in news outlets and I definitively don't know anything about transgender experiences, apart from the social media controversies. LGBTQ+ is not a topic I had read



about, and the novel is a literary genre that I have started adding to my reading lists.

I listened to it putting on one side whatever little "I knew about these topics". This story made me reflect on how much we have in common. Same fears, same worries, same joys but how hard it is to live in societies where, by design, some humans are not supposed to exist. How many times have I felt like that? Many? A few? None? I found it quite interesting to note how this book awoke feelings of empathy, and I wondered how often readings fuel hate. Do I choose these readings? Are they thrown at me and I just consume them? Do I avoid them? This experience made me reflect on my reading choices, and my conversations. Do I expect my readings and conversations to confirm my prejudices? Am I open to learn about people when I first meet them? So much to reflect on; so much to learn.

I have come to realise the potential opportunity for self-discovery and self-development offered by joining Oxford Health Foundation Trust which has such a diverse workforce.

This month, I had the privilege of being involved in the organising of the People Conference. I presented some of the results of the last survey which showed we don't fare well as a learning organisation. We sometimes assume that learning must involve academic engagement, but for me learning new skills or developing them further mainly depends on curiosity and it is not just about established processes and approved pathways or systems. Getting to know how other people have overcome struggles or showed compassion is also learning. Understanding about other people's lives doesn't mean not only what they did at the weekend but pondering what we have in common despite our differences. This is something I found in Sabah Choudrey's TED talk:

Brown, trans, queer, Muslim and proud.

Our <u>Awareness book lists</u> are one of the tools we use to promote learning. In a learning organisation, the library is always a good place to start, or to continue, the journey.

In this issue, **Fiona Sutherland** brings information on books that inspire. **Helen Hinchcliffe** tells us a success story: World Book Night and OHFT Libraries. You will also find a list of new titles available at our libraries, and a message about our role in supporting the work of our teams.



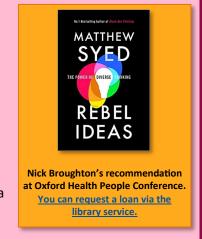
Be Inspired!

Fiona Ann Sutherland
Outreach & Primary Care Librarian Littlemore

Reading is a fantastic way to destress and boost your mood. Oxford Health Libraries are hoping to create a collection of inspirational books that will uplift your day and provide new insights for living in challenging times. The book titles will come

from recommendations from senior clinicians across the Trust.

I will be contacting key players in Oxford Health to find out their top inspirational book and why they found it such a good read. The Library Team will then publish a list of these books and accompanying quotes ,and purchase these titles for our Wellbeing Collections at Warneford, Littlemore and Whiteleaf Libraries for



borrowing by staff across the Trust. We may even have a competition to decide on your top inspirational book of 2023.



Reading for recovery, a story of success for OHFT's patients.

Helen Hinchcliffe Assistant Librarian

Oxford Health Libraries' outreach librarian, Mpilo Siwela, has recently been interviewed by The Reading Agency to discuss the impact World Book Night has had on Oxford Health patients and the ways that Oxford Health Libraries support reading groups within the Trust. You can read the interview here.

This year's World Book Night took place on 23rd April. OHFT Libraries received copies of Maybe I Don't Belong

Here - a memoir from actor David Harewood in which he shares his experiences of racism, his descent into psychosis and his recovery. All the copies have been distributed to service users.

Keep an eye for next year's event.

Mpilo Siwela, Assistant Library Manager and Outreach Librarian

She has been running World Book Night event for the last 6 years.



More Oxford University Press eBooks



We are pleased to announce that the Handbook of Medical Leadership and Management, Oxford Clinical Guidelines Newly Qualified Doctor, Handbook of Patient Safety and 13 additional titles have been added to our collection of Oxford University Press books. You can find them via the **Knowledge and Library Hub.** Use your OpenAthens Account to access them. If you have any problems contact us at library.enquiries@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk



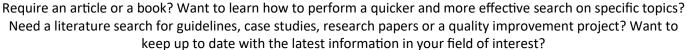


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"I am very grateful for the evidence Bertha, our outreach librarian, provided for a very important piece to be presented to the Executives at the Trust. Bertha produced the information at very short notice with high precision. This saved so much time for our team, and the information she provided made a big difference on the quality and time of the final piece."

HEAD OF INCLUSION, HUMAN RESOURCES



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