

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 165, 6 November 2014

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

Community Archives and Heritage Group Awards 2015

<http://www.communityarchives.org.uk/content/uncategorized/community-archive-heritage-awards-2015>

(Source: email from CAHG to archives-nra@jismail.ac.uk, 22 Oct 2014)

“The Community Archives and Heritage Group (CAHG) are pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the Community Archive & Heritage Awards 2015.

The Awards are open to all community groups in the UK and Ireland who are members of CAHG. Community archives, community heritage groups, community museums and community archaeology groups are all included in CAHG. If your group is not a member of CAHG it is free to join.”

The closing date for entries is **31 January 2015**.

Scottish Government Equality Fund

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/equality-fund/2015-16>

(Source: j4bCommunity Funding *Newsletter* 5 Nov 2014, <http://www.j4bcommunity.co.uk/>)

“Administered by the Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) and funded by the Scottish Government, the Equality Fund 2015-16 supports projects that will make a real difference to the lives of people in Scotland with the protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act 2010: age; disability; gender reassignment; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.”

The deadline for applications is **Friday 5 December 2014**.

Parental Engagement Fund

<http://www.suttontrust.com/programmes/parental-engagement-fund/>

(Source: j4bCommunity Funding *Newsletter* 5 Nov 2014, <http://www.j4bcommunity.co.uk/>)

“The £1 million Fund is looking to support the growth, increased effectiveness and measurement of impact of projects, led by not-for-profit organisations, aimed at improving children’s cognitive development through actively engaging parents in their children’s learning. It will be looking for projects primarily targeted at children from disadvantaged backgrounds aged between 2-6.”

The deadline for applications is **Friday 5 December 2014**.

#ExploreArchives online campaign 10-16 November 2014 – Promoting existing Muslim archives

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

(Source: email from Sadiya Ahmed via archives-nra@jiscmail.ac.uk)

“Just a reminder we are launching our contribution in the National Archives #ExploreArchives initiative. Our social media campaign aims to promote existing Muslim archives, heritage, arts and academic research related to British Muslim heritage across the UK. Whether you have a physical archive, exhibition, academic research, book or a website we will share and promote your collection or research as part of the National Archive’s initiative this November 10-16th, 2014.

Taking part is easy. Send us an email with:

- 1) an image (preferably a jpeg) please include your copyright information
- 2) a short description of the image/collection/website/book/educational resources/blog/academic research
- 3) web-link or physical address

Send your submission here: sadiya@khizrafoundation.org.”

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

Children of recession: the impact of the economic crisis on child wellbeing in rich countries

<http://www.unicef-irc.org/>

“A new UNICEF report shows that 2.6 million children have sunk below the poverty line in the world’s most affluent countries since 2008, bringing the total number of children in the developed world living in poverty to an estimated 76.5 million.” (Taken from the UNICEF press release at: http://www.unicef.org/media/media_76447.html)

This has also been picked up in individual news stories, such as:

- “Thousands of young people at risk of social exclusion”, highlighting findings in Luxembourg, see: <http://www.wort.lu/en/luxembourg/unicef-luxembourg-thousands-of-young-people-at-risk-of-social-exclusion-5450f4efb9b39887080807fa>
- “Poverty and education: a 'lost decade' for Spain's children”, see: <http://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2014/oct/28/poverty-and-education-a-lost-decade-for-spains-children>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Vision for Literacy 2025

http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/assets/0002/3984/Vision_for_Literacy_2025.pdf

(Source: ASCEL *Update*, Oct 2014)

The National Literacy Forum presented its *Vision for Literacy* in Parliament at the end of October – it sets out “the key steps Government needs to take during

its next three terms for it to meet the ultimate goal: *for all children born this year to have the literacy skills they need to succeed by the time they finish secondary school.*"

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Evaluation of the Rotherham Social Prescribing Pilot

<http://www.shu.ac.uk/research/cresr/ouexpertise/evaluation-rotherham-social-prescribing-pilot>

(Source: NCVO member update, Oct 2014)

Evaluation of the social and economic costs and benefits of Voluntary Action Rotherham's Social Prescribing Pilot being delivered on behalf NHS Rotherham CCG. The full and summary reports are available to download.

Transforming mental health: a plan of action for London

<http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/transforming-mental-health>

(Source: email from the LGA Research Team, 30 Oct 2014)

This report from The King's Fund "describes a vision for the future of mental health provision in London generated through a process of engagement with key stakeholders in the capital." [p3]

It includes useful background info on mental health, as well as identifying ways forward.

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

"Welcoming Children with Disabilities at Your Library"

<http://webjunction.org/news/webjunction/welcoming-children-with-disabilities-at-your-library.html>

(Source: WebJunction *Crossroads*, Nov 2014)

Excellent ideas to get started:

"Every community, no matter the size, has the opportunity to serve children with special needs. Libraries have unique opportunities to raise awareness and strengthen services for children with disabilities and their families ... Here are suggested starting places ..."

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Current rate of support provided to asylum-seekers

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2014-10-14/HL2077/>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 415, 3 Nov 2014)

In response to a question in the House of Lords:

Levels of cash support from 18 April 2011	£
SINGLE PERSON	
Aged 18 or over (excluding lone parent)	36.62
Aged 25 years or over (excluding lone parent), where the decision to provide cash support was made before 5 October 2009 and the person reached age 25 prior to that date.	42.62

QUALIFYING COUPLES	
Both 18 years or over	72.52
LONE PARENT AGE 18 OR OVER	
Age 18 or over	43.94
PERSONAL ALLOWANCE FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN	
Person aged under 16	52.96
Person aged 16 but under 18 (except where the person is a member of a Qualifying Couple)	39.80

“The Government has reviewed the allowances and concluded that the allowances are sufficient to cover the essential needs of asylum seekers and their families.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

This is how it feels to be lonely ...

http://migrantforum.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Loneliness-report_The-Forum_UPDATED.pdf

A new “report on migrants and refugees’ experiences with loneliness in London” from The Forum.

“The Forum, with its Mentoring Project, assists its member to overcome isolation and confront their loneliness. The Forum’s experience has shown that:

- Keeping people connected and active in difficult times works well to tackle loneliness.
- Volunteering reduces exclusion, social isolation and loneliness.
- Practical support can affect attitude, since a positive change can have a positive impact on their physical and mental health.
- Isolated people tend to feel lonelier when they are distressed; building trust and relationships with others develop mentees’ skills to manage stressful situations.
- Attending educational activities is beneficial for mentees’ confidence and wellbeing.
- Developing community-based support networks keeps people active within the community.
- Giving people stability enables them to think about their future and maintain connections.” [p6]

This ties in well with the experiences that the cultural sector can offer.

“We’re in limbo’: the families marooned at a British military base for 16 years”

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/oct/21/refugee-families-marooned-raf-base-cyprus>

Moving story of the plight of one stateless family, currently living in Cyprus.

“Settling the migration debate”

<http://www.ippr.org/juncture/settling-the-migration-debate>

(Source: *IPPR Newsletter*, 31 Oct 2014)

Interesting and positive posting from IPPR, in which the authors argue that the discussion around migration needs to be re-shaped so that it is not focusing on tensions between 'citizens' and 'migrants', but between people who feel more or less settled in and committed to their community.

It suggests three key changes:

- 'Coming clean' on the new steady state of immigration
- Increasing the commitment of new migrants
- Helping communities to cope (by pursuing a much more active community policy).

In addition, IPPR have just published ***Shared ground: strategies for living well together in an era of high immigration***, which explores how to support migrants and British people to live well together. The authors argue for a more coherent integration strategy in areas characterised by increasing diversity and ongoing, high inflows of immigration. See:

http://www.ippr.org/assets/media/publications/pdf/shared-ground_Oct2014.pdf.

Broader issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

The council and the common: local government in 2020

<http://www.nlgn.org.uk/public/wp-content/uploads/The-Council-and-the-Commons.pdf>

(Source: email from the LGA Research Team, 30 Oct 2014)

Forecast from the New Local Government Network of what provision could look like in 2020 – a rather depressing vision of reduced services, with communities being encouraged to develop 'commons' ie “those things that we all use but which none of us straightforwardly owns” [p20] via civic action. This in itself is not necessarily a bad thing – provided it doesn't mean that it has to replace existing services.

Worth a read.