



Academic Libraries North (ALN) is a network of academic libraries in the North of England

Your institution is a member so you get access to:

- **16 Groups and Communities of Practice** to network, share good practice and learn from others with similar jobs and interests.
- A **staff development programme**; from training events, Skill Up sessions and Frontline Forums.
- An Annual **conference** offering opportunities to join the planning committee and share your expertise through presentations.
- A **mentoring scheme** to support staff in their professional growth.
- **EDI Innovation fund** to support collaborative EDI-focussed projects.
- Check out our **weekly staff development update** highlighting events and job opportunities from our members.
<https://academiclibrariesnorth.ac.uk/staff-development/staff-development-weekly-update/>
- Join the '**In Touch with ALN**' general email list, open to everyone in our member institutions. This monthly update highlights upcoming events, meetings and library sector information. Join our mailing list by emailing academiclibrariesnorth@sconul.ac.uk

<https://academiclibrariesnorth.ac.uk/>

ALN Staff Development Opportunities

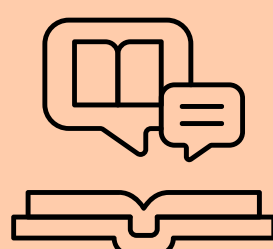
Events

We run exchanges of experience, workshops, TeachMeets etc every year, aimed at staff at all levels and all areas of the library service, and hosted reciprocally by members and groups.



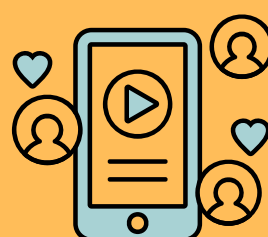
Skill up with ALN

We run Skill Up with ALN! – a series of of hour-long sessions which offer an opportunity to learn about different roles and areas of library life and aim to demystify areas of the library service.



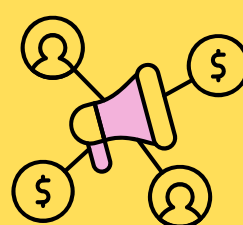
Conference

We host our well-respected annual conference in one of our member cities, choosing pertinent and thought-provoking topics to attract speakers and delegates alike



Mentoring

Our mentoring scheme, aimed at staff at all levels (below director) is well supported and attracts staff from a wide range of ALN members. Feedback from mentors and mentees is overwhelmingly positive.



Frontline Forum

This online discussion and development space is aimed at those staff who work directly with students and users to share best practice & learn about different service models & delivery types at different universities.



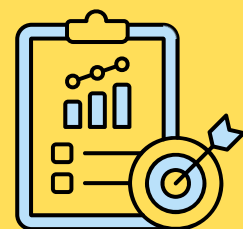
SD Weekly Update

The update is intended to provide information on our SD programme; highlight interesting initiatives; and promote job opportunities in our member libraries.



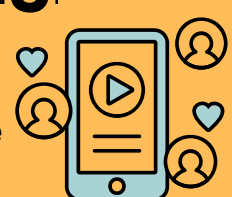
In Touch with ALN

A monthly update outlining ALN and external events of interest to members in a variety of roles, as well as detailing opportunities to get involved in sector-wide developments.



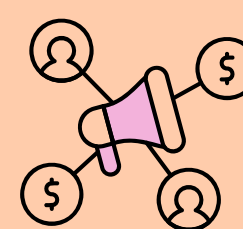
Mental Health & Wellbeing

An advocacy resource to support work around mental health and wellbeing, consisting of links to resources relating to this emerging agenda and case studies contributed by ALN libraries.



UX Toolkit

This toolkit has been written to help get member libraries get started on their UX journey, through examples of methodologies, data analysis, ideation and prototyping.



ALN 2025 in numbers!

Thank you to staff and institutions for another successful year, including events on our staff development programme and the work of our Groups.
This is snapshot of what we achieved together in 2025!

Total Number of Events

Events: 25
Speakers: 103
ALN attendees: 850
Non-ALN attendees: 75

Most attended event

Innovative Marketing & Social Media Engagement – Hosted online by Hull University

Frontline Forum

Forums: 4
Speakers: 7
ALN attendees: 127

Skill up with ALN

Sessions: 6
Speakers: 11
ALN attendees: 159
Non-ALN attendees: 25

Conference

Delegates: 187
Speakers: 44
Sponsors: 10
Profit achieved: £13K

Groups

Groups: 16
(6 SIGs & 10 CoPs)
Members of all groups (end Dec 2025): 903

Communications

In touch with ALN published 12 times
Delivered to 350+ people each time

Mentoring

Mentees: 27
17 for wave 4
10 for wave 5
New Mentors for waves 4 & 5: 10
(32 overall)