

Increasing the Library Patron Engagement: Two Experiences with Library Mobile

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Why implement the app?

- Student expectations
- Simple to deploy
- Access to core services and systems
- Communication via push notifications
- Move to mobile first

Implementation Project

Liège

- Kickoff on October 11, 2021
- ExL Project Leader changed
- Training: Online videos and documentation
- Configuration Form
 - Positions template!
 - First version realized by ExL
- Mid-November: access to App Manager
- Mid-Nov > Mid-Dec: strong revision of the content and layout
- Mid-December 2021: "end" of project for ExL
- Smooth go-live
 - 13/12/2021 : go-live I with volunteers and beta testers
 - o 17/01/2022 : go-live II ULiège Library staff
 - 14/02/2022 : official go-live

- July 2021
 - Contract signed
 - Salford project team established
 - Access to App welcome kit and configuration forms
- August 2021
 - Completed configuration forms
 - Worked through training
 - o Access to Basecamp project site
 - Kickoff meeting 9th September 2021
- October Revision of content & testing
- Go live 8th November 2021
- Issue resolution throughout the project, with weekly meetings in October, November & December

What has worked well

Liège

- Product Integrations (PI)
 - Events PI (LibCal)
 - Primo (Catalogue + MyAccount)
 - ID Card
- Alma integration for notifications via letters
- Working in the App Builder to organize and customize tiles
- SAML authentication
- 2 profiles: FRE and ENG
- Ex Libris implementation team

- System Integrations
 - Leganto
 - Primo / Library Account
- Single sign on across systems Open Athens
 - Seat bookings
 - Check-in online registers
- Accessible view using a second profile
- Staff role to introduce seat bookings for library staff
- Analytics to support decision making on content
- Use of lists
- Easy to configure and add / retire tiles
- Beta test view to easily check new tiles and integrations

What have been the challenges

Liège

- Working in Creative Studio
- Push notifications
- Documentation
 - Library Mobile vs campusM
- Issue tracking
 - Multiplicity of devices, OS, and versions
- Involving students' representatives

- Events feed due to internal product that we are using
- Displaying twitter feed
- Push notifications
- Documentation
- Analytics initially

ULiège App

on library services

Separate tiles:

- Primo catalogue

LibCal Space

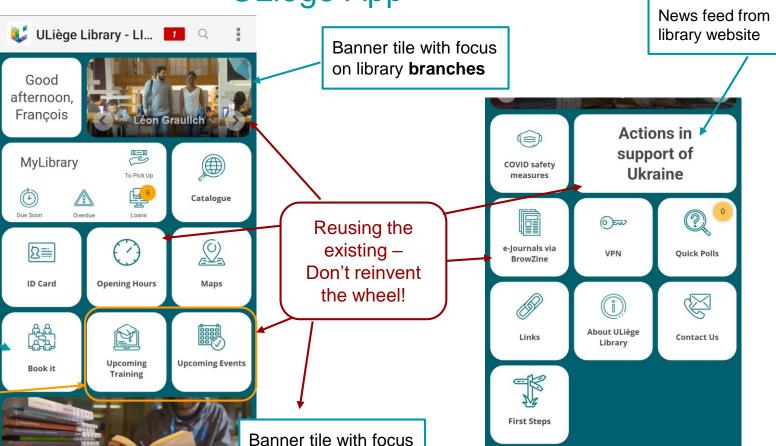
LibCal Events

Interlibrary Loan

(rss feeds)

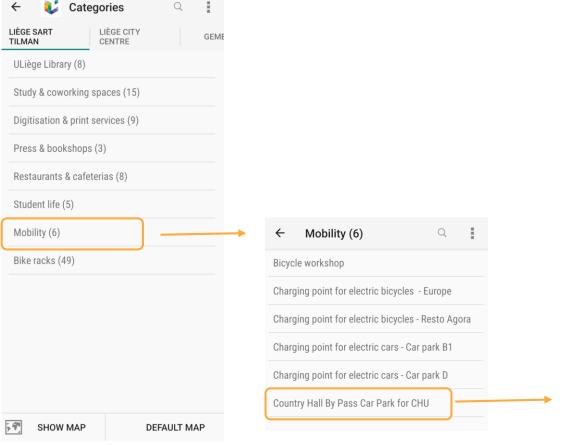
bookings

- MyAccount



6







App Positions - Probably one of the most time consuming parts of the project!



Events PI



- LibCal RSS feed
- Easy to implement
- Merging of feeds possible since spring 2022
- No manual update required from staff (vs upload of Excel spreadsheet)
- But only the next 30 days with Springshare's feeds!
 - Idea to support:
 https://lounge.springshare.com/discussion/77
 7/rss-feed-not-longer-than-the-next-month



ID Card PI





- If you have patron pictures in Alma, you cannot automatically reuse them
- URL linking to the image must be in the user record
 - here 'Website URL':

First name *		François	
	Last name *	Renaville	
Preferred middle name			
Primary identifier *		U183995	
	PIN number		Generate
Job description		ULiège Library : Direction générale et services communs	
	User group	ULiège - Personnel ULiège / CHU	-
	Website URL	https://img.lib.uliege 183995.jpg	
	Status	Active	*

- No default static note possible:

Salford App

Simplified this tile as we have auto renewals

Libcal space bookings

Online registers



Rotating news banners with links to content

Online chat

Leganto integration



Using lists to create links

Library staff tile.

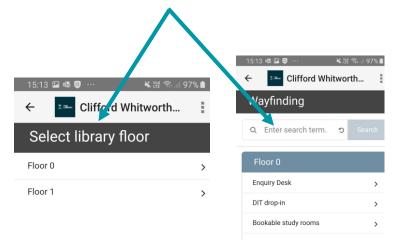
Staff have a separate role

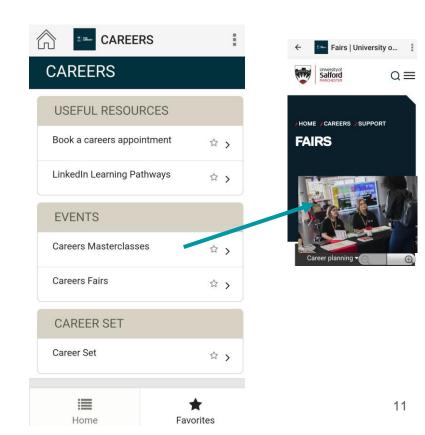
Lists

Rather than use creative studio we use lists to link out to website content

Can add favourites and checklists

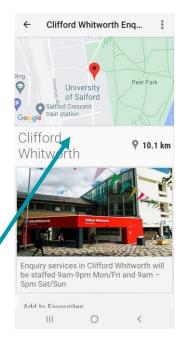
Can create filters and add search capability

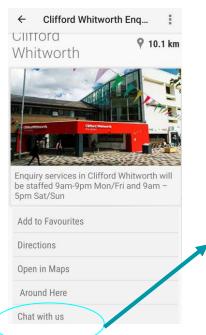


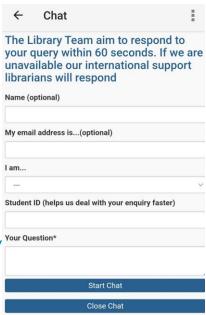


Maps









Plotted on to google maps

Links to other services i.e. chat or seat bookings

Special Events

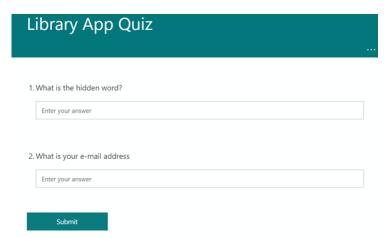
Easy to add promotional tiles for short time periods

Word search in the app using the tiles with coloured letters

Tile with a link to a microsoft form







User experience

Liège

- About 2,000 sign ups since Feb 2022
 - 1760 students
 - o 210 faculty & staff
- Very little feedback received
- Most used tiles:
 - MyAccount
 - Primo Catalogue
 - Opening Hours
- Hard to build awareness among library workers

- Over 3,000 sign ups in the first year
- Over 1000 active users a month.
- Most used tiles:
 - Check in
 - My Account
 - Seat bookings
- Strong support from library staff
 - Actively promote with our users in the library
 - Embedded in the induction sessions for students

Future plans

Liège

- New promotion campaign (again & again!)
- New library bookmarks with info about the app
- UX project planned for 2023
 - In collaboration with the French BULCO library
 - What should be added, removed, improved

- Issue of resources using the app
- Display of laptop availability
- Wayfinding in the app

Conclusions

- Simple to deploy
 - But potential key pain points like authentication or push notifications need to be fixed before going live
- Has become an additional communication channel (next to website news, Alma letters, and social media)
- Few feedback received, but at least no negative feedback...
- New students joining the University every year > promotion again and again
- Don't reinvent the wheel and reuse the existing
- More integrations are always welcome (self-check...)

