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## University Library Usage - Academic Year 2013-14

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LICENCE

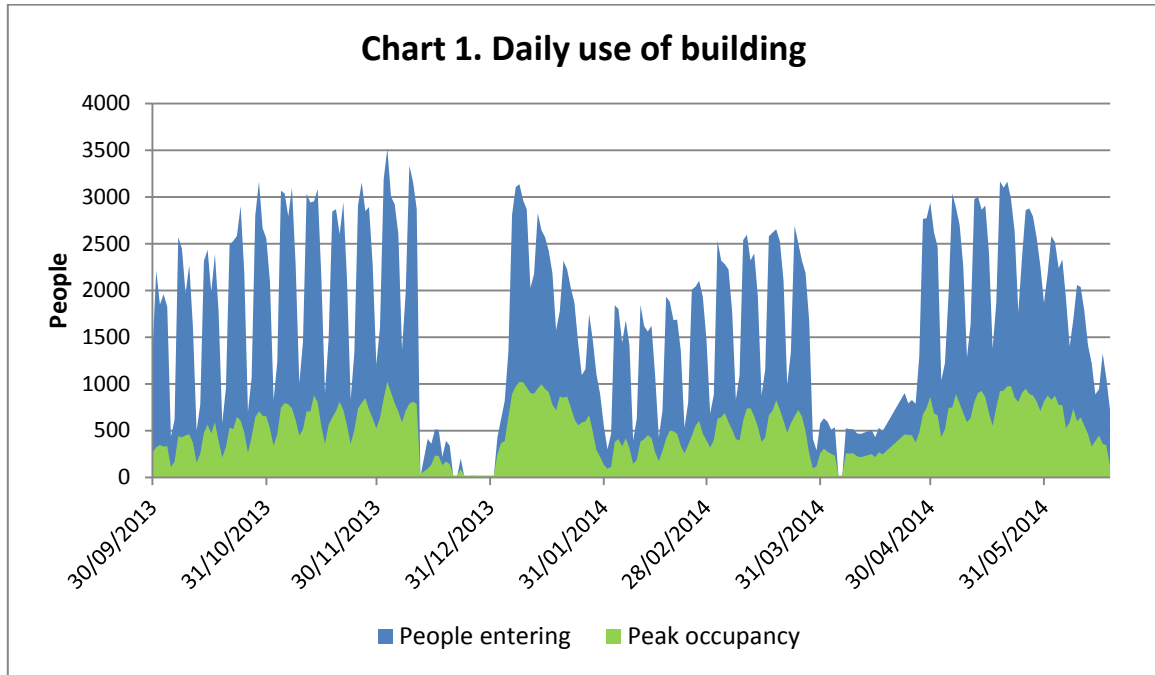
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REPOSITORY RECORD

Brewerton, Gary. 2019. "University Library Usage - Academic Year 2013-14". figshare.  
<https://hdl.handle.net/2134/16562>.

## University Library Usage - Academic Year 2013-14

During the 2013-14 academic year (30<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014) 16,360 people made 640,918 visits to the Pilkington Library. Thanks to the introduction of access control as part of the refurbishment it is possible to further explore when these people have made use of the building. The data for this survey has been derived from the log files generated by the access control system.



From Chart 1 you can see how the usage of the Library corresponds with the academic life cycle of the University: Individual weeks, the three terms and the two semesters are all identifiable. There is a clear correlation shown, between how many people enter the building and the peak occupancy (i.e. the maximum number of people in the building at the same time).

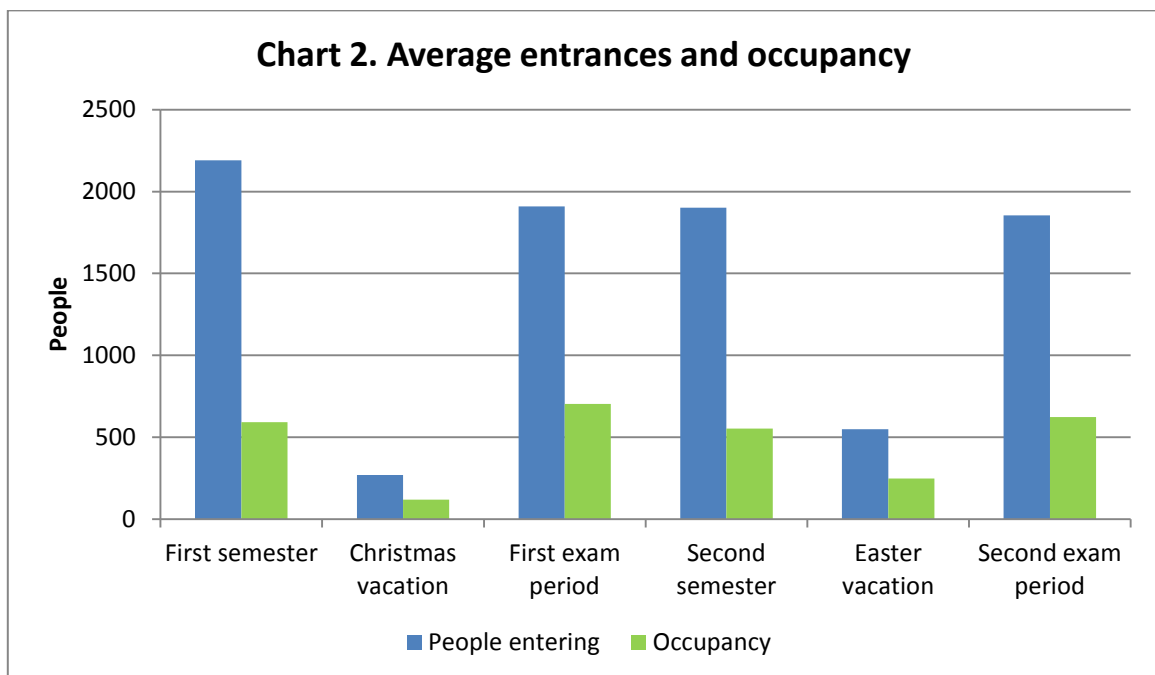
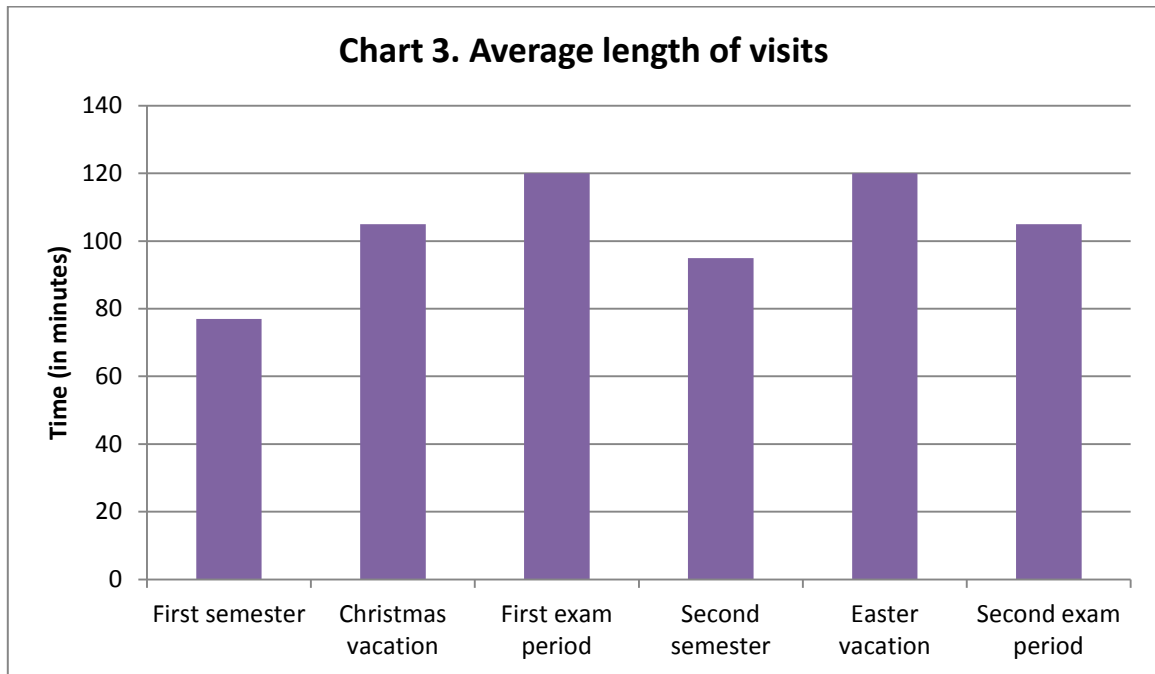


Chart 1 also seems to indicate that for the Library the first semester and exam period was busier than the second. This is evident from Chart 2 although the differences are not that significant. The high number of entrances during the first semester may be accounted for people wanting to experience the newly refurbished building.



During the first semester you can see a gradual growth in the average length of time people spent in the Library, from just under an hour and twenty minutes during term time to two hours during the exam period. There is no such pattern of growth for the second semester, although it is interesting to note here that except for the exam period the average visit is fifteen to eighteen minutes longer (see Chart 3).

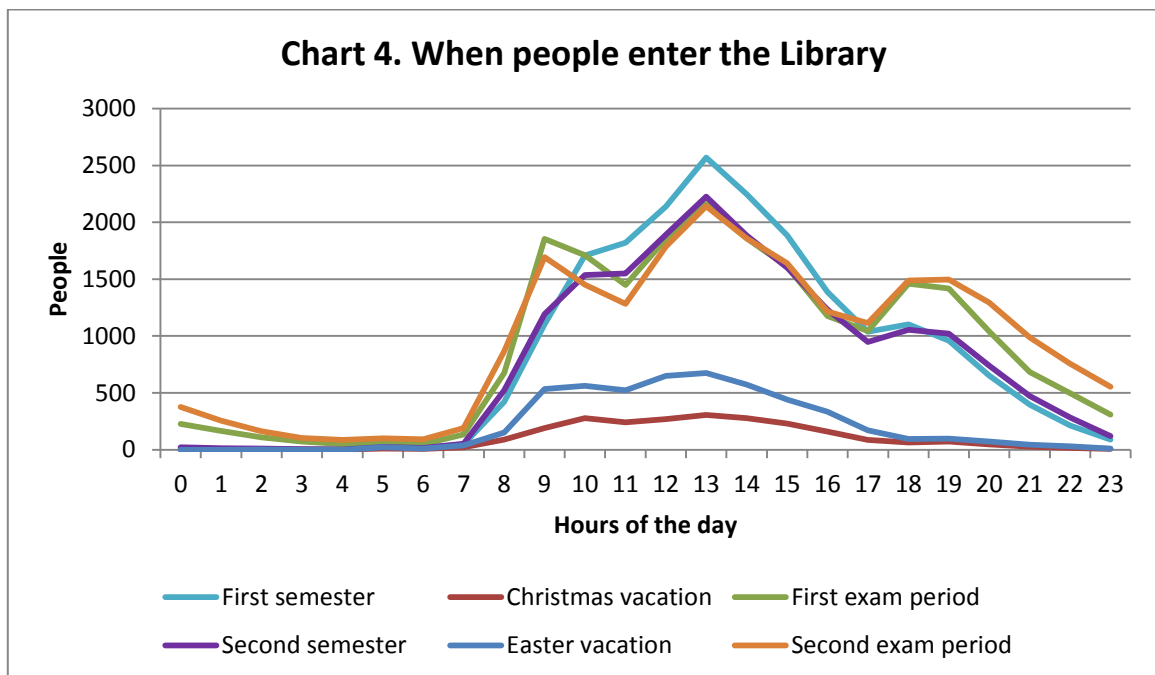


Chart 4 shows that peak entries to the Library are during midday and that there is a notable tail off after 4pm (this dip has also been noted in other statistics such as ITS Lab usage). It is also apparent that during exam periods people enter the earlier and make greater use of the Library during the evenings.

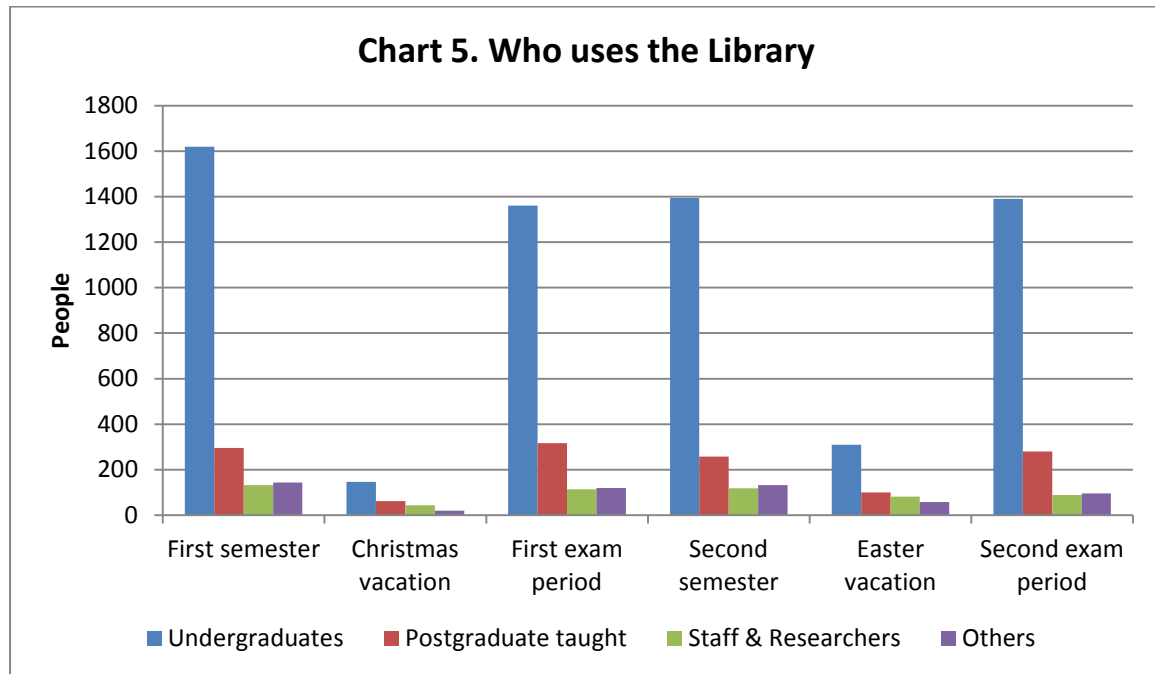


Chart 5 shows that the general level of usage by different categories of people (e.g. student, staff) is fairly consistent throughout the academic year with notable dips during the vacations. It also clearly shows that the majority of people using the Library are undergraduates; this is even true during the vacation periods.

## Conclusion

This report confirms anecdotal evidence on usage of the newly refurbished Library

- Use of the Pilkington Library building closely follows the structure of the academic year
- The first semester was busier than the second semester
- People stay longer during vacations and exam periods
- Entry to the Library peaks around 9:00am, 12:30pm and 6:30pm
- The vast majority of people using the Library are undergraduates

It is recommended that this survey is repeated for the 2014-15 academic year and the results compared against those in this report to confirm, or otherwise, the pattern of usage for the Pilkington Library. It may also be beneficial to include data for the summer vacation.

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On behalf of the Library's Building Development Group  
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