The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 247, 4 January 2018

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

Funding & Opportunities
"Arts Minister launches £4 million DCMS/Wolfson Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund"
http://www.wolfson.org.uk/news/arts-minister-launches-4-million-dcmswolfson-museums-and-galleries-improvement-fund/
(Source: j4bCommunity Funding *Newsletter* 20 Dec 2017, http://www.j4bcommunity.co.uk/)

> "Museums and galleries across England will be able to apply for a share of £4 million to improve exhibition spaces and increase accessibility […]
>
> Grants of up to £300,000 from the DCMS/ Wolfson Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund will be available for eligible museums to apply for from spring 2018.
>
> The scheme – jointly funded by DCMS and the Wolfson Foundation – is designed to improve the quality of displays, enhance exhibition spaces and increase access."

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government
State of the Nation 2017: social mobility in Great Britain
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662744/State_of_the_Nation_2017_-_Social_Mobility_in_Great_Britain.pdf
(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 1 Dec 2017)
Latest Social Mobility Commission report which has had considerable media coverage.

> "[It] reveals a growing gulf between our country's great cities (especially London) and those towns and counties that are being left behind economically and hollowed out socially. England is a small country with a large and growing gap between those places that offer good opportunities for social progress – what we have called social mobility hotspots – and those that do not – the coldspots." [p iv]

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

"Key inequalities in education"
http://www.equalityni.org/KeyInequalities-Education
(Source: email from Equality Commission Northern Ireland, 7 Dec 2017)
The Equality Commission NI:

> "has published a new assessment of the experiences of people in education across all the equality grounds in Northern Ireland. The

statement highlights areas where there are educational challenges and how these impact on children.

Many children in Northern Ireland continue to experience persistent inequalities in education. The equality grounds where key inequalities were highlighted include: ethnicity, disability and gender, among others. These key inequalities are lifelong and impact upon the whole education journey."

There are links from this webpage to:

- A briefing,
  http://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Delivering%20Equality/EducationKeyInequalities-KeyPointBriefing.pdf

- *Statement on key inequalities in education: summary*,
  http://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Delivering%20Equality/EducationKeyInequalities-StatementSummary.pdf

- *Key inequalities in education: statement*,
  http://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Delivering%20Equality/EducationKeyInequalities-FinalStatement.pdf

- Infographic: low res *(png, 778kb)* / high res *(jpeg, 4.2mb)*

"Evidence finder"
http://www.gov.scot/topics/people/equality/equalities/datagrid
(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 550, 11 Dec 2017)
Latest update to this useful tool:

"Scottish Government and its Agencies collect, analyse and publish equality evidence across a wide range of policy areas. Using the Evidence Finder below you can find this evidence in three ways:

- by equality characteristic – click on the characteristic you are interested in
- by policy area – click on the name of the policy area you are interested in
- by policy area and equality characteristic - for example religion and culture, by clicking on the relevant intersection below."

A fairer Scotland for all: Race Equality Action Plan 2017-21
http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00528746.pdf
(Source: email from BEMIS, 11 Dec 2017)
Action Plan launched 11 Dec:

"The Scottish Government is determined to show leadership in advancing race equality, tackling racism and addressing the barriers that prevent people from minority ethnic communities from realising their

potential. This Action Plan builds on the Race Equality Framework for Scotland and is informed by the work of independent Race Equality Adviser. It outlines over 100 actions that will be delivered over the course of this Parliament in areas of employment, education and lifelong learning, health, housing, poverty, community cohesion and safety, and participation and representation to make real improvements in the lives and experiences of minority ethnic communities in Scotland. The Action Plan also highlights specific Scottish Government led activities for the Gypsy/Traveller community." [Taken from the email from BEMIS]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies
Inequalities in later life: the issue and the implications for policy and practice
Full report: https://www.ageing-better.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Inequalities-insight-report.pdf
Summary: https://www.ageing-better.org.uk/news/older-women-bearing-burden-lifetime-lower-pay-unequal-working-conditions/
(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 12 Dec 2017)
This new report looks at a number of influences on later life (health; financial security; social connections), and, for each, suggests implications (and things that could be improved) – amongst these are ideas that we could build on, for example:

> "Interventions aimed at preventing or reducing loneliness and social isolation or increasing the quality of social connections in later life, should have explicit consideration of inequalities." [Full report, p11]

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people
"Diversity in publishing – still hideously middle-class and white?"
https://www.theguardian.com/books/2017/dec/09/diversity-publishing-new-faces
(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 550, 11 Dec 2017)
Just in case you missed this important article in *The Guardian* …

"CILIP Carnegie Kate Greenaway Independent Review"
https://archive.cilip.org.uk/research/topics/equalities/cilip-carnegie-kate-greenaway-independent-review
(Source: *Weekly News from CILIP*, 13 Dec 2017)
CILIP have just published the interim report of the Independent Review. This gives brief background on the Awards (and on how CILIP works); and an update on what has happened so far, including two scoping workshops (one of which was facilitated by John Vincent).

There is also a press release:

- "'Get all young Britons reading to unlock potential, productivity and economic growth'",
  http://www.cilip.org.uk/general/custom.asp?page=CKGreport7Dec.

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

"Feed and Read: libraries providing food and activities to children in holidays"

http://www.time-to-read.co.uk/news-blog/feedandread

(Source: email from Ian Anstice to lis-pub-libs@jiscmail.ac.uk, 4 Dec 2017)

Summary of programmes in North West libraries and beyond that provide food and activities to children over the school holidays.

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

European Quality of Life Survey 2016: executive summary

https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ef_publication/field_ef_document/ef1733en1.pdf

(Source: email from Social Europe, 7 Dec 2017)

New report from Eurofound (the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions).

> "Carried out in 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2016, the EQLS documents the living conditions and social situation of European citizens. It includes subjective and objective measures: reported attitudes and preferences, as well as resources and experiences. Eurofound's approach recognises that 'quality of life' is a broad concept and encompasses individual well-being as well as the quality of public services and quality of society. The current report provides an overview of multiple dimensions: it examines subjective well-being, standard of living and aspects of deprivation, care responsibilities and work–life balance; healthcare, long-term care, childcare and other public services; and social insecurity, social exclusion and societal tensions, trust, and participation and community engagement." [p1]

The full report is announced as 'forthcoming'.

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

New email list

(Source: email from Nicky Boyd to gem@jiscmail.ac.uk, 6 Dec 2017)

> "A new mailing list has been formed to connect those working on aspects of deaf, autistic and disabled people's relationship to museums and archives. The list embraces both work on the history of disabled people's lives and exhibitions about them, as well as access issues – from getting into the building to the way museum exhibition information is presented. Increasingly there is an overlap between digital, haptic, augmented and virtual reality and disabled access and storytelling as technologies open up new possibilities. The list is aimed to broadly connect all these issues, as well as access to work in museums for disabled people. Organisers encourage people working on any facet of this agenda to join. A growing number of national museums are participating; the list is initially being managed by the History of Place project. To join send an email with

"SUBSCRIBE DIMU" in the header to DIMU-REQUEST@JISCMAIL.AC.UK."

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

"Visa project from Suffolk Libraries"
(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 550, 11 Dec 2017)

"Suffolk Libraries are now a pilot project area for the UKVI Assisted Digital programme to help UK residents apply for visas. This is a partnership with the Home Office with the aim to provide simple, local help to people to enable them to stay in the country. Libraries often help people with Visa applications so this project was a natural progression for the service. County Library, Ipswich and Lowestoft Library are the two pilot libraries. Staff from these libraries have undertaken specialist training which will be cascaded to other staff. Visa applicants will be triaged through to the libraries from a national 'hub' and library staff will provide expert guidance to applicants through 1-hour slots for customers."

"Hidden Stories, Shared Lives"
http://www.hidden-stories.co.uk/
(Source: email from Lucy Graham, Communications Officer, Cumbria Development Education Centre, 21 Nov 2017)

"The Hidden Stories Shared Lives project is an oral history project looking at the stories of those who were born outside the UK but have decided to make their homes in Cumbria. As a result of HLF funding, we have interviewed 50 individuals all with different and varied stories that have led them to make their homes here. We now as a conclusion to the project have an art exhibition that is touring the county, with the first stop at Kendal Library […] Furthermore, the interview archives are being stored by Kendal, Workington and Carlisle libraries so that individuals can do further research or gain greater understanding."

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

"Scheme for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to be expanded"
https://www.gov.uk/government/news/scheme-for-unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-children-to-be-expanded
(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 550, 11 Dec 2017)

"The UK government has introduced legislation to extend a scheme which ensures the care responsibilities of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children is shared by local authorities to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the Immigration Minister announced.

Once passed, this legislation will enable local authorities across Scotland and Wales, and Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland, to participate in the scheme which has been running in England since July 2016."

Migration issues – Other Agencies
"Coding School for Refugees"
https://codeyourfuture.io/
(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Update*, 4 Dec 2017)
Range of courses launched by CodeYourFuture:

> "We are a non-profit organisation supporting refugees with the dream of becoming developers.
>
> In their journey of interrupted lives, unfinished studies and integration challenges, many asylum seekers and refugees yearn to update their tech skills, but lack learning opportunities. We want to change this.
>
> Last year we launched the first cohort of our 6-month web development programme, coached by a group of professional developers. Today we are running new classes in London and Glasgow. This is just the beginning. With your help we will be expanding to other regions and cities."

Something to link into the SCL Digital Offer?

Talent displaced: the economic lives of Syrian refugees in Europe
https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/global/Documents/About-Deloitte/talent-displaced-syrian-refugees-europe.pdf
(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Nov-Dec 2017)
This new report from Deloitte and the Refugee Study Centre in Oxford is the result of a survey of 305 Syrian refugees in Austria, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, as well as qualitative interviews with businesses in these countries.

The overall finding from the research is that:

> "The economic lives […] of Syrian refugees in Europe are characterised by a paradox: many are highly educated (38% have a university education), and yet unemployment is very high (82%) and of those who are unemployed, nearly all rely mainly on government support." [p5]

The report looks at some of the barriers to employment and suggests ways of 'bridging the gap' between refugees' skills and abilities and the job market.

Museums and migration, 2009-2017 …
http://www.migrationmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Museums-and-Migration-2009-17-final.pdf
(Source: Migration Museum Project *Newsletter*, Winter 2017)
A new report from the Migration Museums Project, exploring the case for a national migration museum, and a migration museums network.

Some of this report's data is drawn from a survey of museums carried out in 2017 as another element in the scoping work; a full report on the survey's findings is at: http://www.migrationmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report-on-the-MMN-survey-results-final-PDF.pdf.

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

LGBTQ issues – Other Agencies
Resources for trans people
http://lgbt.foundation/who-we-help/trans-people/resources-for-trans-people/lgbt-foundation-resources-for-trans-people?utm_source=LGBT+Foundation+weekly+bulletin&utm_campaign=8f99ebfac8-Weekly+Bulletin+05%2F09%2F2017&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_43f936b912-8f99ebfac8-197315569&mc_cid=8f99ebfac8&mc_eid=a859be8b1c
(Source: LGBT Foundation *Bulletin*, 12 Dec 2017)
The LGBT Foundation has published two new guides for trans people:

- *Name change & gender recognition certificates*, https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/lgbt-media/Files/d539a98f-a586-4c32-9736-ae9c5f5ac2dd/TransGuide1-Spreads-V2.pdf

- *Support for GPs and trans patients*, https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/lgbt-media/Files/d1db79de-1646-47b7-8b4d-6321c36f00ab/TransGuideIssue2-DIGITAL.pdf

Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations
"'Private enterprise 1 – Public sector 0,' – reviewing the 2017 Budget Statement"
https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/reviewingbudget17
(Source: *Weekly News from CILIP*, 6 Dec 2017)
Critique by Nick Poole of the 2017 Budget. It also raises three "important discussions we need to be able to have as a sector":

- "The first is about resilience. Given that the 2017 Budget signals no change in the ongoing cuts to public services, public libraries are going to need to keep close to the ground, build relationships with local leaders, continue to create value for their communities and prepare for the long haul. The same is true for school, prison, health, college and other parts of the sector which depend on public investment."
- "The second is about national leadership. We need to have an honest conversation amongst national leadership organisations about what can be achieved in the absence of a large-scale investment in the development of publicly-funded libraries. This includes continuing to raise libraries in the public policy agenda, to improve their visibility with the public, to build partnerships with organisations like the BBC who can help build audience. It also means being clear about governance and who is responsible for securing the long-term future of the library sector."

- "The third is about positioning ourselves around the digital agenda and continuing to advocate for the role of information professionals in securing future prosperity, including in knowledge-intensive businesses, research and innovation."

"School Librarians and why our children need them"
https://leonslibraryblog.com/2017/12/06/school-librarians-and-why-our-children-need-them/
(Source: email from *Leon's Library Blog*, 6 Dec 2017)
Second in a series of five articles about the importance of school libraries. In this one, Elizabeth Hutchinson (Head of the Schools' Library Service, Guernsey) argues strongly for the role of professional school librarian and the positive benefit it can bring to schools, teachers and, most importantly, students.

Broader issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government
"Bright Futures"
https://www.local.gov.uk/about/campaigns/bright-futures
(Source: LGA *Children and young people bulletin*, Nov 2017)
The LGA launches its campaign "calling for the vital services that change children's lives to be properly funded. We're calling for Government to:

1. Plug the growing £2 billion funding gap for children's services by 2020
2. Reverse the cuts to early intervention funding to local councils
3. Share the Department for Education's £300 million budget for improvement and innovation in children's services with councils"

Broader issues – Other Agencies
'How do you draw a rainbow the wrong way?' Understanding young people's development in creative activities
http://bop.co.uk/assets/others/Creative-Scotland-CashBack-Research-Report.pdf
(Source: BOP Consulting *Newsletter*, Dec 2017)
New research report from BOP Consulting.

> "This research sought to understand how young people taking part in a range of creative programmes across and beyond Scotland developed creatively as well as how their creative development may be linked to other elements of personal or social development." [p3]

Overall findings included:

- It's all about self-directed goals
- Collaboration is key
- Developing self-identity
- Authentic, highly skilled and emotionality intelligent staff are required
- There is an opportunity to bring theory further into practice. [All taken from p3]