Data as a Story

LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY

Data as a Story was a creative research data exhibition and events programme delivered at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) in spring 2026. Funded by the Open Library of Humanities (OLH) and LJMU Library Services, the project aimed to reimagine research data as something expressive, accessible and meaningful to diverse audiences, while actively promoting open research and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) data practices. The programme combined a staff, student and public-facing exhibition, creative development support for researchers and PGRs, and a series of participatory workshops.



As an Open Data Management Specialist , my role was:

- **Championing Research Data Beyond Compliance**
- **Supporting Researchers to Communicate Data Creatively**
- **Project Management and Coordination**
- **Making Research Data Accessible**
- **Building Open Research Culture**
- **Creating Connections and Partnerships**

Open Data Management Specialists do more than manage data repositories. They can act as facilitators, storytellers and connectors, helping researchers transform data into engaging research narratives while promoting open research and FAIR principles.



This project helped transform datasets into posters, zines, textiles, music, 3D prints, photographs, film and interactive exhibits.



Supported researchers to communicate complex and sensitive data in accessible ways.

It brought together researchers, postgraduate researchers, students, library staff, community organisations and public audiences.



Developed new collaborations and partnerships through the exhibition programme

It promoted research data as something that can be shared, understood and valued by wider audiences, not just stored in repositories.



We connected FAIR and open data principles with public engagement and creativity.



It encouraged researchers to think about the stories within their data.

Amie Longthorne "Data as a Story - Evaluation”
CaSDaR's Data Steward Conference 2026