

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 184, 30 June 2015

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

Association of Canadian Archivists 2016 Call for Submissions – Archives & Innovation

<http://archivists.ca/content/annual-conference>

(Source: email to archives-nra@jiscmail.ac.uk, 25 Jun 2015)

The theme for the conference is “‘Futur proche’: Archives & Innovation”, and the call suggests that topics might include:

- “Investigate the impact of societal and technological change on the nature of archives and role and duties of archivists (i.e., the inclusion of social justice and activism as archival duties).”

Local Sustainability Fund

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charitable-organisations-given-20-million-boost-by-government>

(Source: email from NCVO, 25 Jun 2015)

The Cabinet Office has just launched an initiative that will provide grants to increase the sustainability of around 250 organisations working in the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector.

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

Aviva Community Fund winners (up to £1k category) – Friends of Coppice Library

<https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/1567>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 29 Jun 2015)

“[...] to host activities for elderly and vulnerable residents in the local community. Whilst we are planning a range of activities to be held on different days and times (including a knitting group, film group and, of course, reading groups) one of our key priorities would be to help the elderly and the vulnerable to understand the benefits and pitfalls of the internet, to provide them with access to computers and to make it easier for those residents to visit the library.”

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

Inquiry into poverty in Wales: poverty and inequality

Full report: <http://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/cr-ld10252/cr-ld10252-e.pdf>

Summary – conclusion & recommendations:

<http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/documents/s41378/Report%20on%20Poverty%20in%20Wales%20Poverty%20and%20Inequality,%20June%202015%20-%20Conclusions%20and%20recommendations.pdf>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 29 Jun 2015)

Report by the National Assembly for Wales Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee which concluded that:

“More than one in five people live in poverty in Wales. Since the early 2000s, the level of poverty in Wales has been static, and Wales is currently behind only London (28%) and on par with the West Midlands, with 23% of the population living in poverty. In other areas of the UK with high poverty, like north-east England, the level of poverty has fallen more than in Wales over the same period.”

The report is critical of the Government’s approach so far (and makes a number of recommendations):

“We are deeply concerned by the Welsh Government’s lack of progress in reducing poverty, particularly given its long-term commitment and investment in the issue. We believe that this is due, at least in part, to the approach taken by the government to date, which focuses on treating the symptoms of poverty rather than tackling the root causes.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Child poverty: all not quite what it seems?”

<http://classonline.org.uk/blog/item/child-poverty-all-not-quite-what-it-seems>

(Source: Updates from Class, 26 Jun 2015)

Interesting blogpost which:

“[...] analyses the impact of government policies on child poverty and argues that unless we can force a wider debate on poverty which takes us away from the simplistic and popular rhetoric around the supposed ‘shirkers’ and the ‘skivers’ and which recognises the realities of poverty in Britain today, we are unlikely to make much progress.”

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

The Arts Council’s Research Grants Programme 2015-18

Background info: <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/apply-funding/funding-programmes/research-grants-programme-2015-18/>

Round 1 successful applicants: <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/apply-funding/funding-programmes/research-grants-programme-2015-18/round-1-successful-applicants/>

(Source: email from Museums Association, 24 Jun 2015)

“Round 1 of the programme will invest almost £1.4 million in eight research partnerships across England, involving small, medium and large-scale arts and cultural organisations. The projects will explore the value of the arts and museums from a diverse range of perspectives and disciplines. The research will enhance the evidence-base, support artistic practice, influence policy and decision-making, and influence commissioners and funders.”

Outline details of the eight successful applicants are at the above weblink.

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

Mental health case studies

<http://www.museumsassociation.org/museum-practice/museums-and-mental-health>

(Source: email from Museums Association, 24 Jun 2015)

Museum Practice has just published six case studies.

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

“Democratic Access or Privileged Exclusion? A Workshop on the Preservation of and Access to Refugee Archives” – Monday 13 July, 1:30pm to 6:00pm, Registration from: 1pm

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/democratic-access-or-privileged-exclusion-a-workshop-on-the-preservation-of-and-access-to-refugee-tickets-17156730242>

(Source: email from Paul Dudman, UEL, via archives-nra@jiscmail.ac.uk, 29 Jun 2015)

This event is so closely allied to the origins of the Ebulletin (via “Welcome To Your Library”), that I thought I would include details here.

“The University of East London’s Library at Docklands has been the home of the Refugee Council Archive for over a decade. According to the Archives Hub database, there are several other archives documenting refugee lives which co-exist in London and beyond. Questions arise as to who accesses these archives? Are refugee archives well-represented in relation to the preservation of lived experience of refugees and migrants? If not, why is this? Who get excluded from refugee-archives, and in what ways? How could we improve access to refugee research archives?”

This half-day workshop led symposium seeks to find answers to the above questions. It is a launch event of an outreach project, “Democratic Access or Privileged Exclusion: Civic Engagement through the Preservation of and Access to Refugee Archives”. In February 2015, under the auspices of the UEL Library and Learning Service [...], a bid was submitted by the Refugee Research Archives at UEL [...] and the Centre for Migration, Refugees and Belonging [...], focusing on the preservation of refugees and migrants lives through engaging with local refugee communities.

Awarded with an internal fund from the University of East London, we sought to use existing Archives held within the UEL Library as a basis to forge new partnerships between communities, students, academics, archivists and practitioners within the field of refugee and migration studies. At this end of project workshop we wish to share our findings with you which can help to generate a discussion on how to make archives as accessible, inclusive, representative and democratic. We will showcase the oral history of local communities and refugees made accessible through the new website of Living Refugee Archive.

All welcome. The event is free but registration is required for catering and space purposes.”

Booking details and further info at above weblink.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Latest published number of nationals of Eritrea granted asylum and other form of protection in the UK

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-06-11/HL451/>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 444, 29 Jun 2015)

Figures for 2014 (total 2144) and Jan-Mar 2015 (total 536).

Refugees: Yemen

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-06-18/3193/>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 444, 29 Jun 2015)

“In the six months to the end of March 2015 there were 11 grants of asylum, humanitarian protection, discretionary leave or another form of protection, for Yemeni nationals.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Midway between Manchester and Mumbai: the living arrangements of older Indians living in the UK

http://www.cpc.ac.uk/publications/cpc_briefing_papers/pdf/BP25_Midway%20between%20Manchester%20and%20Mumbai.pdf

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 442, 15 Jun 2015)

Short briefing note from the Centre for Population Change about “the living arrangements of older people of Indian heritage living in the UK, comparing their circumstances to those of older people from the White majority population as well as older people living in India.” [p1]

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

“Enterprising Libraries: a blueprint for delivering economic growth in UK cities”

<http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/business/2015/06/enterprising-libraries-a-blueprint-for-delivering-economic-growth-in-uk-cities.html>

Brief write-up of an event at the British Library to launch an independent economic impact study on the “Enterprising Libraries” project – the write-up includes headlines from the report, eg:

“Between April 2013 and March 2015 the Enterprising Libraries have together created a total of nearly 1,700 new businesses and 4,200 new jobs (predicted to rise to 22,000 jobs by 2017)”

Broader issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Statistical digest of rural England

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/438081/Statistical Digest of Rural England 2015 June edition.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/438081/Statistical_Digest_of_Rural_England_2015_June_edition.pdf)

Latest version of the statistics published June 2015, with updated sections on defining rural areas, and rural population and internal migration.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

“Commission announces new project to increase diversity in the television sector”

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/commission-announces-new-project-increase-diversity-television-sector>

(Source: EHRC *Newsletter*, Jun 2015)

Included here as of broad interest – announcement that the EHRC:

“[...] has launched a new government-backed project aimed at unlocking economic and creative potential by increasing the diversity of people working in Britain’s television sector.

As Great Britain's national equality body and authority on equality legislation, the Commission will be providing expert legal guidance on what is permitted under the law for employers, commissioners and others working within the sector.

The guidance will help broadcasters expand the talent pool from which they find the best candidates and will cover areas including employment, commissioning, broadcasting, programme making and procurement practices.

Research from industry bodies showed that:

- Only 5 per cent of those working in the creative industries were from black or ethnic minorities. This contrasted with a population of around 30 per cent black or ethnic minority in the urban areas where a large proportion of broadcasters and producers operate. This figure had actually decreased by 30 per cent since the previous industry census [...]
- The number of disabled people in the creative media industries had remained static for 12 years at 5 per cent compared with 11 per cent across the wider working population [...]
- Just 2.5 per cent of those appearing on screen were portrayed as having a disability, and older people, particularly older women, were under-represented compared to the make up of the population at large [...]