

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 264, 24 September 2018

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

Integrated communities English language programme: prospectus

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/integrated-communities-english-language-programme-prospectus>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 580, 6 Sep 2018)

“The [Integrated Communities Strategy green paper](#) included a commitment to launch a new community-based English language programme in areas with large concentrations of people who speak little or no English. We are seeking providers to support our target learners to help them integrate into British society by building their confidence to engage outside their immediate community and mix with people from different backgrounds alongside improving proficiency in English.”

Closing date: **11.45pm on 31 October 2018.**

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

Ethnicity facts and figures

<https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 11 Sep 2018)

Useful website from the Race Disparity Unit*:

“Use this service to find information about the different experiences of people from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. It gathers data collected by government in one place, making it available to the public, specialists and charities.”

*See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/race-disparity-unit>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Tackling inequality: the role of Trade Unions

http://classonline.org.uk/docs/TU_and_Inequality_final_final.pdf

(Source: email from CLASS, 11 Sep 2018)

New report from the Centre for Labour and Social Studies, which outlines the major current inequality issues, and argues a strong case for a greater focus on the work of TUs.

The digital commonwealth: from private enclosure to public benefit

<https://www.ippr.org/files/2018-08/cej-platforms-sept18.pdf>

(Source: email from IPPR, 17 Sep 2018)

The final report of the IPPR Commission on Economic Justice was published on 5 Sep (and briefly assessed in the last Ebulletin, 263, 10 Sep 2018):

Prosperity and justice: a plan for the new economy

Full report: <https://www.ippr.org/research/publications/prosperity-and-justice>

Summary: <https://www.ippr.org/files/2018-09/cej-final-summary.pdf>

Now, IPPR have published this important discussion paper:

“The report argues that to maximize the potential of digital technology, data and digital infrastructure should be managed as collective goods. The report argues that we should move from the 'enclosure' of data in private hands to a model of a 'digital commonwealth' where data and digital infrastructure become a public resource. It recommends the regulation of the major digital companies in some of their activities on the model of utilities, and proposes ways of opening up the use of data to support commercial and social innovation.” [Taken from email from IPPR]

The poorest regions in the UK are the poorest in Northern Europe

http://inequalitybriefing.org/graphics/briefing_43_UK_regions_poorest_North_Europe.pdf

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 22 Sep 2018)

Latest info produced by Eurostat, which gives a shocking picture of inequality:

“In the UK we think of ourselves as having similar standard of living to other countries in Northern Europe like France, Germany, Belgium, Holland and the Nordic Countries. These are our nearest neighbours. They share a similar economic history to us, and have experienced similar political stability since the second world war. We also have close ties as members of the European Union.

However, the poorest UK regions are by far the poorest in Northern Europe. This is because the UK is much more unequal than other countries, where there is nowhere as rich as London, but nowhere as poor as our poorest regions.”

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people

Anansesem

<http://www.anansesem.com/>

(Source: *Latest News from EQUIP*, 5 Jul 2018)

Just in case you haven't come across this:

“*Anansesem* is an online magazine devoted to Caribbean children's and young adult literature written by both new and established writers. It was founded in 2010 to encourage the writing and illustration of Caribbean literature for and by young people. Major issues are published twice a year in .pdf format while guest posts and online-only features are published throughout the year.”

Health & Wellbeing issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Slippers, Teddies and Death Cafés – libraries and public engagement”

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/09/10/slippers-teddies-and-death-cafes-libraries-and-public-engagement/>

Libraries Taskforce blogpost by the Carnegie Trust’s Rachel Heydecker, which reports briefly on four more of the “Engaging Libraries” pieces of work:

- Redbridge – “The Final Party”: “The Final Party is using the library as a space which can remove fear, embarrassment and other barriers to talking about and planning for death. This project has combined talks, performances, workshops and art installations to encourage discussion about a subject which all too often remains a taboo.”
- City of London Libraries – “Release the Pressure”: “Release the Pressure aims to create a sanctuary space for anyone living or working in ‘the Square Mile’ to support their mental wellbeing.”
- Leisure and Culture Dundee – “Talking ‘bout Teddies”: “This project in Dundee is working with Dr Suzanne Zeedyk, a Developmental Psychologist, to highlight teddy bears’ importance for children’s emotional well-being and their contribution to children’s resilience.

A range of library users aged from 2 to 92 were filmed in libraries across Dundee talking about their childhoods, their teddy bears and what their teddies mean to them [...]

- Torfaen Libraries – “Slipper Talk”: “Slipper Talk in Torfaen is built on the concept of a slipper swap to begin conversations about ageing and to hold intergenerational events to foster respect between citizens. In the run up to Christmas, the library encouraged younger users to nominate older people they knew to receive a pair of safe slippers, and staff visited schools to discuss the ageing process, wrap the slippers and read shoe-themed books.

In the New Year, those who had received slippers and their nominators came together at celebratory tea party events, where people of all ages enjoyed storytelling, games, arts and crafts alongside conversations about independent living, falls prevention and the ageing process.”

“IMLS Announces National Study on Museums, Libraries, and Social Wellbeing”

<https://www.ims.gov/news-events/news-releases/ims-announces-national-study-museums-libraries-and-social-wellbeing>

(Source: email from John Pateman, 9 Sep 2018)

On 29 Aug:

“[...] the [US] Institute of Museum and Library Services today announced the commencement of a new study, Understanding the Social Wellbeing Impacts of the Nation’s Libraries and Museums.

The goal of the year-long project is to gain a better understanding on a national level of the conditions under which museums and libraries contribute to quality of life and wellbeing in the communities they serve. The new study will focus on these institutions’ essential roles within a community to help them demonstrate the success and impact of their programs and services.”

“Opioid Crisis Responses from Public Libraries”

<https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/opioid-resources-for-libraries.html>

(Source: WebJunction *Crossroads*, 5 Sep 2018)

Really useful listing of recent articles, news, events and other resources (many drawn from the Facebook group,

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/librariesopioidcrisis/>).

“The Reading Den at Chelmsley Wood library”

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/09/17/the-reading-den-at-chelmsley-wood-library/>

A recent Libraries Taskforce blogpost outlined the work by Solihull Libraries and partners to build a collection of specialist books, stories and resources to support the mental health and wellbeing of children in Solihull.

“There are approximately 140 titles in the collection, which includes books and resources that offer understanding, advice and support appropriate for all children and families. However, careful thought has gone into choosing resources that are sensitive and relevant to the particular experiences and needs of looked after and adopted children, their carers and parents.”

LGBTQ issues – Other Agencies

LGBT+ DV Library

<http://www.galop.org.uk/lgbt-dv-library/>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 11 Sep 2018)

GALOP have recently updated their resource library around domestic violence:

“This collection provides direct links to resources relevant for LGBT+ people, service providers working with LGBT+ victims of domestic abuse and researchers interested in the topic. It includes UK based resources, available online and published after 2000.”