

# The Living, Taking and Giving Back Library

A Participatory Experience

Margaret Jennings



The Library contents have been gathered over a period of 1 year from found materials in skips and random throw-out places.

...a diary, a snapshot, an indictment of discarded and wasted resources.

Arranged on discarded light-fittings for shelves and in boxes and cabinets, this found 'stuff' has been selected in relation to a personal choice of categorisation, just like a library.







Offered here, juxtapositioned against the historically and culturally revered library context, the newly categorised and rearranged objects, evoke the beginnings of a re-appropriated transformative journey of stuff.

A provocation of reassessments of our taken-for-grantedness in our everyday habits?

A reformatting of questions we ask ourselves...



This, as an Alternative Library, broaches possibilities to reconsider such pertinent pressing issues as;

what we throw away,

why we throw it out .... and

how perhaps it could be reclaimed,  
revalued, re-appropriated, reused,  
re-ideaed

... indeed transformed.



...I caught surprise. I can  
...down when  
...looking for it as I knew  
...I had one.

Thankyou

Jeroja-XXX

ps I also used this  
pen from the  
stash.





Through this giving back, the essential return is directly connected to its communal use.

The Alternative Library may be thought of as a cycle – a flow back to community – suggesting the idea of respect, responsibility and commitment to the environment.









Dear Participants,

Having chosen a piece of stuff and made use of it, a photograph documenting its transformation is to be returned to The Library.

This photo becomes an archive for future reference

... germinating new ideas.









Also

The Rule;

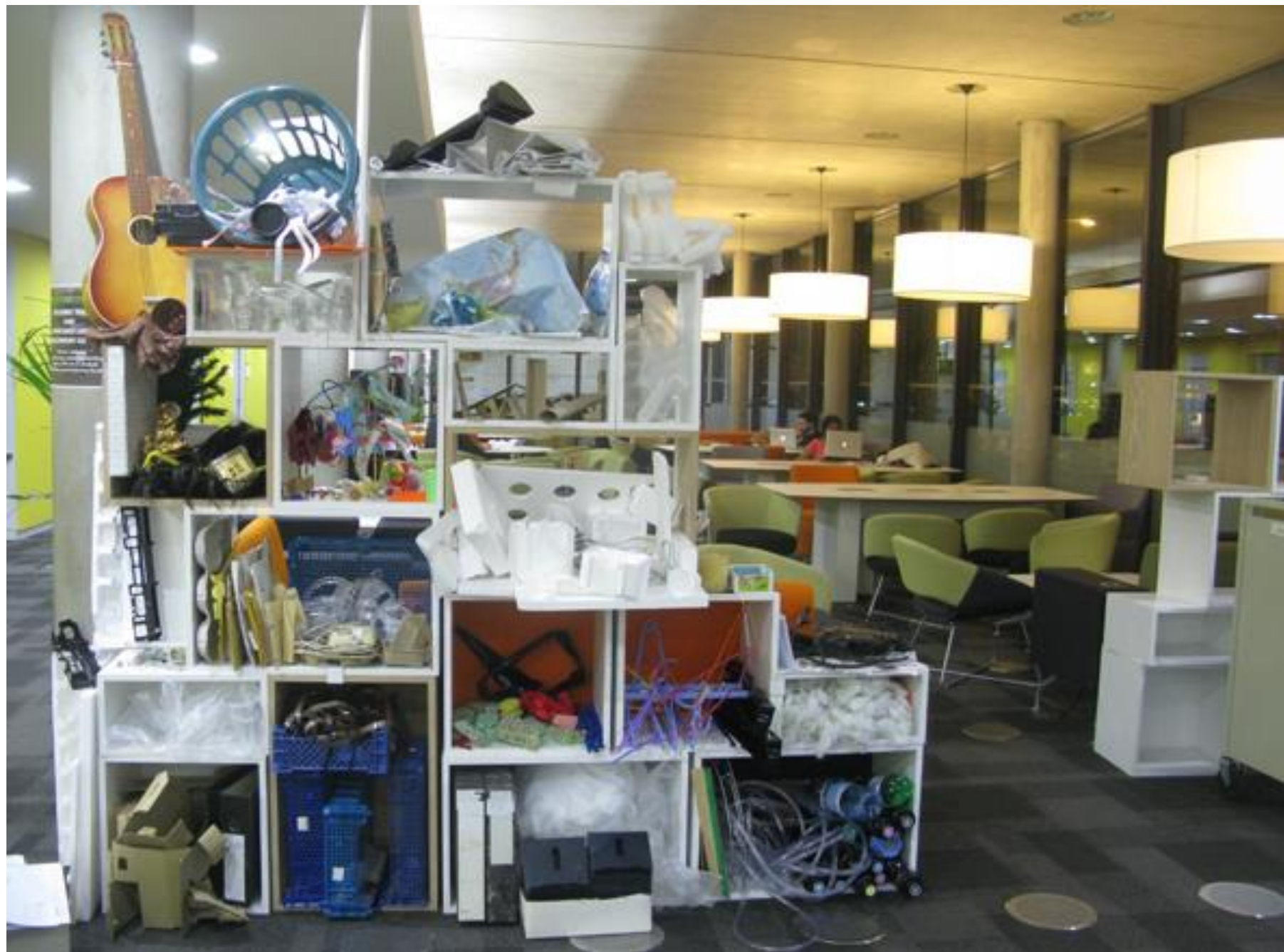
The Library is to be replenished with your own found object/material.

This found object/material, specially chosen with a view of how it might be useful to someone else, is offered as inspiration for the next Library user.











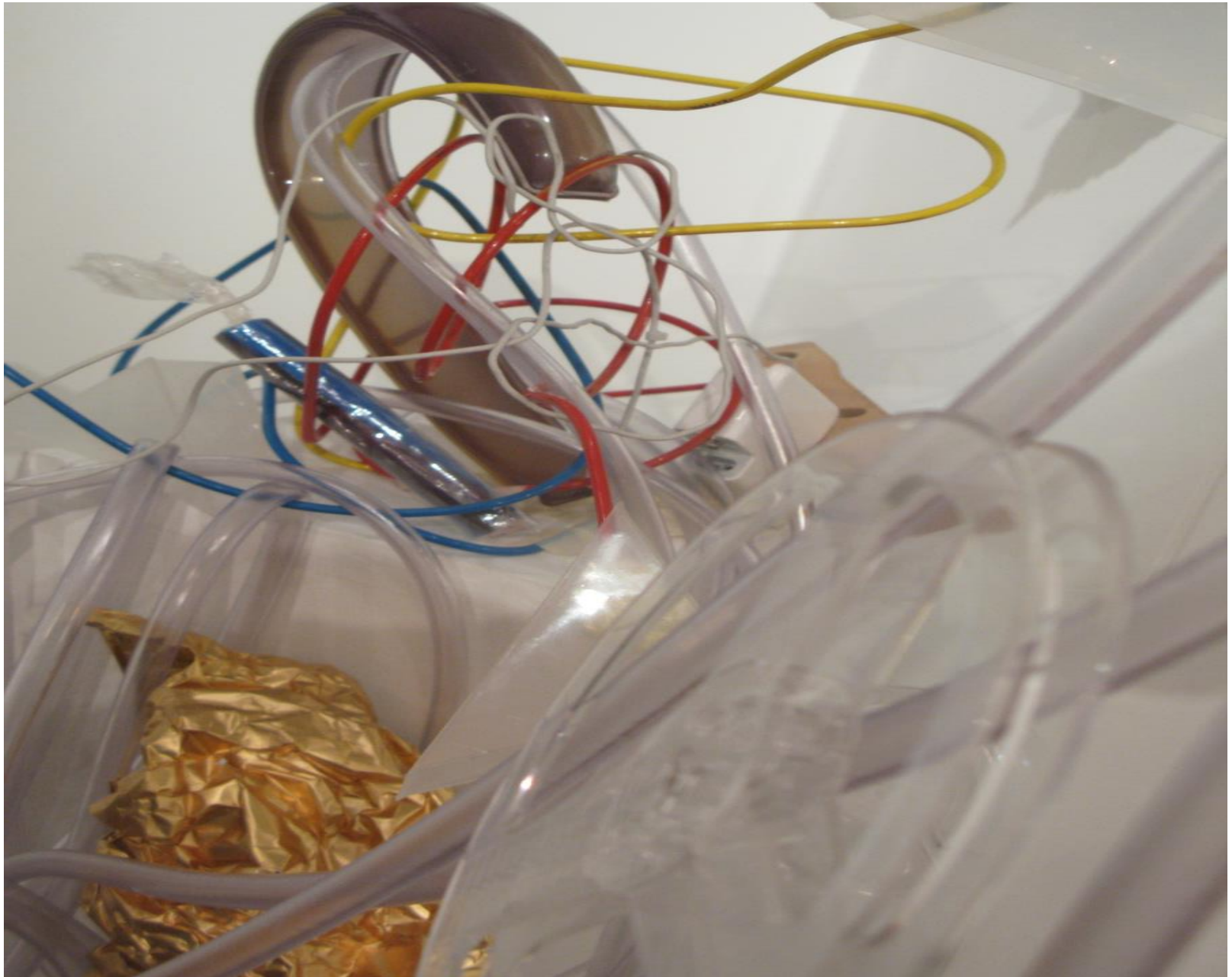
































# MMX

PERMANENT  
SPECIALS

ART  
DOES  
STANDARD  
WEIRD





























THE HUMAN  
SPIRIT NEEDS  
PLACES WHERE  
NATURE HAS  
NOT BEEN  
REARRANGED  
BY THE HAND  
OF MAN.















**NATURA**



HOT GINGER HONEY  
& LEMON TEA!!!  
OUR HOMEMADE TEA  
IS PERFECT TO TAKE  
CARE OF SOME NASTY COLD.  
STRENGTHEN YOUR  
IMMUNE SYSTEM  
AND KEEP YOUR  
DIGESTION HEALTHY!

YOU CAN ALSO TAKE ME HOME IN A JAR!

visit our website: [www.naturatea.co.uk](http://www.naturatea.co.uk)  
Facebook: Natura Tea



# NATURA

WE CATER FOR FOR ALL  
YOUR PRIVATE EVENTS:  
BIRTHDAYS, SCREENINGS, TALKS,  
LIVE MUSICS, PERFORMANCES...

YOU CAN HIRE THE SPACE AND  
TAILOR THE CATERING SERVICE  
TO SUIT YOUR EVENT.

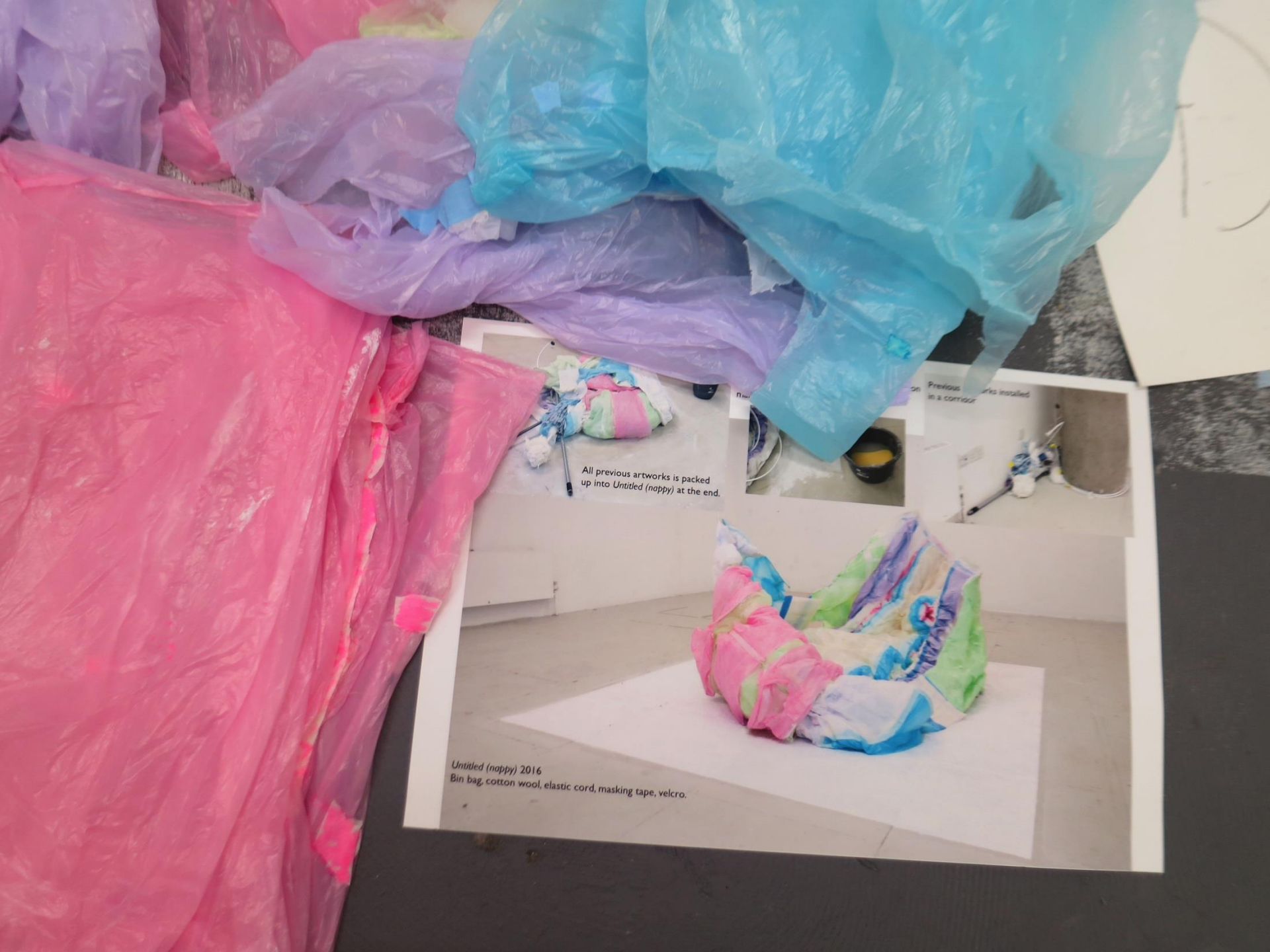
PLEASE TALK TO OUR DIRECTOR DINAH  
FOR MORE INFORMATION!

EMAIL: [info@natureandnourish.co.uk](mailto:info@natureandnourish.co.uk)

and our website: [www.natureandnourish.co.uk](http://www.natureandnourish.co.uk)  
The Natural Nourish Cafe at Bathwick College, Bath







All previous artworks is packed up into *Untitled (nappy)* at the end.

Previous works installed in a corridor

*Untitled (nappy)* 2016  
Bin bag, cotton wool, elastic cord, masking tape, velcro.





















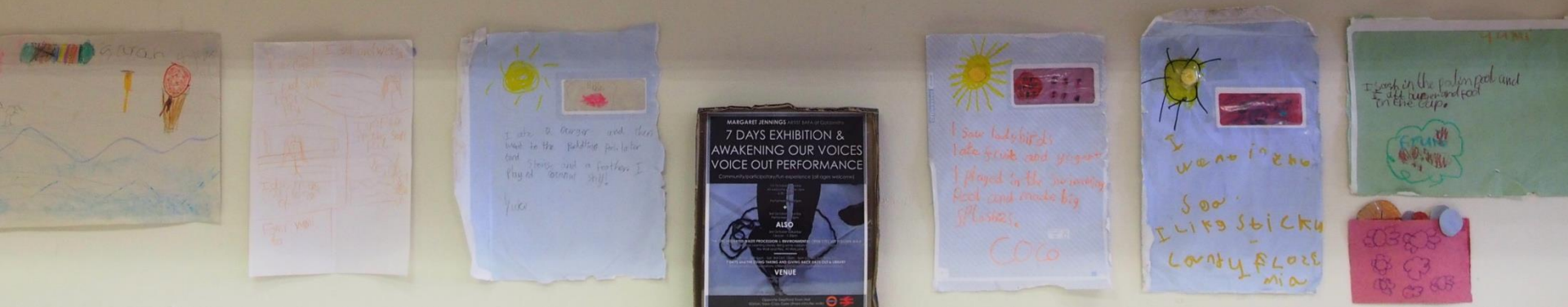






























The  
Doble  
decker  
bus  
journey











2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Fiction  
Hard  
Paperback  
Children's  
Any new  
marked  
s











TOP KNOTCH  
BARBERS  
& SERVICES  
Open Till Late

Stamford College

west













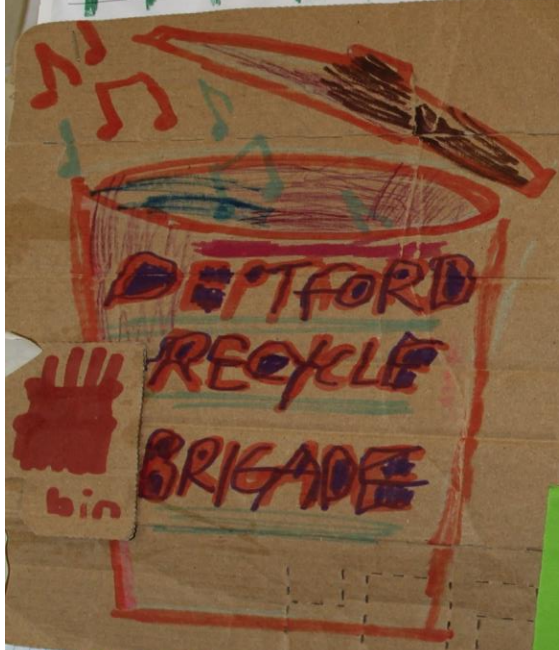








I like  
about  
be  
cultural



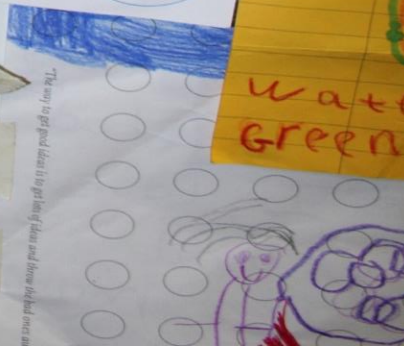
I Love Art!!  
Today was very  
Fun. I learned  
lots of thing  
about Recling.  
Abusha

Drawing  
is my  
Favorite  
thing to do

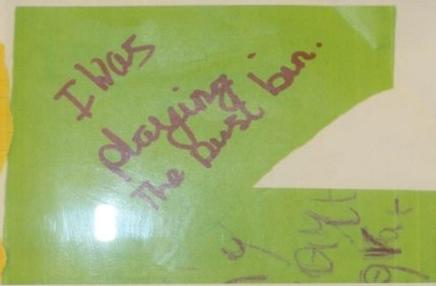
"That so few now dare  
to be eccentric marks  
the chief danger of our  
time." John Stuart Mill



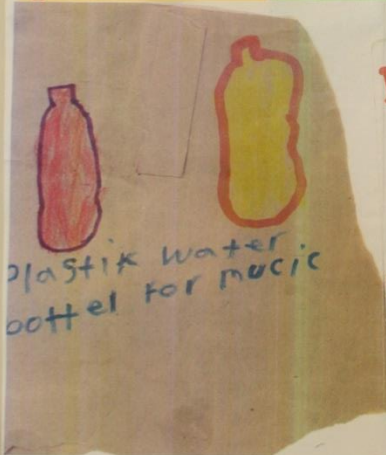
I  
Love  
Music  
Dance







I had love  
day. I had  
fun. I loved  
sticking and  
making music



I played the  
bin. With my  
water bottles  
and on the  
Hulk. ♥  
♥

I Love Art!!  
Today was very  
Fun. I learned  
lots of thing  
about Recling.  
Abisha

"That is the true test  
of the accuracy of the  
theories of the world."  
John Stuart Mill



## IN JAPAN

DAY 1  
The NEW IS  
Different!  
An earthquake any minute?  
Sense of continuity is changing!  
Anything can happen.  
On 4. Shifting plates  
How will it shift?  
In it together though.  
Make the best of here and now  
Of life.

THE SACRED & NATURE. DAY 4  
To water to wash hands, the  
revered tree,  
the mountain hand up'll path  
to get to you - at the shrine.  
A different journey to  
get to  
centered  
nature and  
the Sacred. Importance  
of connecting to nature.

## SAYING THANKYOU DAY 6

They have  
this  
phrase...  
Thankyou for working for  
us all...  
To street cleaners, bus  
drivers, construction  
workers, railway staff etc.  
Its like saying thank you as  
a community voice. Takes  
away snobbery. Makes us more  
equal! These phrases are important.

## COLOR SENSE DAY 5

Never thought those  
colors would go  
together. The woven &  
the Silk.  
NOW & THEY WORK TOGETHER  
on the Obi & the Kimono  
How has my colour  
sense been limited by  
different weather patterns  
and Sunshine intensity?

DAY 2  
Feet laid out so beautifully.  
The visual curiosity of exploring  
all of it.  
The feel of wood touching my feet.  
not metal.

My tastes are culturally  
defined.  
They are not inherent.

I can learn to enjoy new tastes.

## OLD HOMES DAY 3

The old houses out here  
I'm Sad that the old  
farmhouses  
with their  
bamboo and  
mud walls, stand against earthquake  
Beauty of their roof shapes  
Can't in mind. Summer dreams.  
Why build them down in western  
style house.

## SHAPES DAY 7

CURVES  
of the Shinto roof tops  
look skywards more  
reach out to beyond to catch  
Something more - beauty.  
in unexpected places.  
Lines of beauty.

## 7 DAYS

The sun is out!  
We share what  
we have learned  
What are the things we  
surprises, concerns, companions  
that we experience when we  
find ourselves  
in a  
different  
environment.  
Or go back to a place we thought  
We once knew. These spontaneous  
Voicings perhaps make us realize  
rethink ourselves, who we are.



# IN JAPAN

DAY 1

The NOW is  
Different!

An earthquake any minute?

Sense of stability is changing!

Anything can happen.

On 4 shifting plates

How will it shift?

In it together though.

Make the best of here and Now  
of life.





**BLACK PANTHER**  
Community News Service  
25 cents

**NEW CROSS LEARNING**  
293-265 New Cross Road  
London SE14 6AS  
020 6934 2534

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TIME	AMOUNT
11/12/20	END AMAZING EXPERIENCES LESS AT MY LEARNING SO VARIED		

THANK YOU  
NO THANK YOU

**YOUR THOUGHTS**

Wendy G. Confides: Read more  
Have 5 practices  
IT Skills is good but  
Read on some business  
and 3 months to a few more  
Thank you (library) in your  
Still are helpful

**YES THIS IS A GREAT PLACE TO DO STUFF IN.**

293-265 New Cross Road  
London SE14 6AS  
Tel: 020 6934 2534

**South London**  
**OUR HEROES**  
AWARDS 2012/13  
**WINNER**  
New Cross Learning

"Thank you very much the gentleman was so kind and helpful. They really give me hope and willing to arrange another meeting sometime in 7 days time. Thank you again."

**10TH MARCH**  
Dear Manager,  
Thank you so much for your generous donation to our foodbank and the donations in need of food and simple resources. As we know, winter isn't the easiest time for your kind donation will help put a smile on many faces.  
With sincere thanks,  
J. M. M. M.

**First prize for second-prize library duo**



**FOR CONSIDERATION**

WE'VE SEEN FILMS HERE THAT OTHER WISE WOULD HAVE ENJOYED SO MUCH SO WE'VE ENJOYED THE RECEPTION & THE NEW CROSS LEARNING LIBRARY. WE'VE ALSO ENJOYED THE NEW CROSS LEARNING LIBRARY. WE'VE ALSO ENJOYED THE NEW CROSS LEARNING LIBRARY.

"The library is very nice and serves our community well. Please!! Support this library to enhance communal spirit. Good luck ladies!"

**"Brilliant fantastic new look. Myles loves the light boxes."**

**NEW CROSS**

**YOUR THOUGHTS**

THE SEABIDS PHOTOS ARE AWESOME. I like to way the children were captured sleeping

Don't know why name libraries don't do this. Really enjoyed visiting here. Also at the library, for kids' group. Libraries can be fun. We'll be back soon. We'll be back soon. We'll be back soon.

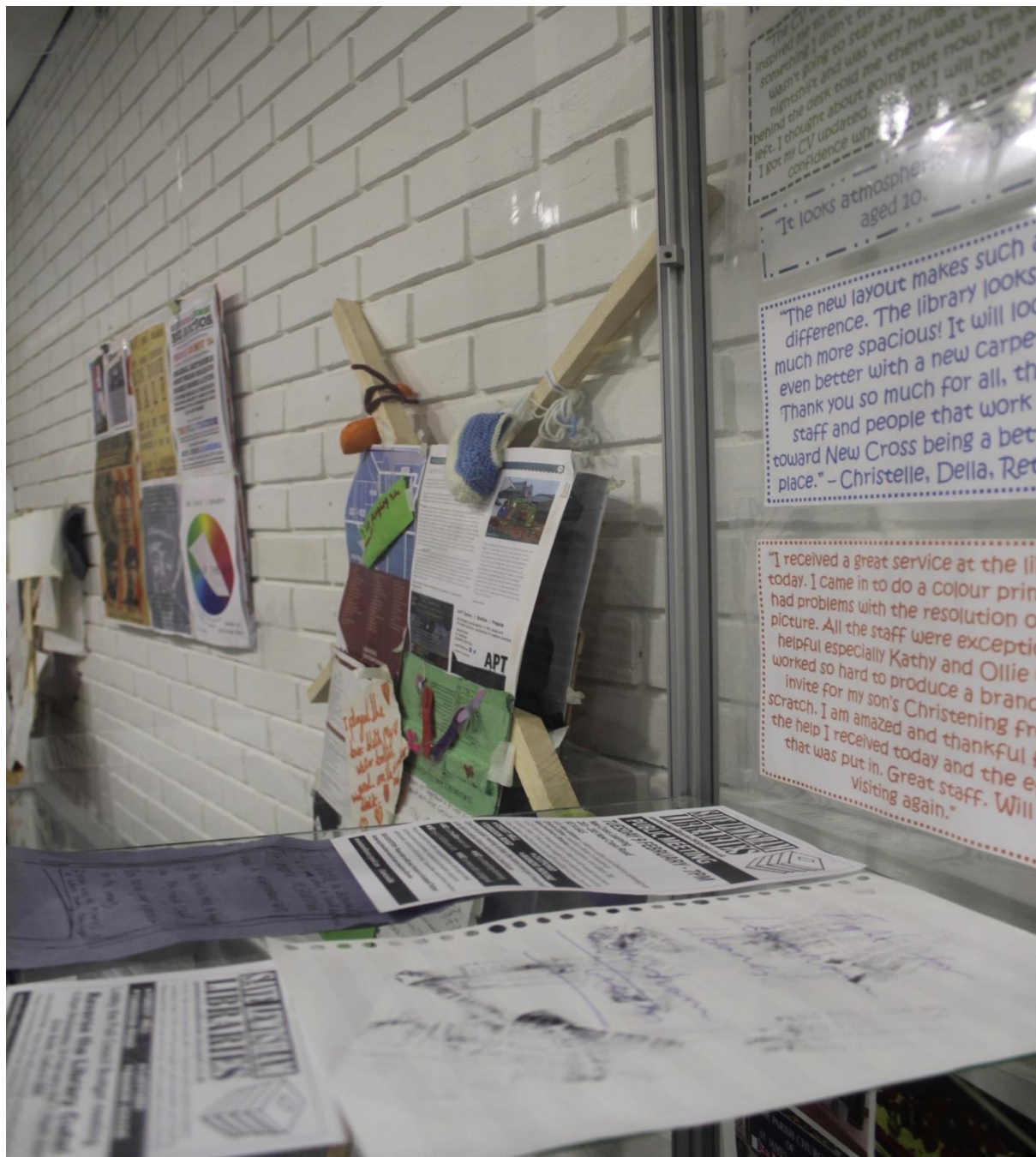
**THOUGHTS**

THANK YOU  
TRY MEET  
FOR MEET



**LIBRARIES**  
MAY 9 FEBRUARY - 71







 Do not cut here!  
**SPACE**

YOUNG ADULT  
✂ Do not cut here!  
INSPIRATION



Wyn 2015

TECE  
POWERING THE FUTURE

mended  
On Award St

