



Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY

School of
Computing

The RIVAL network

Network-building and the coronavirus

Key messages

- **Key messages**
- **RIVAL's aims?**
- **What was RIVAL?**
- **Adapting to lockdown**
- **What did RIVAL achieve?**
- **What does this all mean?**

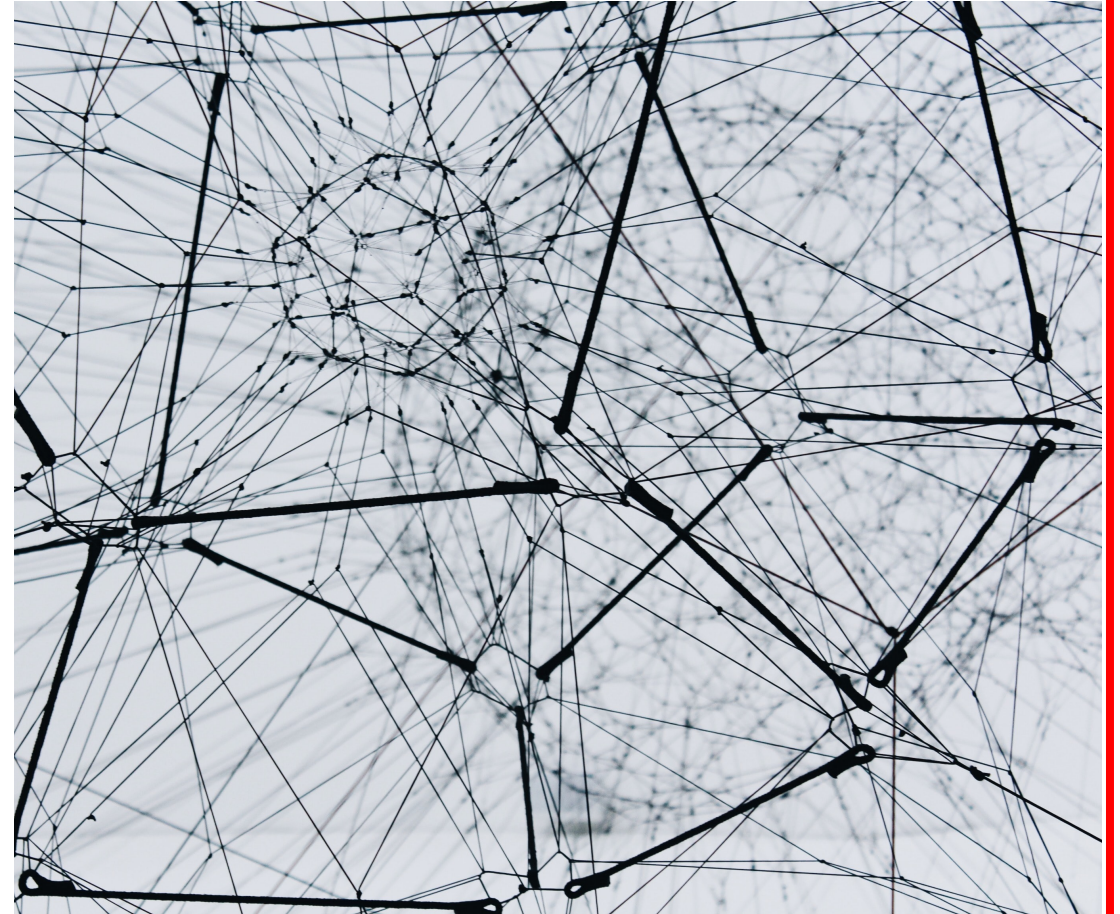


Key messages



Key messages

- Building **collaborative networks** is **possible and worthwhile...**
 - if you work at it and get funding
- We have a **model** for doing so.



RIVAL's aims



RIVAL's aims

'a collaborative network of Scotland-based Library and Information Science researchers and practising library and information professionals interested in maximising the impact and value of library and information science research'



Research, Impact, Value And LIS



*The Royal Society
of Edinburgh*

KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL

RIVAL's aims

collaborative: network-building and skill-sharing

researchers:



professionals:



Scotland's library and information professionals

RIVAL's aims

Network

1. To help close the **research-practice gap**
 - ‘need for LIS researchers to produce accessible research outputs that are applicable in practice’
 - ‘for LIS practitioners to engage with LIS research’

THE
LIBRARY QUARTERLY
Volume I JANUARY 1931 *Number 1*

THE PLACE OF RESEARCH IN LIBRARY
SERVICE*

RESearch: What attitude does the word evoke in the young library-school graduate? Is the emotional state produced pleasant or unpleasant, or a mixture of these two elementary reactions? If by means of some delicate instrument, or by some subtle skill, I could have the answer to that question at once, I should perhaps know whether to persist in following the manuscript I have prepared or whether I am likely to accomplish more for library service by throwing it aside and talking about anything that comes to mind. But I have not the delicate instrument nor the requisite skill, so well are your emotional responses controlled and directed. In other words, so hardened are you to occasions of this kind that you may even get some pleasure from the consciousness of doing your duty and seeing the thing through. Psychologists tell us that the unpleasant emotions are slower of arousal than the pleasant. If your emotions are of the former class I can only hope that they may be inhibited completely or that they will not produce the withdrawal response for at least thirty minutes.

I affect the language of the psychologist to confess at the outset that I have had some doubt as to the interest you may have in this subject, or, rather, in my ability to interest you in it—

* Address delivered at the Founder's Day Exercises, School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, June 20, 1930.

RIVAL's aims

Demand: 'pilot', summer 2018

Experience

Hazel: DREaM, RiLIES

lisresearch.org/dream-project

lisresearch.org/rilies-project

Bruce: digiCC workshops

communityknect.wordpress.com/projects/digicc-workshops



What was RIVAL?



What was RIVAL?

32 network members

lisrival.com/rival-people/rival-network-members

- Richard Aird
- Ines Byrne
- Laura Cagnazzo
- Jeanette Castle
- Gillian Daly
- Marshall Dozier
- Giulia Giganti
- Paul Gooding
- Hazel Hall
- Morag Higgison
- Sally Kerr
- Hayley Lockerbie
- Jill Mackintosh
- Martina McChrystal
- Paul McCloskey
- Kirsten McCormick
- Sean McNamara
- Andrew McTaggart
- Maureen McWhirter
- Eva Nueno
- Diane Pennington
- Emily Prince
- Hilary Reid
- Lynne Robertson
- Bruce Ryan
- Rachel Salzano
- Katherine Stephen
- Alison Stoddart
- Andy Taylor
- Melissa Terras
- Alyson Tyler
- Karen Walker



Sean McNamara

What I do: Head, [CILIP Scotland](#)

Email: sean.mcnamara@cilips.org.uk

Twitter: [@seanmacnamara1](#)

My LIS skills and interests: Knowledge transfer/organisational learning, Digital literacy, Supporting users, Leadership skills, Strategic thinking and evaluation, Advocacy, Demonstrating value, Influencing key stakeholders, Working with decision makers, Operational planning, Policy, Financial management, Service innovation, development and design



Martina McChrystal

What I do: Director of library services, [University of Glasgow](#)

email: Martina.Mcchrystal@glasgow.ac.uk

Twitter: [@mmcchrystal](#)

My LIS skills and interests: Collection management, Leadership skills, Strategic thinking and evaluation, Advocacy, Demonstrating value, Partnership development, Influencing key stakeholders, Working with decision makers, Strategic planning, Financial management, People management, Change management

What was RIVAL?

4 networking events

- July 2019, November 2019, March 2020, July 20
- Events 1 to 3 *pre-planned*
 - ‘research into practice’
 - ice-breakers
 - unconferencing
 - planning for event 4
- Event 4: *whatever members wanted*

10:45-11:30 Keynote: ‘Catalysing research into practice from the ground up’

David Stewart (Health Libraries North and CILIP President)

Chaired by Professor Hazel Hall David Stewart, CILIP President for 2019 and Regional Director of Health Library and Knowledge Services North, presented on his key presidential theme: the importance of evidence to underpin the difference that library services make. He provided an

Communication between events: website, email, Twitter

What was RIVAL?

- RIVAL board
 - Ines Byrne, NLS; Martina McChrystal, University of Glasgow; Paul McCloskey, Edinburgh Libraries; Andy Taylor, BioAscent Drug Discovery
- Event 1 = taster. Commit to events 2-4
- **Free** to attend
- **Free sharing of outputs**, via <http://lisrival.com>

What was RIVAL?

Collaboration and co-creation

- Preselected groups work on ideas for event 4
 - to make tangible outputs
- Self-selected teams and co-ordinators, with Napier facilitators

A: Event 5

B: article for *Information Professional*

C: research-grant proposal

D: evaluation of RIVAL project

Research, impact, value and the library and information sector in Scotland

RIVAL is a collaborative network of 32 Scotland-based Library and Information Science (LIS) researchers and practising library and information professionals interested in maximising the impact and value of LIS research. Here **Jeanette Castle** et al discuss the research and consider what happens next.

DANGER OF INFECTION



COVID-19

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
2019-NCOV

Adapting to lockdown



Adapting to lockdown

- Pessimism and optimism
 - Delay until ready
 - Online life exists already



Personal

- 1 my wife's personal blog
- 2 my blog
- 3 some family stuff
- 4 music
- 5 fuel (soya latte, diet Irn Bru and e-fags)

Professional

- 6 RIVAL task-list
(Excel on Napier PC via VPN)
- 7 talking with colleagues via MS Teams
- 8 quick notes

Community

- 9 community council websites
- 10 LeithChooses website

Adapting to lockdown

- Learn from others – and get confidence

asis&t

Pretoria
28 Sept- 2 Oct 2020
South Africa
2020 ISIC
The Information Behaviour Conference

INFORMATIONSKOMPETENZ UND DEMOKRATIE

Regel, Sachlichkeit und Analyse gegenüber in der digitalen Informationsgesellschaft

CILIPS Scotland's library
and information
professionals



Adapting to lockdown

Lessons from other events

- Accept there are risks
- Be nice to ourselves and others
- Delegate: thank you PhD colleagues Katherine Stephen and Rachel Salzano!
- Practice and prepare
- Adapt your programme
- Use channels to network
- Be seen to have fun



Rachel
Salzano

Katherine
Stephen

What did RIVAL achieve?



What did RIVAL achieve?

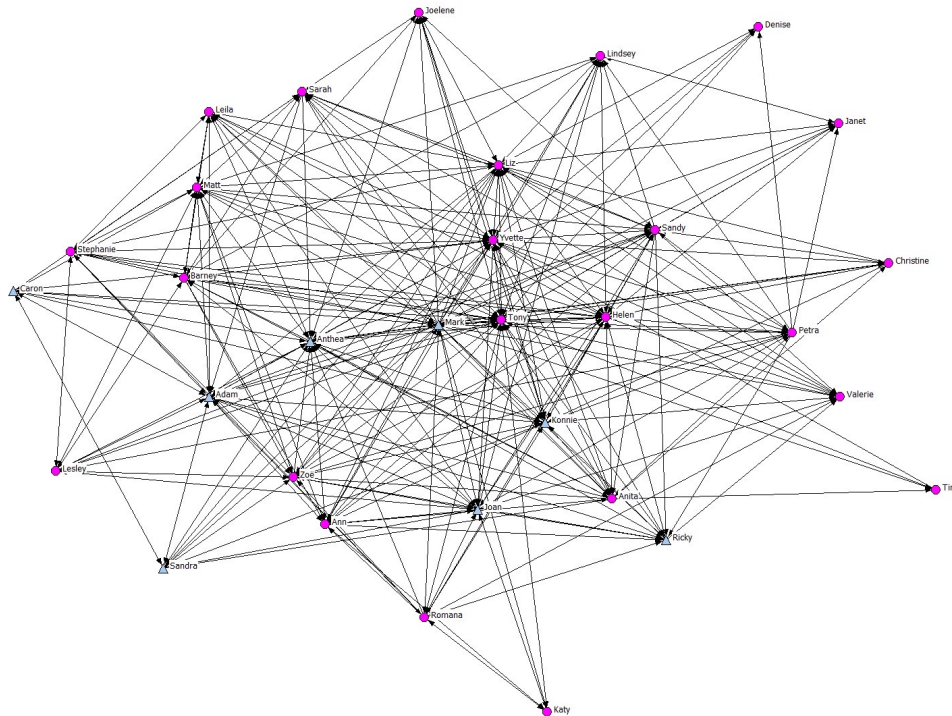
It survived – and succeeded

It is a real shame that the network was forced to take a hiatus, and that we weren't able to have further face to face meetings. ...inevitably their lack had an impact.

However, I have absolutely no criticisms about how [the RIVAL team] managed the post-lockdown events, which I thought were fantastic in the circumstances.

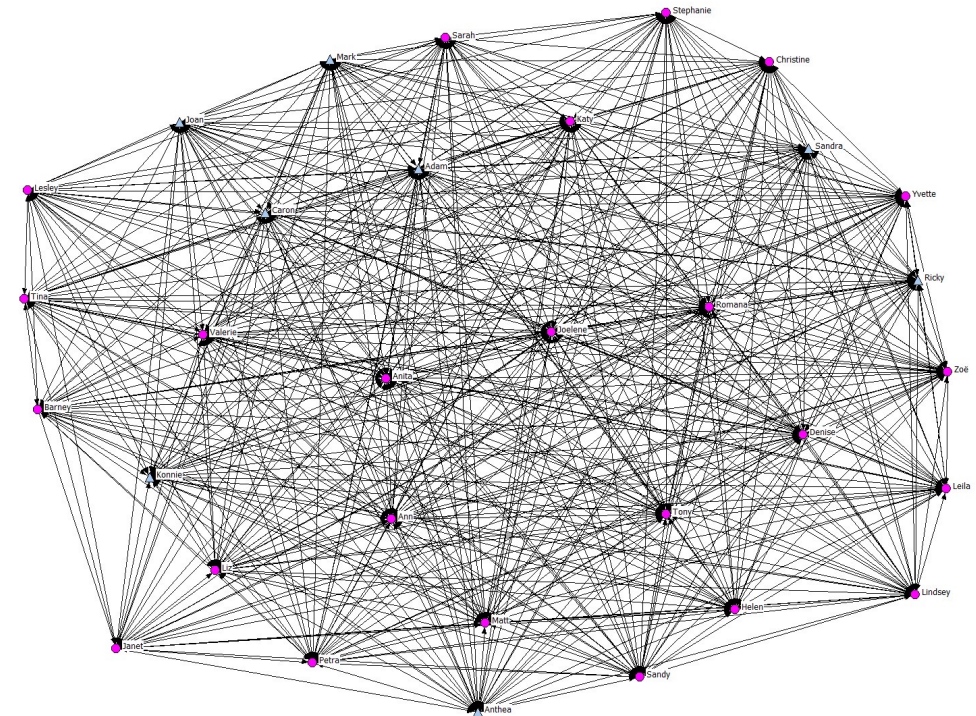
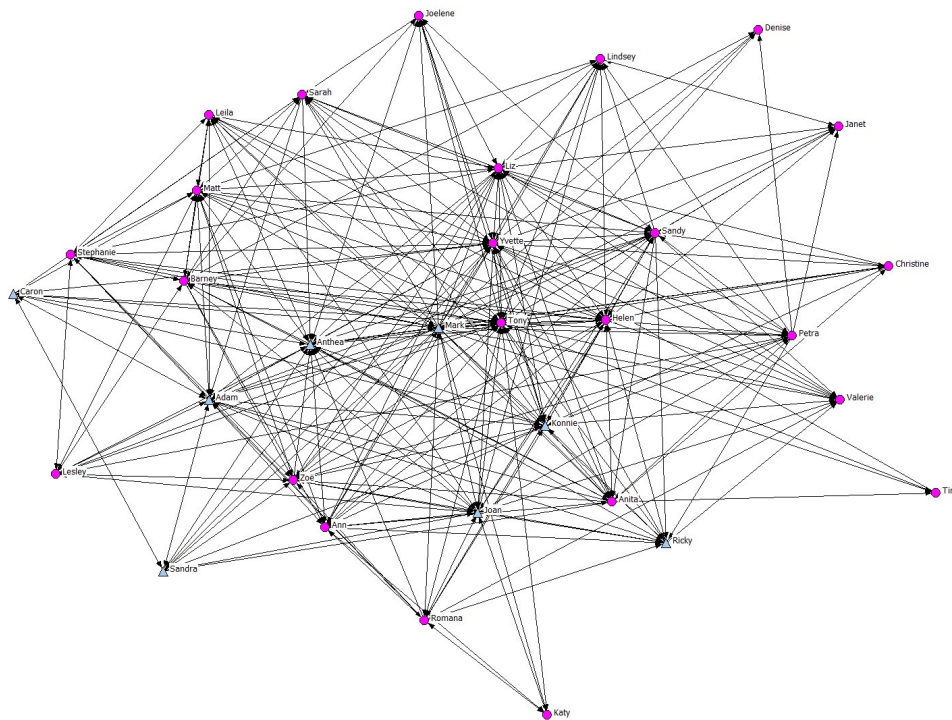
What did RIVAL achieve?

A network



What did RIVAL achieve?

A network



What did RIVAL achieve?

Narrowed research-practice gap:

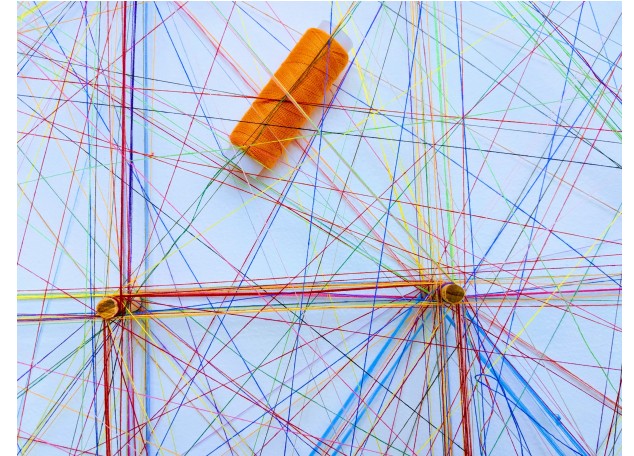
- *Created new, strengthened existing* relationships between academics and practitioners
- Network was diverse
- Practitioners can already integrate learning into their practices – or plan to
- Academics can already incorporate ideas expressed by practitioner members



What did RIVAL achieve?

- Increased practitioners' confidence
- in reaching professional goals as research **users** and **partners**
 - in other ways as research **users** and **partners**

Overall: a **model for developing networks** in other areas of research-professional expertise (e.g. nursing, social work, policing)



What did RIVAL achieve?

Resources, available at lisrival.com

Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hazel Hall: introduction (slides & video) Sarah Morton: Keynote 'Getting research into action: issues, challenges, solutions' (slides & video) Martina McChrystal: presentation 'Scotland's school library strategy: advocacy and impact' (slides & video) Hazel Hall: review of round table discussions (slides & video) Panel discussion (slides & video) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hazel Hall: Introduction to the day: (slides & video) David Stewart: Keynote: 'Catalysing research into practice from the ground up' (slides & video) Hazel Hall and Bruce Ryan: RIVAL members map and big business card (slides & video) Interactive map of RIVAL network membership RIVAL big business card (slides & video) Network members' skills and interests Hazel Hall: Research into Practice 3 – 'Digital research into practice: implications for practice' (slides & video) Panel discussion for event Panel discussion and Laura Research into Practice 2 – 'Linked data implementations and perceptions: implications for practice' (slides & video) Andy Taylor: closing remarks (video) Directory of network members Network members' skills and interests 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce Ryan: 'From day 1 to day 2? Some lessons from the RIVAL project' (post) Leo Anderson: 'The impact of e-legal research in the academic sector' (slides & video) Constantina Martzoukou and Simon Burnett: Research into Practice 4 – 'Syrian new Scots' information literacy way-finding practices' (slides with audio) Hayley Lockerbie: 'Turning school library provision digital and return to school in times of COVID19' (video) Scottish university departments which undertake LIS research (posters): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edinburgh Edinburgh Napier Glasgow Robert Gordon Strathclyde 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Team A: RIVAL event 5 Team B: Article in Information Professionals Team C: funding bid Team D: evaluation report

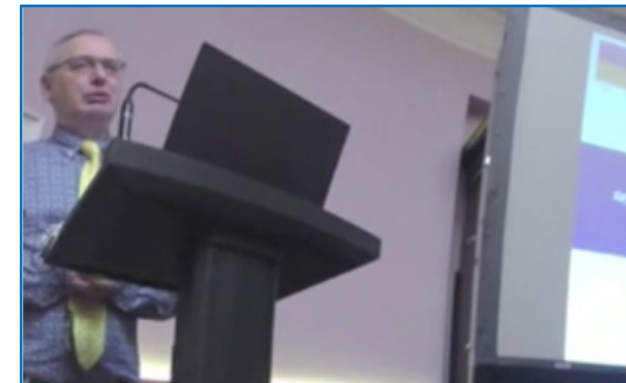
RESOURCES

What did RIVAL achieve?

Resources: presentations and videos

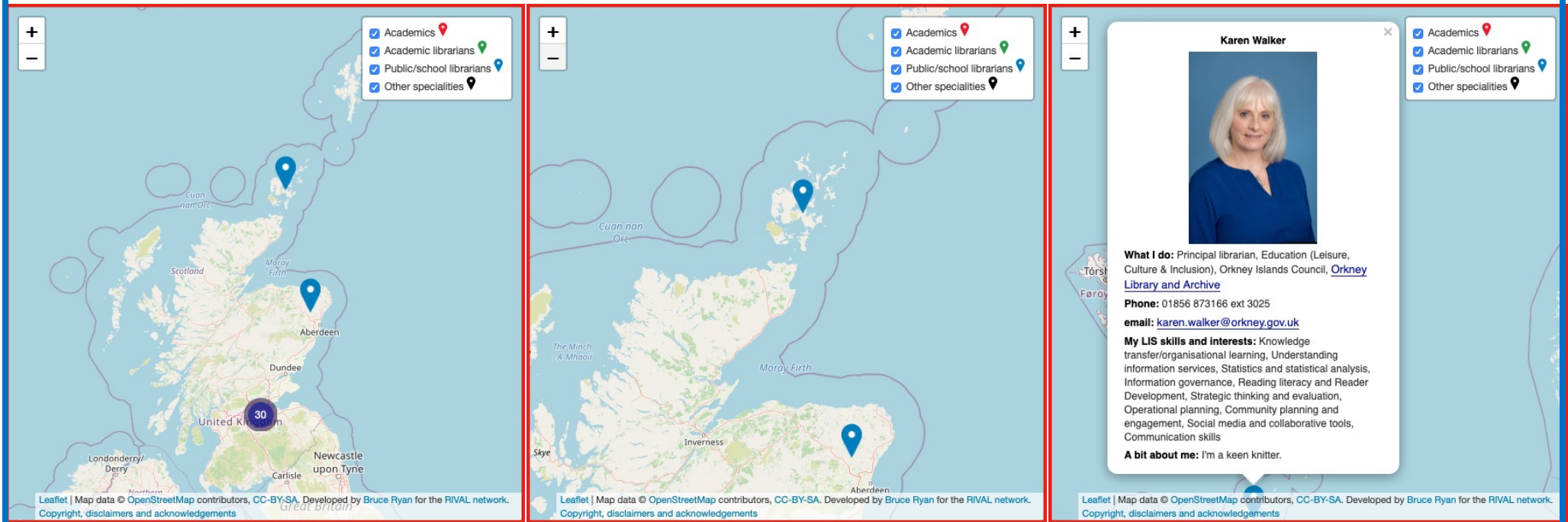
A presentation slide titled "SYRIAN NEW SCOTS INFORMATION LITERACY WAY-FINDINGS PRACTICES". The slide features a logo with the letters R, I, V, and LIS in a grid. It includes the text "Edinburgh - Event 3: 19 November 2020" and the names "Dr Konstantina Martzoukou & Professor Simon Burnett" from the School of Creative and Cultural Business at Robert Gordon University. A URL is provided at the bottom: <https://syrian-information-literacy.blogspot.com/>. There are also small images of people and a speaker icon.

A presentation slide with a dark green background. The text reads: "Skills and Abilities for MSc academic success whilst working full time." Below this, in smaller text, it says "HOW TO SURVIVE AND REACH YOUR GOAL". There is a small red square in the top right corner and a small white box with the text "academic success" in the top left corner.



What did RIVAL achieve?

Resources: map of members (socprojects.napier.ac.uk/rival)



The image displays three screenshots of the RIVAL map interface. The first screenshot shows a map of the United Kingdom with several location pins. The second screenshot is a zoomed-in view of the Orkney Islands. The third screenshot shows a profile card for Karen Walker, a Principal Librarian at the Orkney Islands Council. The profile card includes a photo, contact information, and a list of skills and interests.

Karen Walker

What I do: Principal librarian, Education (Leisure, Culture & Inclusion), Orkney Islands Council, [Orkney Library and Archive](#)

Phone: 01856 873166 ext 3025

email: karen.walker@orkney.gov.uk

My LIS skills and interests: Knowledge transfer/organisational learning, Understanding information services, Statistics and statistical analysis, Information governance, Reading literacy and Reader Development, Strategic thinking and evaluation, Operational planning, Community planning and engagement, Social media and collaborative tools, Communication skills

A bit about me: I'm a keen knitter.

What did RIVAL achieve?

Resources: skills directory

Professional Skills

1. Organising Knowledge and Information
2. Knowledge and Information Management
3. Using and Exploiting Knowledge and Information
4. Research Skills
5. Information Governance and Compliance
6. Records Management and Archiving
7. Collection Management and Development
8. Literacies and Learning

Generic Skills

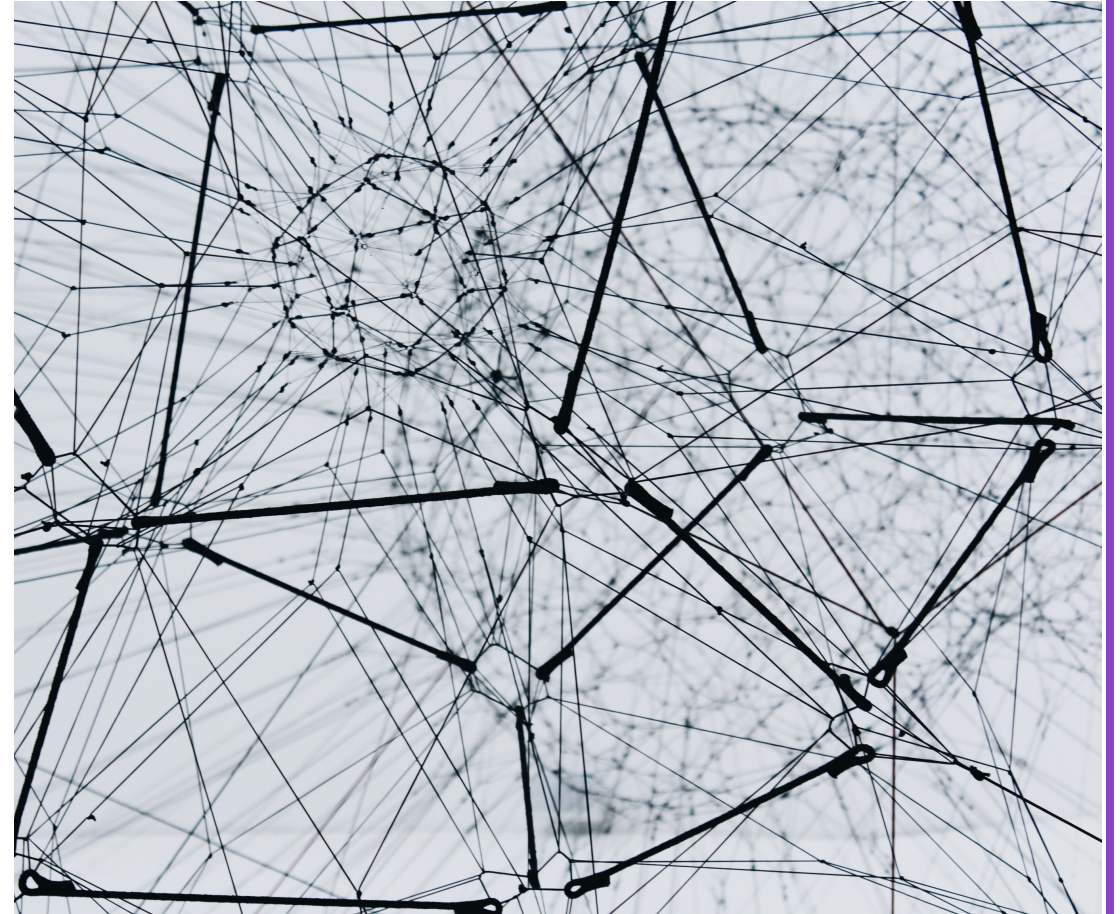
9. Leadership and Advocacy
10. Strategy, Planning and Management
11. Customer Focus, Service Design and Marketing
12. IT and Communication

7 Collection Management and Development

7.1 Collection management	Ines Byrne Jill Mackintosh Martina McChrystal Emily Prince
7.2 Collection development policy	Rachel Salzano
7.3 Selection of materials and resources	Ines Byrne Jill Mackintosh
7.4 Legal deposit	Ines Byrne Melissa Terras
7.5 Collection evaluation and information quality	Jill Mackintosh
7.6 Collection promotion	Ines Byrne Rachel Salzano

Key messages

- Building **collaborative networks** is **possible and worthwhile...**
 - if you work at it and get funding
- We have a **model** for doing so.



Key messages: the model

- Events are free to attend
- Enticing, relevant content
- Activities to break ice and build relationships
- Communications and info-sharing between events
- Members are a mix of academics and practitioners
- Board reflects membership, experience and diversity
- Members have some control over content and outputs
- Aim to create tangible outputs and resources



Resources and links

- <https://lisrival.com>
- <http://socprojects.napier.ac.uk/rival>
- <https://lisresearch.org/dream-project>
- <https://lisresearch.org/rilies-project>
- <https://hazelhall.org>
- <https://bruceryan.info>
- <https://blogs.napier.ac.uk/social-informatics>





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Thank you!

napier.ac.uk/soc