

# The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 268, 19 November 2018

## Events

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

## Tackling social and digital exclusion – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

### “Abolishing fines”

<http://www.publiclibrariesnews.com/practitioners/abolishing-fines>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 18 Nov 2018)

Ian Anstice has done a great job in pulling together the reasons for and against abolishing public library fines, and summarising what’s happened in the UK & US.

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

### *Rough sleeping strategy*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/733421/Rough-Sleeping-Strategy\\_WEB.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/733421/Rough-Sleeping-Strategy_WEB.pdf)

The Government launched its Strategy in August 2018.

It included a package of new measures:

- “Thousands of rough sleepers to be helped through £100 million government strategy
- Boost of up to £30 million for targeted mental health funding for rough sleepers
- £50 million for homes for people ready to move on from hostels or refuges
- Measures include providing specialist accommodation and funding ‘navigators’ to help people access support” [Taken from the press release at: [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-100-million-plan-to-end-rough-sleeping-by-2027?utm\\_source=cc076c53-b96c-4590-ae11-486a59f1f2a7&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-100-million-plan-to-end-rough-sleeping-by-2027?utm_source=cc076c53-b96c-4590-ae11-486a59f1f2a7&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily)]

The £50 million funding mentioned above is the “Move On Fund”:

“The Move On Fund aims to free up hostel and refuge spaces by increasing the availability of affordable move-on, or second stage housing, for rough sleepers and those in hostel accommodation, and victims of domestic abuse currently living in refuges who are ready to leave this type of provision but might otherwise not be in a position to access the next stage of housing.”

Prospectus at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/733423/Move\\_On\\_Fund\\_Prospectus\\_Final.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/733423/Move_On_Fund_Prospectus_Final.pdf).

**“£22 million for projects to support domestic abuse survivors”**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/22-million-for-projects-to-support-domestic-abuse-survivors?utm\\_source=88098809-2c22-4b75-8897-c3539b1e1a53&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/22-million-for-projects-to-support-domestic-abuse-survivors?utm_source=88098809-2c22-4b75-8897-c3539b1e1a53&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily)

The Government has just announced additional funding to support domestic abuse survivors.

For those of you working with domestic abuse survivors, or who are interested in developing provision, the full list of funding allocations is at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755220/Domestic\\_Abuse\\_Fund\\_2018-20\\_allocations.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755220/Domestic_Abuse_Fund_2018-20_allocations.pdf).

**Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies**

***Race, ethnicity & equality in UK History: a report and resource for change***

[https://5hm1h4aktue2uejbs1hsqt31-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/RHS\\_race\\_report\\_EMBARGO\\_0001\\_18Oct.pdf](https://5hm1h4aktue2uejbs1hsqt31-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/RHS_race_report_EMBARGO_0001_18Oct.pdf)

(Source: *Heritage Update*, 381, 1 Nov 2018)

Just in case you haven't seen this, this is the major report which hit the headlines with its hard-hitting criticisms of the teaching of history as a discipline:

“This report identifies major obstacles to racial and ethnic diversity and inclusion in UK university History, tracing underrepresentation from schools through postgraduate training and postdoctoral employment. It documents substantial levels of bias and discrimination experienced by historians in UK universities, and recommends pragmatic steps to enhance the representation and experience of BME students and staff. It identifies the limited intellectual and substantive diversity of UK History curriculums—in secondary schools and at universities—as an impediment to racial and ethnic diversity and inclusion in History departments. It offers practical discipline-specific recommendations for change to university teachers, research supervisors, and editors, as well as guidance for secondary school and university teachers on accessing additional resources and support.” [pp7-8]

***Helping vulnerable people stay safe online***

[https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/sites/default/files/research-publications/talktalk\\_evaluation\\_final\\_0.pdf](https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/sites/default/files/research-publications/talktalk_evaluation_final_0.pdf)

(Source: *Good Things Foundation News*, Nov 2018)

Good Things Foundation have just published this report:

“[...] between September 2017 and July 2018, Good Things Foundation, TalkTalk and the Online Centres Network worked together to help vulnerable people to be confident and safe users of the internet. 24 community-based organisations worked with marginalised groups of

people in creative ways. In doing so, they supported some of the most digitally excluded people in the UK.

Together, Online Centres fully supported 925 people to improve their knowledge and confidence around basic online safety. They did this by improving partnerships in their local area and experimenting with new activities. Through this, a further 599 people were guided to start reflecting on safe digital behaviours.

This report investigates the skills and behaviours that people gained through this innovative digital inclusion work. It shares the accumulated learning of Online Centres participating in the project, and considers how they will apply this learning in their future work. The report also summarises what Good Things Foundation has learnt from running this project.” [p3]

### ***Youth Opportunity Index***

<https://www.learningandwork.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Youth-Opportunity-Index-Final-221018.pdf>

(Source: email from Learning and Work Institute, 7 Nov 2018)

“This report creates a new Youth Opportunity Index, a relative measure of education and employment outcomes for young people across England’s local authorities [...] Each local authority’s score reflects how far its performance on that variable is from the highest scoring area. Results are driven by the strength of local economies, socioeconomic factors and national policies, as well as local services. They reflect education and employment outcomes for young people living in local authority areas, rather than solely the success of those local authorities. [...] The London Borough of Sutton ranks as the best overall place for education and employment opportunities for young people, while Nottingham is bottom of the list. London is the big winner, with ten of its boroughs in the top 20 overall. This largely reflects outstanding success over recent decades in improving the education system in London.

Beyond this, the picture is mixed. There is no clear north-south divide, instead the differences within regions are at least as big as those between regions. For example, Buckinghamshire is second behind Sutton, but Trafford is third. Nottingham and Kingston upon Hull are the bottom two, but Brighton and Southampton are also in the bottom ten. Each region apart from the North East has a local authority in the top 30, while every region apart from the South West and London has a local authority in the bottom 30.

There is also no clear urban-rural split, though more deprived urban areas are more likely to score lower in the Index. Poverty and deprivation are perhaps the clearest predictors of poorer performance in the Index, suggesting a need to support and improve education and employment opportunities in these areas. Even here there is variation, with

Oldham and Blackburn scoring better than other areas with similar levels of deprivation.” [pp4-5]

There is also an interactive map available at:

<https://www.learningandwork.org.uk/our-work/life-and-society/improving-life-chances/youth-commission/youth-opportunity-index/>, and tables ranked by local education authority at: <https://www.learningandwork.org.uk/our-work/life-and-society/improving-life-chances/youth-commission/youth-opportunity-index-rank-lea/>.

### **“Stories that Move”**

<https://www.storiesthatmove.org/en/home/>

(Source: *MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview]*, 588, 12 Nov 2018)

New resource for young people and educators:

“Antisemitism, racism and discrimination are still present in Europe nowadays affecting the lives of young people everywhere. The online toolbox Stories that Move challenges learners to think critically about diversity and discrimination, and to reflect on their own position and choices in these matters.

The toolbox consists of ready-to-use learning paths with multiple layers of information, assignments and life stories.

In short film clips young people share their positive experiences but also those of exclusion, discrimination and hate crimes. These poignant and recognisable stories form the starting point of an honest exploration of many topics related to discrimination.”

### **Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies**

#### **“Bibliotherapy: how reading and writing have been healing trauma since World War I”**

<https://theconversation.com/bibliotherapy-how-reading-and-writing-have-been-healing-trauma-since-world-war-i-106626>

“Bibliotherapy – the idea that reading can have a beneficial effect on mental health – has undergone a resurgence. There is mounting clinical evidence that reading can, for example, help people overcome loneliness and social exclusion [...]

Even as public library services across Britain are cut back, the healing potential of books is increasingly recognised.”

This article briefly outlines the history of bibliotherapy, and concludes with a look at the work of Combat Stress UK and Veterans’ Outreach Services.

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

#### **“Lost in information? Syrian new Scots' information literacy way-finding practices. [Project]”**

<https://openair.rgu.ac.uk/handle/10059/3062>

(Source: email from Konstantina Martzoukou, 2 Nov 2018)

In *Ebulletin* 256, 1 May 2018, there was some information about this project, and now the lead researcher has kindly sent me a link to the open access page which has a range of papers and other documents from the project.

### **“Oxford museums train refugees as tour guides and community curators”**

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/oxford-museums-train-refugee-guides-and-curators>

(Source: *The Black & Asian Heritage Mix' Newsletter*, Nov 2018)

“Oxford’s museums have been doing outreach for seven years with the city’s community of Arabic-speaking refugees. Inspired by Multaka, the Pitt Rivers Museum and the Museum of the History of Science decided to run a similar project jointly, taking on the name with the Berlin team’s blessing.”

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

#### **“Salisbury – back in business”**

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/10/02/salisbury-back-in-business/>

Guest Libraries Taskforce blog post by Chris Moore (Library Operations and Development Manager for Wiltshire), which outlines some of the activities in Salisbury:

“The library is supporting Salisbury getting back to normal following the events this year. It provides advice and support for businesses and residents and hosts community activities to bring people together to support the city.”

#### **“Paws for Reading at Prestbury library”**

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/11/06/paws-for-reading-at-prestbury-library/>

Libraries Taskforce blogpost by Joanne O’Dea (team leader in Prestbury Library, Gloucestershire) about their project “Paws for Reading”:

“[...] I was thrilled when Laura, Library Assistant at Prestbury, excitedly told me about Reading to Dogs schemes that run in America. This seemed like the perfect project to run in the library. Part of our job is to inspire children to catch the reading bug and this scheme seemed an ideal way to encourage reluctant readers to improve their reading skills. Evidence shows that children feel less anxious when reading to dogs. After all a dog won’t try to correct you – he’ll just sit and listen!”

#### **“The List: Canadian Public Library Impact Studies”**

[https://libraryresearchnetwork.org/the-list-canadian-public-library-impact-studies/?utm\\_source=Brightsail+Announcements&utm\\_campaign=2aa6718923-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_08\\_13\\_10\\_08&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_cee586884d-2aa6718923-486946265](https://libraryresearchnetwork.org/the-list-canadian-public-library-impact-studies/?utm_source=Brightsail+Announcements&utm_campaign=2aa6718923-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_08_13_10_08&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_cee586884d-2aa6718923-486946265)

(Source: email from John Pateman, 14 Aug 2018 – apologies, my system kept marking this email as spam!)

“Since 2013, when Toronto Public Library published "So Much More: The Economic Impact of Toronto Public Library on the City of Toronto", 14 additional Canadian public libraries have applied the same methodology to estimate their economic impact. The Library Research Network (LRN) keeps track of these studies -- and now, there's a comprehensive list, all on one page.”

The Toronto report, “So much more ...”, is at:

[https://libraryresearchnetwork.org/much-economic-impact-toronto-public-library-city-toronto-2013/?utm\\_source=Brightsail+Announcements&utm\\_campaign=2aa6718923-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_08\\_13\\_10\\_08&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ce586884d-2aa6718923-486946265](https://libraryresearchnetwork.org/much-economic-impact-toronto-public-library-city-toronto-2013/?utm_source=Brightsail+Announcements&utm_campaign=2aa6718923-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_08_13_10_08&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ce586884d-2aa6718923-486946265).

**“Cultural Humility in Librarianship: What is it?”**

<http://www.teenlibrariantoolbox.com/2018/11/cultural-humility-in-librarianship-what-is-it/>

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 13 Nov 2018)

Very interesting article that argues that, as well as cultural competency, we need cultural humility:

“Cultural competency according to the National Association of Social Workers is defined as ‘a congruent set of behaviors, attitudes, and policies that enable a person or group to work effectively in cross-cultural situations; the process by which individuals and systems respond respectfully and effectively to people of all cultures’. Cultural humility, on the other hand, is a practice of self-reflection on how one’s own background, experiences, and expectations impact a situation or interaction. It is also understanding that everyone is an expert on their own identity and that an individual’s background cannot be assumed.”