



Daddy, what did YOU do to help to save Libraries?

Editorial

Kicking off the January edition of Teen Librarian Monthly is a poster to (hopefully) encourage everybody to get involved with the My Library By Right Campaign and sign the petition if they have not already done so; it currently has over 10 000 signatures and I am sure we can at least double it if we make a concerted push together by asking our friends, colleagues and families to make a stand for libraries!

Next week Wednesday is Holocaust Memorial Day in the UK and tomorrow is the last day you can actually order a free physical display pack from the HMD UK Trust. The TeenTech competition is for schools that have teens who are interested in becoming problem solvers and working in Science, Engineering and Technology fields.

It was announced on Monday that author Phil Earle is the new virtual Author in residence for the Booktrust.

I am extremely happy to welcome Librarian Lucas Maxwell to the Teen Librarian, Lucas will be providing regular articles for TL, if you are a School Librarian you may already know him via his blog: <http://glenthorneirc.blogspot.co.uk/> - it is one of the best school library blogs I have read in recent years.

Teen Blogger and member of the Twitterati @GeorgiaReads is currently writing an article about books that people would like to see on the GCSE curriculum, she is looking for a variety of views so if you feel strongly about any particular title please look her up on Twitter and let her know your thoughts!

Many years ago, when I was studying to become a Librarian I was shown a film called *The Mind's Treasure Chest*, I have recently rediscovered it and it is as good as I remember it, so if you are looking for something to show your students it comes highly recommended! I have also written about some successes I have had in creating unlikely display spaces in my library



MY LIBRARY BY RIGHT

In a move that has Library Campaigners across the UK saying things like “Finally!” and “It’s about time!” CILIP has launched the *My Library By Right* Campaign to bring people together to campaign for:

- The public’s rights to libraries to be recognised and respected
- Public libraries to be treated as the statutory services they are
- The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to carry out their legal duties under the 1964 Public Libraries and Museums Act
- Statutory guidance for local authorities on their duties under the 1964 Public Libraries and Museums Act from DCMS, with support from CILIP and the library and information profession

For full details on the Campaign follow this link [My Library By Right](#)

Guardian Article: [Librarians take legal battle against library closures to government](#)

The Bookseller: [Local authorities risk ‘breaking law’ on libraries](#)

Sign the My Library By Right petition here:

<https://www.change.org/p/john-whittingdale-hm-government-act-now-to-protect-my-statutory-rights-to-a-quality-public-library-service>

Don’t Stand By!

Tomorrow is the last chance you have to order a physical pack for Holocaust Memorial Day 2016!

The Activity Pack is for Holocaust Memorial Day activity organisers to help facilitate activities. It contains a set of posters, an example of our free handout materials, a sample About HMD booklet, a set of stickers, a metal HMD badge and guidance for putting on your activity.

The packs themselves aren’t designed for you to give away to those coming to your events so copies are limited to one per person. However, you can order more copies of our handout materials - the sample About HMD booklet is for this purpose.

<http://hmd.org.uk/campaign-pack>

Teen Tech

Are you an innovator? Do you have an idea which could make life easier, simpler or better? We want you to use your imagination, to think creatively.

This is a chance to ask "What if?" or even build a fun example of what this might look like.

The *TeenTech* Awards are for UK students from 11-16 (Years 7 to 11) and 17-18 (Years 12 to 13) working in teams of up to three to look at problems large and small to see if they can find a better way of doing things.

There will be a prize of £1000 to the winning school in each category and the overall winners will be presented with their awards by HRH Duke of York KG at Buckingham Palace.

For full details and to register please follow this link: <http://www.teentech.com/>

Phil Earle: I want to help children find their life-changing book

Award-winning novelist for children and young adults, Phil Earle, has been appointed the new online Writer in Residence for children's reading charity, BookTrust.

Today, (Monday 18 Jan) Phil kicks off his six month residency with a vlog talking about his belief that everyone is a reader and that there is a story out there for everybody.

Phil said: *I'm chuffed to bits to be working with BookTrust as their Writer in Residence. Growing up as a non-reader, I had no idea about the power of stories: of the places they can take you or the people you can meet as a result. I really want to show children that the right book for them is out there.*

It wasn't until Phil was 26 years old that he stumbled across children's literature by accident, after being 'kicked into the children's section' whilst working in a bookshop.

After that 'light-bulb' moment Phil's life changed and he began writing his own stories in his lunch breaks in the bookshop and, later, writing on the bus on his way to work.

During Phil's residency he plans to interview authors, editors, poets and illustrators on his vlog in the hope of encouraging children to find the right story, graphic novel, picture book for them. Phil will host a Writer in Residence Twitter chat on 12 February at 2.30pm. His focus will be on favourite fictional families in children's books and the chat will use the hashtag #philbookchat. Follow Phil on [@philearle](https://twitter.com/philearle) to take part.

Phil's books include gritty young adult titles *Heroic* and *Being Billy*, the latter being nominated for the Carnegie Medal and shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize. More recently, Phil wrote *Demolition Dad*, the first in a middle-grade series described as 'DANNY, CHAMPION OF THE WORLD in Spandex' about a young boy and his Dad who's an amateur wrestler on the weekends. The sequel, *Superhero Street* is forthcoming in March from Orion. Phil has also authored a couple of early reader titles for Orion including the football-themed *Albert and the Garden of Doom*.

Whilst writing popular children's books, Phil also works as Sales and Marketing Director at David Fickling Books.

BookTrust chief executive Diana Gerald said: *The BookTrust online Writer in Residence programme has been a wonderful and popular addition to the BookTrust website, giving visitors to the site a sneak peek into the lives, notebooks and sketchbooks of acclaimed*

writers and illustrators. We are really looking forward to Phil's residency as he helps us in our ongoing mission of championing reading to children.

The BookTrust Writer in Residence project has been running since March 2009 and has featured a number of authors and illustrators including Sita Brahmachari, Patrick Ness, Nii Ayikwei Parkes, Evie Wyld, Polly Dunbar, Clare Wigfall, Bali Rai, Hannah Berry, Matt Haig, Laura Dockrill, Chris Riddell and Philip Ardagh. The residency encourages each writer to explore topics that they, and BookTrust, are passionate about, with past residents exploring themes such as LGBT issues, diversity in children's literature and the importance of libraries.

Listen to Phil's first vlog here:

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/writing/online-writer-in-residence/blog/936>

Blackboard paper: turning the boring into the interactive

Lucas Maxwell



I recently discovered a cool product, chalkboard paper.

It's made of a vinyl material that can stick to almost any surface. It peels on easily and peels off without leaving any marks. (I sound like I'm doing a commercial spot for them).

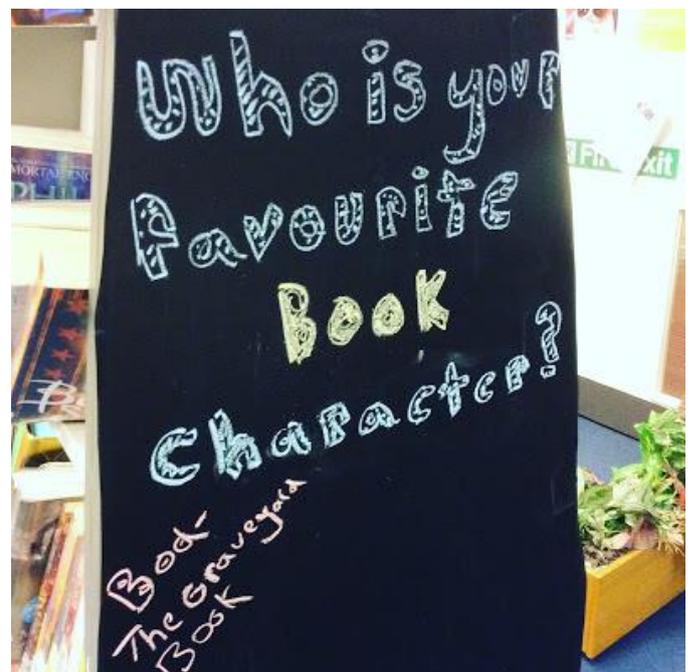
You can then write on it with chalk (which is provided) as it acts exactly like a real chalkboard.

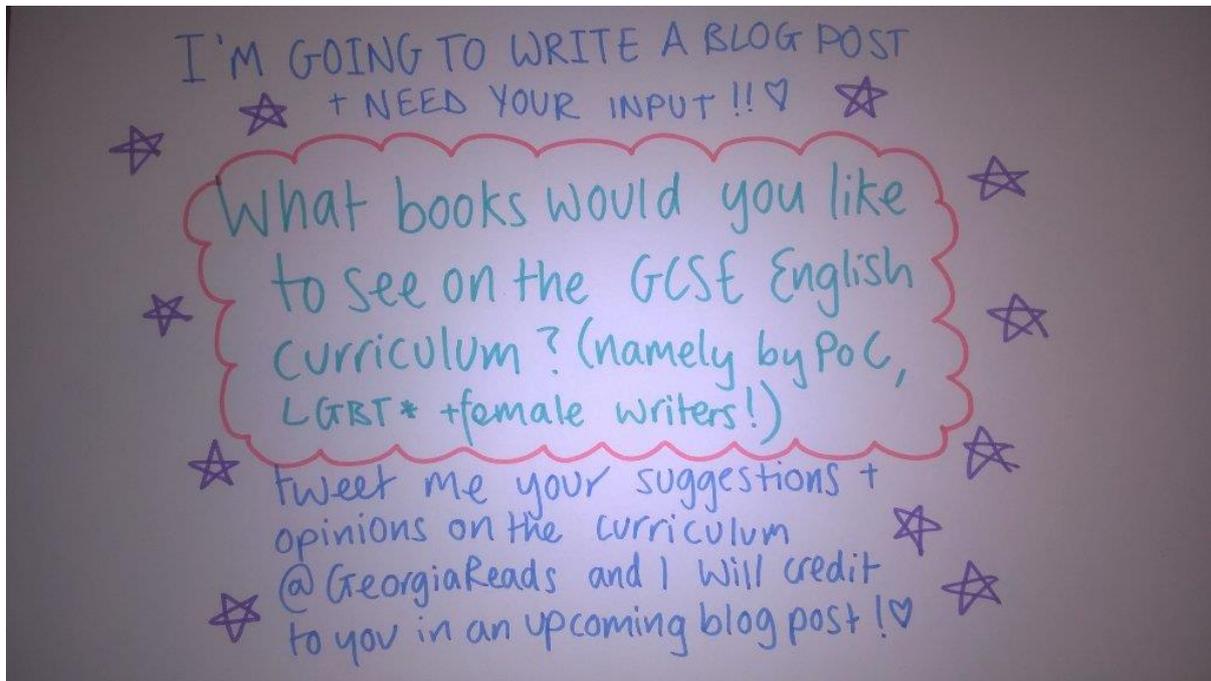
I've recently used it to turn our rolling book display unit, which has boring grey sides, into an interactive space that the students can use.

The ideas are pretty much limitless with this material, it is very cheap as well, you can find its Amazon link here: amzn.to/1n9y2l6

I'm also going to apply it to a depressing filing cabinet that sits upstairs and makes you miserable just by looking at it.

A cheap, easy way to interact with your students.





You can find Georgia here: <https://twitter.com/georgiareads>

The Mind's Treasure Chest

A long, long (ish) time ago when I was a student librarian in the School of Education at the Cape Technikon (now the Cape Peninsula University of Technology) in South Africa. It was during the second year of my studies that one of my favourite lecturers (Dr Liz van Aswegen) showed my class a video called *The Mind's Treasure Chest*

Released in 1991, THE MIND'S TREASURE CHEST is a feature length educational comedy that teaches students to think for themselves. This film is a marriage between a Hollywood movie and an educational video. It's about libraries, research, and information. It's about history and hypothesizing. It's about thinking for yourself.

Distributed in five countries, it won a multitude of awards, including Best Film for Grades 7–12 at the National Educational Film and Video Festival.

For Kennedy buffs, the film features a number of sequences that dramatize the history of the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Parts of it are a bit dated; for example I do not think that many (or any) school libraries still use microfiche readers, catalogues are computerised and the internet is now available on broadband rather than a limited dial up service.

You may be able to show it to your students as part of their library induction or get them to spot the ways that school library usage has changed (and indeed, remained the same) but if not it is still an entertaining and educational film for Librarians to watch and reminisce on how things used to be done.

You can watch the complete film here:

<http://teenlibrarian.co.uk/2016/01/05/the-minds-treasure-chest/>

Making use of Limited Display Space



My School Library, is a classically beautiful and retro (in appearance) library space while at the same time managing to be fairly modern in offering a relevant, 21st Century service is rather limited when it comes to display space, owing to nearly every available wall being covered in bookshelves.

In December of 2015 I decided to turn my storage cupboard (one of the few usable forward-facing flat spaces) into a display board, which you can see on the left alongside my beautiful grandmother clock.

The other flat spaces are between the windows, but use of this space is tricky due to the ban on anything sticky being attached to painted walls. To get round this, I attached poster paper to the window frames on each side to create a semi-permanent display advertising the library clubs that I run on a weekly basis



Has anyone else had to get round limited display space in inventive ways? If you have I would be interested in hearing how this was accomplished.

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