

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 183, 24 June 2015

Events

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

Consultations

“Wanted: the truth about volunteer-run libraries”

<http://speakupforlibraries.org/>

(Source: email from Laura Swaffield to lis-pub-libs, 15 Jun 2015)

“A few years ago, public libraries run by volunteers were almost unheard of. But more and more local authorities are turning to the idea. And more and more local people are taking them on as the only way to 'save' them.

They are the single biggest change in decades to this much-valued public resource. Yet almost nothing is known about them [...]

[The Speak Up For Libraries Alliance] wants to hear from anyone with a view about these volunteer-led libraries in the UK, whether they are 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 will be used to inform SUFL's advocacy. 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. Press contact: Laura Swaffield, 07914 491 145.

Alliance members are: Elizabeth Ash; CILIP; The Library Campaign; Unison; Voices for the Library.

Funding & Opportunities

Adult books in Czech

I have had an offer from a long-term contact to say that she has a pile of really good (some new) adult books in Czech – mixture of fiction and non-fiction – which she'd like to offer to a library service, preferably in Wales or the South West, as she would be happy to deliver them. Is there anyone who could use these? Please let me know (john@nadder.org.uk) if you can.

“Big Lottery Fund’s new £48.5m initiative to benefit women and girls”

https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/press-releases/england/180615_eng_women-and-girls-fight-back#

(Source: j4bCommunity Funding *Newsletter* 24 Jun 2015, <http://www.j4bcommunity.co.uk/>)

“Women and girls facing or affected by substance misuse, mental ill health and other complex issues such as domestic violence, sexual exploitation, and homelessness are to be supported by a £48.5 million initiative announced today by the Big Lottery Fund.

The grant maker, which is responsible for distributing 40% of the money raised through National Lottery players, will be funding activities that will be determined by the women and girls themselves enabling them to take control of their lives.

One in four women will experience domestic violence during their lifetime [...] and up to 3 million women and girls across the UK experience rape, domestic violence, stalking or other violence each year [...]

The Big Lottery Fund’s multi-million pound investment will largely be used to fund tried and tested work where there is evidence of success and effectiveness. It will also raise awareness, support preventative work and share what works and lessons learnt.”

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

“Ferguson Municipal Public Library, MO, Courage in Crisis”

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2015/06/awards/2015-galelj-library-of-the-year-ferguson-municipal-public-library-mo-courage-in-crisis/#>

(Source: *Library Journal LJXpress*, 9 Jun 2015)

The Ferguson Municipal Public Library has been awarded the *Gale/Library Journal Library of the Year 2015*. The Library:

“[...] became a model for all libraries in the way it reacted to the crisis and the aftermath of riots brought on by the shooting of Michael Brown, a young African American man, by local police.

The little FMPL, with its part-time staff, a growing cadre of volunteers and partners, and its director and sole full-time employee, was the one agency in town that stayed open to serve and support all the people of Ferguson. The library quickly became a safe haven and expressed a peaceful resolve, becoming a critical community anchor. Proud of FMPL, librarians nationwide reacted, as did media large and small, and all who heard of the library’s calm leadership.”

The article looks at the role that public services can take in providing a safe, respected and constant presence.

Family Place Libraries™

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

(Source: *Library Journal LJXpress*, 9 Jun 2015)

An interesting development (which actually began in 1979, but which is suddenly hitting US-wide prominence).

“[This] is a network of children's librarians nationwide who believe that literacy begins at birth, and that libraries can help build healthy

communities by nourishing healthy families. The Family Place Libraries network currently includes more than 400 sites in 27 states and continues to grow.”

More info in an article at: <http://www.slj.com/2015/06/opinion/first-steps/family-place-libraries-recasts-the-librarians-role-in-early-learning/#> .

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Reading Ahead”

<http://readingagency.org.uk/adults/quick-guides/reading-ahead/>

(Source: Press Release from The Reading Agency, 16 Jun 2015)

Just in case you’ve missed this, “Reading Ahead” is the new name for the Six Book Challenge:

“Reading Ahead supports young people and adults by changing their perception of reading, opening up opportunities and building their confidence.”

Publicity and other material is now available – see:

<http://shop.readingagency.org.uk/>.

Materials need to be ordered by **Tuesday 14 July** to get the ‘early bird’ discount and ensure delivery for September.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

The social determinants of young people’s mental health

http://www.youthaccess.org.uk/uploads/documents/Social_determinants_of_YPs_health.pdf

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Daily*, 18 Jun 2015)

This is a briefing drawn from recent research which has:

“[...] identified the key role played by social disadvantage and social problems in rates of mental illness amongst young people.

The research reveals much sought-after data on the prevalence of mental health problems amongst the young population:

- 12% of 16-19 year olds and 18% of 20-24 year olds met cut-off points for common mental disorders.
- Young people who were NEET (not in education, employment or training) or socially isolated were found to be twice as likely as other young people to report mental illness.
- Where young people also experienced ‘everyday’ social welfare legal problems (e.g. concerning debt, benefits, housing or employment) they were five times more likely to report mental health problems.
- Social welfare legal problems were a clear predictor of mental health problems and longitudinal data showed that young people’s mental health deteriorated as new social welfare legal problems emerged.”
[Taken from: <http://www.youthaccess.org.uk/news/addressing-social-problems-key-to-effective-youth-mental-health-services/>]

The full research report is available at:

[http://www.youthaccess.org.uk/uploads/documents/Health_Inequality + Access To Justice.pdf](http://www.youthaccess.org.uk/uploads/documents/Health_Inequality_and_Access_To_Justice.pdf).

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“The 'Patchwork Quilt' project at Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants, London”

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/writing/online-writer-in-residence/blog/884/>

(Source: email from Anne Harding, 16 Jun 2015)

Outline of an innovative art and writing project, working with new arrivals.

Young Chinese migrants in London

http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/Young_Chinese.pdf

(Source: email from Runnymede Trust, 17 Jun 2015)

“This research updates our understanding of Chinese migration to London; it focusses on young people (aged 23-39) in the early stages of their working lives. The Chinese are the UK’s fastest growing ethnic group¹ and yet we know little about them. It asks who these young migrants are, why they are in London, and how they think about and strategize migration.” [p4]

Although primarily focusing on London, this report is also useful for background info on Chinese migration to the UK more widely.

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

GDX Newsletter

<http://www.mailoutinteractive.com/Industry/View.aspx?id=687573&p=4a4a>

The latest Newsletter from Global Diversity Exchange includes the following:

- “A Citizen’s Tool for Refugee Resettlement: Canada’s Refugee Sponsorship Program”, <http://www.globaldiversityexchange.ca/a-citizens-tool-for-refugee-resettlement-canadas-private-sponsorship-of-refugees-program/>
- “Germany: Where the Refugee Flood is a Solution, Not a Problem”, <http://www.globaldiversityexchange.ca/germany-where-the-refugee-flood-is-a-solution-not-a-problem/>
- “Migrant Deaths at Sea: Addressing the Information Deficit”, <http://www.globaldiversityexchange.ca/migrant-deaths-at-sea-addressing-the-information-deficit/>
- “Changing Public Perceptions of Immigration”, <http://www.globaldiversityexchange.ca/changing-public-perceptions-of-immigration/>
- “Launch of Syrian Refugee Settlement Initiative in Toronto”, <http://www.globaldiversityexchange.ca/launch-of-syrian-refugee-settlement-initiative-in-toronto/>
- And more!