

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 178, 20 April 2015

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Consultations

“Views on volunteer-led libraries sought”

<http://speakupforlibraries.org/publiclibraries/views-on-volunteer-led-libraries-sought/>

(Source: email from Elizabeth Ash to lis-pub-lis, 14 Apr 2015)

“Speak Up for Libraries would welcome hearing from anyone with a view about volunteer-led ‘libraries’ in the UK (often called ‘Community Libraries’), whether it be that of a volunteer, a library worker or a library user.

What works well and what doesn’t?

What are the challenges and considerations?

What is the impact on the library service and what do you see as the future?

The information you provide will be used to inform SUFL advocacy and that of its coalition partners. A summary of the evidence will be published. All information received will be anonymised unless specific permission has been given to identify the contributor and the names of library or library service.

Please email queries, comments and information to SpeakUp4Libraries@gmail.com.”

Speak Up For Libraries is a coalition of campaigners and organisations including Voices for the Library, The Library Campaign, Alan Gibbons's Campaign for the Book, UNISON and CILIP.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

One hundred days for early action ...

http://www.community-links.org/uploads/documents/100_Days_Final_Web.pdf

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Daily*, 13 Apr 2015)

The latest report from Community Links-led group Early Action Task Force is calling on the next government to prioritise early intervention as a matter of urgency, eg early help for children displaying challenging behaviour.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Last word on diversity, for now”

<http://app.mailerlite.com/x7m2y1>

(Source: BritishBlackMusic *Newsletter*, 9 Apr 2015)

Wide-ranging and interesting article by Kwaku (BritishBlackMusic.com), which looks at the under-representation of Black people in theatre, film, radio & TV, and also race and racism, especially with reference to the Elections.

“Beyond 2015”

<http://www.edf.org.uk/?cat=112>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 13 Apr 2015)

“The Equality and Diversity Forum and EDF Research Network are starting a discussion about how to reduce inequality by working more effectively across sectors and disciplines. We begin by mapping the UK’s progress on equality, human rights and social justice since 2010, before looking beyond the next election to identify the possibilities for the decade ahead. The goal is to bring together decision makers, researchers, service providers and advocates to find new ways of improving outcomes through knowledge-sharing and cooperation.

With funding from the Nuffield Foundation and the Baring Foundation, the project consists of a two-day conference that took place in London in February 2015 (hosted by the British Academy), a publication and online resources.” [Taken from: <http://www.edf.org.uk/blog/?p=36057>]

The online resources are still in the process of being developed, but already provide some interesting case studies – see:

<http://www.edf.org.uk/blog/?p=35530>.

Waiter, is that inclusion in my soup? A new recipe to improve business performance

<https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/au/Documents/human-capital/deloitte-au-hc-diversity-inclusion-soup-0513.pdf>

(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 57, Apr 2015)

New report from Deloitte Australia and the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission, which argues that organisations need to focus on both diversity and inclusion.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Health education comics research

(Source: email from Sarah McNicol to bibliotherapy@jiscmail.ac.uk)

“I’ve recently carried out a small scale research project interviewing people who either have a health condition themselves or have a family member with a health condition about their impressions of health education comics.

The study found that educational comics can support understanding of factual health information through providing simple explanations free from jargon and through the effective use of images. However, they have an equal, or perhaps stronger, role to play in helping patients and their families to deal with the social and psychological issues associated with illness. Through the use of narrative, humour, images and characterisation, comics can offer reassurance, empathy and companionship. They can offer patients opportunities for greater self-awareness of their own attitudes and behaviour, as well as alternative

viewpoints on their condition. Among family members, comics can lead to a better understanding of the issues their relative is facing and may prompt them to reflect on the ways in which they might best offer support. However, a barrier to the wider use of comics for health education is the widespread perception that they are only suited to light hearted or fantastic stories, or are just for children. The potential of comics to convey information about serious issues is not widely acknowledged and although opinions can be changed through experience of health education comics, initial responses may be dismissive.”

There is an outline of the research at:

http://www.esri.mmu.ac.uk/resprojects/project_outline.php?project_id=157.

The full report, *The impact of educational comics on feelings and attitudes towards health conditions: interviews with patients and family members*, is at:

<http://www.esri.mmu.ac.uk/resprojects/reports/report157.pdf>.

The executive summary is at:

<http://www.esri.mmu.ac.uk/resprojects/reports/summary157.pdf>.

Finally, there is information about different comics available for particular situations at: <https://sites.google.com/site/healtheducationcomics/home>.

Disability issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Museums showcase projects for people with learning disabilities”

http://www.museumsassociation.org/news/15042015-case-studies?utm_source=ma&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=16042015

“The Museums Association (MA) is publishing a range case studies to show how museums are collaborating with third-party organisations on projects for people with learning disabilities.

The case studies are part of the MA's Museums Change Lives campaign, and will illustrate how museums can enhance wellbeing, impact communities and the environment and promote learning and contemporary thought. It encourages museums to think about how they inspire people and ideas [...]

All case studies need to be sent to emma.faulkner@museumsassociation.org by **Friday 8 May**. Further info at above weblink.

Migration issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“How can museums tell the rich stories of migration?”

http://museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/comment/01042015-editorial?utm_source=ma&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=13042015

Brief “Comment” piece by Simon Stephens, editor of *MJ*, about the role that museums play in telling the stories of new arrivals.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Migrant employment outcomes in European labour markets

http://www.ippr.org/assets/media/publications/pdf/migrant-employment-outcomes-in-europe-labour-markets_April2015.pdf

(Source: *IPPR Newsletter*, 10 Apr 2015)

New report from IPPR, which “considers how European economies could benefit from the underutilised skills of their migrant populations.”

Poster Campaign: “I am an Immigrant”

<http://www.noxenophobia.org/>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 13 Apr 2015)

MAX (the Movement Against Xenophobia*) have just launched a poster campaign:

“The Poster Campaign is an exciting and powerful way of showing that immigrants not only contribute but are part of the fabric of British society and a vital part of multi-cultural and prosperous Britain.” [Taken from poster campaign launch press release.]

*“The Movement Against Xenophobia is a network of organisations, faith groups and individuals working to oppose the anti-immigrant agenda in the UK. Currently membership stands at 113 organisations. It has a unified goal of ridding the toxic debate that surrounds immigration and championing and celebrating the vital contribution of immigrants in the UK.” [Also taken from poster campaign launch press release.]

“Sikh Formaggio”

http://citiesofmigration.ca/good_idea/sikh-formaggio/

(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 57, Apr 2015)

Positive story about Sikh migrants’ contribution to Italian cheese-making.

“Who are the new Chinese migrants in the UK?”

<http://www.racecard.org.uk/equality/who-are-the-new-chinese-migrants-in-the-uk/>

(Source: *MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview]*, 434, 20 Apr 2015)

Important update of “our rather archaic portrait of Chinese Britain”. Here’s a snippet:

“The Chinese are one of the UK’s smallest minorities comprising just 0.72% of the population of England (379,503 people). In population terms, London is the centre of Chinese Britain; official sources suggest a population of 124,250 (1.52% of the population) while estimates including undocumented migrants put more it at more than double, closer to 300,000. They are also one of the least studied minorities [...]

Chinese migrants are growing in numerical and financial significance and they are no longer predominantly from Hong Kong. Last year 40,000 Chinese migrants came to the UK – more than from any other country – in part due to a large number of students. The UK Higher Education Statistics Agency reported 47,740 Chinese students in UK higher education. Cambridge has the highest concentration of Chinese in Britain

(3.6% of population) and significant clusters appear in Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Exeter, Liverpool, Sheffield, and Southampton – all cities with elite (Russell Group) universities. Chinese students in Britain pay £479 million in living expenses and £300 million in tuition fees. Students are, of course, young temporary migrants. New Chinese migrants (i.e. those who arrived in the last ten years), who tend to be born in the Chinese mainland rather than Hong Kong or Fujian, now outnumber settled migrants [...]"

* Published by Runnymede, "Race Card is produced by a mixture of journalists, bloggers, politicians and academics, who provide a nuanced view on race in the UK. We are always looking for new contributors, so please do get in touch if you would like to join us." [Taken from: <http://www.racecard.org.uk/about/>].

The Big Society

"Tories give up on 'Big Society' slogan, Michael Gove confirms"

<https://www.politicshome.com/communities-and-regions/articles/story/tories-give-big-society-slogan-michael-gove-confirms>

(Source: The Campaign Company *Weekly*, 10 Apr 2015)

"Michael Gove has said it is 'unlikely' that the Conservatives will use the phrase 'Big Society' in the election campaign [...] The Conservative Chief Whip said David Cameron had not rowed back on the idea, which was central to his 2010 campaign, but would not revive the slogan."

Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

"Research in Context: Making an Impact in Library Communities"

<http://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/research-in-context-making-an-impact-in-library-communities.html>

(Source: WebJunction *Crossroads*, Apr 2015)

"At the 2015 ALA Midwinter conference in Chicago, Chrystie Hill, Director of OCLC's Community Relations, shared insights on how her team (including WebJunction), seeks to translate the knowledge, evidence and models available to public libraries, and put them into practice so that libraries can more effectively make an impact in the communities they serve.

As part of [the presentation](#), Chrystie shared details about three projects that have been developed and delivered by OCLC's Community Relations team.

- [Outside the Box](#) – an innovative program that brings people together for free, fun entertainment events in their local community using a placemaking process.
- [Transforming Library Spaces for Community Engagement](#) – addressing the challenges that libraries face as they expand their focus from collections to creation. How physical spaces are being transformed in ways that enhance community engagement in the digital age.
- [Supercharged Storytimes](#) – the newest project, which is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, will introduce library

staff in five states to a new early learning model for storytimes that was researched and developed at the University of Washington.”

Broader issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Statistical digest of rural England

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/422272/Statistical_Digest_of_Rural_England_2015_April_edition.pdf

April 2015 edition of Defra’s guide to rural England – very useful background info.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

Landscapes of helping: kindness in neighbourhoods and communities

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/landscapes-helping-kindliness-full.pdf>

New report from JRF, which:

- “identifies factors that may inhibit or encourage kindness in communities;
- explores the impact of emotional, social, geographical and economic factors;
- discusses some ways that people navigate informal helping in their lives;
- explores how people negotiate conflicts around giving and receiving help in their lives;
- identifies ways that kindness can be fostered in communities.” [p1]

Political inequality: why British democracy must be reformed and revitalised

http://www.ippr.org/assets/media/publications/pdf/political-inequality_Apr2015.pdf

(Source: *IPPR Newsletter*, 10 Apr 2015)

“Growing levels of electoral inequality by age and class, falling political participation rates and low levels of belief in the efficacy of democracy all reflect an ingrained sense that the political process is rigged in favour of the rich, the powerful and the well-connected. Our latest report seeks to define and explore political inequality, presenting original polling on this complex and multidimensional issue and setting out a strategy for democratic renewal that addresses the social and institutional issues behind it.”

SCYJ guide to the new anti-social behaviour powers

http://scyj.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Web-SCYJ-Guide-to-New-Antisocial-Behaviour-Powers_FINAL_LOWRES_WEB.pdf

The Government’s ASBO replacement – the civil injunction – came into force on 23 March 2015. This is a brief guide to what it involves, produced by the Standing Committee for Youth Justice.