

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 212, 27 June 2016

Events

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

Consultations

“Implications of reductions to public spending on LGB&T people & public services”

<http://natcen.ac.uk/taking-part/studies-in-field/implications-of-reductions-to-public-spending-on-lgbt-people-and-public-services/>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 9 Jun 2016)

“UNISON has commissioned NatCen Social Research to explore whether and how reductions to public spending of recent years have affected LBG&T people.

This study will help UNISON better understand and re-act to the effect of reductions to public spending on services for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

NatCen is inviting people who have used and/or provided LGB&T services to contribute by making a short written submission (before midday on **2 September 2016**), taking part in a telephone interview or both.”

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

“Human books library to open in Castlebar”

<http://www.con-telegraph.ie/news/roundup/articles/2016/06/09/4121329-human-books-library-to-open-in-castlebar/>

News story from the *Connaught Telegraph*, 9 Jun 2016 about a ‘Human Books’ library which opened at the County Library, Castlebar, on 13 June:

“There will be a range of titles to choose from the ‘Human Books’ and some of the themes covered include addiction, mental health, sexuality, teenage mothers, brain tumour, refugee, alternative living and disability.

The Castlebar Human Library Project was set in motion by three local organisers [...]

The trio saw a great need to bring people together in ‘Open Dialogue’ spaces in response to growing social isolation within our communities.”

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

Proposals for inclusion in UNCERD (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination) Committee ‘List of Themes’

http://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Delivering%20Equality/CERDSubmission_ListofThemes_270516.pdf?utm_source=NewZapp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=test%201

(Source: email from Equality Commission NI, June 2016)

“The Equality Commission has set out the five priority actions that it considers the NI Executive needs to take to promote racial equality in Northern Ireland:

1. develop a co-ordinated cross departmental action plan in Northern Ireland to advance racial equality (incorporating clear targets, actions & timescales)
2. set out a detailed timetable for the proposed review of the racial equality and fair employment legislation
3. set out specific timeframes for consultation on, and implementation of, comprehensive ethnic monitoring to improve public policy and service delivery in NI
4. take action to promote respect; tackle racism and discrimination; and address racist hate crime
5. set out the actions to be taken to address key inequalities in education, health, housing, employment and social protection and promotes integration (particularly for marginalised groups such as Travellers and Roma, asylum seekers and refugees [...])

In August the [UN Committee on Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination](#) will be examining whether the UK Government has effectively implemented the racial equality rights contained in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD). In preparation for this, the Equality Commission will be feeding these action points into the Committee's 'list of themes' which may influence the topics they will be discussing with representatives of the Government.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

The Divide

<http://thedividedocumentary.com/>

(Source: email from Kevin Harris, 12 Apr 2016)

This film is inspired by the best-selling book *The spirit level* by Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett.

“The Divide tells the story of 7 individuals striving for a better life in the modern day US and UK - where the top 0.1% owns as much wealth as the bottom 90%. By plotting these tales together, we uncover how virtually every aspect of our lives is controlled by one factor: the size of the gap between rich and poor.

This isn't based on real life. This is real life.

Wall Street psychologist Alden wants to make it to the top 1%; KFC worker Leah from Richmond, Virginia just wants to make it through the day; Jen in Sacramento, California doesn't even talk to the neighbours in her upscale gated community – they've made it clear to her she isn't 'their kind'.

By weaving these stories with news archive from 1979 to the present day, The Divide creates a lyrical, psychological and tragi-comic picture of how economic division creates social division.”

Info about screenings at: <http://thedividedocumentary.com/screenings>.

Forgotten women: the impact of Islamophobia on Muslim women

http://enar-eu.org/IMG/pdf/20095_forgottenwomenpublication_v5_1_.pdf

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 9 Jun 2016)

New report from the European Network Against Racism, which

“[...] aims to document the disproportionate impact of Islamophobia on women and to strengthen alliances between the anti-racism and feminist movements in order to better address the intersectional discrimination affecting Muslim women or those perceived as such.” [p2]

There is also a two-page factsheet which looks at the impact in the UK – see: <http://enar-eu.org/IMG/pdf/factsheet-uk-final.pdf>.

Reading Ahead

(Source: “News from The Reading Agency”, 14 Jun 2016)

“Today (15 June 2016) The Reading Agency launches new promotional materials for Reading Ahead 2016/17, its programme that encourages young people and adults who struggle with the written word, or who don’t read for pleasure, to get into reading.

Reading Ahead builds on the success of the Six Book Challenge which reached 48,000 people in 2015 through public libraries and their local partners, colleges, adult community learning, prisons and workplaces. Participants are invited to pick six reads of their choice and record, rate and review their reading in order to get a certificate; reading diaries, certificates and publicity material with a colourful design can be ordered now from [The Reading Agency’s shop](#) so that participants can start the scheme from September onwards.”

Building carer friendly communities

<http://www.carersuk.org/for-professionals/policy/policy-library/building-carer-friendly-communities-research-report-for-carers-week-2016>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 21 Jun 2016)

New research report from Carers UK, launched as part of Carers Week 2016.

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people

“Nine Resources for Building Cultural Literacy | Mix It Up”

<http://www.slj.com/2016/06/feature-articles/nine-resources-for-building-cultural-literacy-mix-it-up/#>

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 7 Jun 2016)

Very useful intro to resources:

“From materials that showcase the important aspects of North American culture, such as the history of Native American peoples, to apps and websites that detail issues abroad, including the flow of refugees through

Europe, these tools serve to enrich students' discovery and understanding of places and cultures other than their own."

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

"Bringing people together in memories"

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/blog/bringing-people-together-memories>

New CILIP blogpost which looks at the "NHS/public library partnership project between Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Wirral Council to support the wellbeing of people living with dementia, creating reminiscence boxes which are available in public libraries and in the local acute hospital."

The UK's ageing population: challenges and opportunities for museums and galleries

<http://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk/download/173>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 15 Jun 2016)

Important new report:

"Museums are constantly being asked to do more with less, but this report indicates that there can be a double dividend – where museums and older people enrich each other and their local communities.

This report's impressive raft of case studies illustrate the way a range of museums have reflected on their practice and adapted their work to ensure older people find value and relevance in their interactions with them. These museums are considering the opportunities an ageing population brings, rather than simply working out how 'business as usual' will be sustained as the population ages." [p6]

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

Health & Wellbeing issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Best start in life: promoting good emotional wellbeing and mental health for children and young people

<http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/7632544/160519+Best+start+in+life/19cca60a-3da4-4410-9b40-f745d106b1advery> helpful.

(Source: LGA *Health, adult social care and ageing bulletin*, June 2016)

New guide from the LGA to local authorities' public health role – the 10 top tips [p8] are very useful.

Just what the doctor ordered: social prescribing – a guide for local authorities

<http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/7632544/L16-108+Just+what+the+doctor+ordered+--+social+prescribing+-+a+guide+to+local+authorities/f68612fc-0f86-4d25-aa23-56f4af33671d>

(Source: LGA *Health, adult social care and ageing bulletin*, June 2016)

Useful intro to what social prescribing is, and how local authorities can get involved.

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

Museums, migration and cultural diversity: recommendations for museum work

http://www.nemo.org/fileadmin/Dateien/public/NEMo_documents/Nemo_Museums_Migration.pdf

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 8 Jun 2016)

“A new publication by the Network of European Museum Organisations (Nemo) aims to help museums work more effectively with diverse communities, including migrants and refugees.

Museums, Migration and Cultural Diversity: Recommendations for Museum Work is designed to make organisations aware of their potential in the context of diverse societies undergoing rapid change. The publication was originally produced by the German Museums Association for its members but has now been translated into English.”

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

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Neither safe nor sound: unaccompanied children on the coastline of the English Channel and the North Sea

http://www.unicef.org.uk/Images/Publications/Unicef_NeitherSafeNorSound.pdf

(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 20 Jun 2016)

“This sociological study analyses the risks to which the unaccompanied children living in the various slums located in the north of France and along the coast of the English Channel are exposed. It was carried out between January and April 2016 across seven sites (Calais, Grande-Synthe, Angres, Norrent Fontes, Steenvoorde, Tatinghem, and Cherbourg). This research is based on 61 individual and group interviews with unaccompanied children, conducted in their mother tongue at their various places of residence (slums, Jules Ferry centre, temporary reception centre or at the new Grande-Synthe humanitarian centre).” [p7]

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Perceptions and reality: public attitudes to immigration

https://www.ipsos-mori.com/DownloadPublication/1634_sri-perceptions-and-reality-immigration-report-2013.pdf

(Source: MEMO [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 487, 20 Jun 2016)

Although dated Jan 2014, this key research seems only just to have been published.

“Attitudes towards immigration are one of the most researched areas of public policy, mostly in countless opinion polls, but also in more in-depth studies, often focusing on particular issues or communities.

However, a lot of this repeats and confirms what we know – that there is widespread concern in Britain – and there have been few attempts to bring the evidence together in one place [...] It is therefore easy to miss

the key patterns and nuances in the noise, or to get fixated on fine points of conflicting interpretations.

This review therefore attempts to help the reader see a more complete picture by bringing a wide range of attitudinal data together in one place.” [p2]

It also includes the much-quoted stats about perception and reality of numbers of migrants:

“In Ipsos MORI’s most recent survey on this, the mean estimate of the proportion that the foreign-born population make up of the UK is 31% and the median 26%, compared with the official estimate of around 13%, (which increases to 14% if the central estimate of illegal migrants resident in the UK is taken into account³⁵). This is clearly massively out – and while this has been seen across a number of studies, it is still important to remind ourselves that on average people think that three in ten of the population are immigrants.” [p22]

“The Immigration Act 2016 In Plain English”

<http://rightsinfo.org/immigration-act-2016-plain-english/>

(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Update*, 20 Jun 2016)

Very useful summary by Rights Info in plain English.

Equal Access Newsletter

<http://us1.campaign->

archive1.com/?u=d7ec03323201c494ef3f26c8b&id=a0504d73f8

(Source: email 22 Jun 2016 from refed, <http://www.refugeeducation.co.uk/mailing.htm>)

New newsletter produced by Student Action for Refugees, which highlights:

“Higher Education funding opportunities for refugees, asylum seekers and those with limited leave to remain”.

Sign up for the newsletter at: <http://star-network.us1.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=d7ec03323201c494ef3f26c8b&id=75c7120b37>.

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

Launch of new Universal Offer

<http://goscl.com/wp-content/uploads/Culture-press-release-FINAL-.pdf> and

<http://goscl.com/libraries-to-invest-time-and-resources-in-art-and-culture/>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 19 Jun 2016)

“The Society of Chief Librarians today announced the creation of a new **Universal Culture Offer**, as part of its popular **Universal Offers for Public Libraries**. The Culture Offer recognises public libraries as welcoming places where children and adults can immerse themselves in every form of art: learn from local artists; create their own art; watch theatre, music and dance performances; and learn about art and culture through books and reading.”