

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 256, 1 May 2018

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

“Open call for proposals on social inclusion and common values”

https://europa.eu/cultural-heritage/news/open-call-proposals-social-inclusion-and-common-values_en

(Source: European Year of Cultural Heritage *Newsletter* 3, http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/eac/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=585&lang=default)

“The call for proposals entitled ‘Social inclusion and common values: the contribution in the field of education, training and youth’ under the Erasmus + programme is now open and will support transnational cooperation projects in the fields of education, training and youth, with a total budget of 14.000.000 euro.”

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

“Battersea Arts Centre to create network for socially engaged practice”

https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/11042018-bac-network-socially-engaged-practice?dm_i=2VBX,OU82,27LU0M,2JIAO,1

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 12 Apr 2018)

“Battersea Arts Centre (BAC) has put a call out for partners to help it build a network for socially engaged co-creation practice in the cultural sector.

The Co-Creating Change network will be open to national and international partners and aims to bring together cultural organisations and individual practitioners that are involved in co-creation work in their communities.

Funded by Arts Council England, the network is seeking to transform traditional models of cultural participation [...]

BAC is inviting organisations and individual practitioners that are interested in joining the network to submit expressions of interest by 31 May.”

Further info, including “Expression of Interest Questions”, at:

https://www.bac.org.uk/content/44930/create_with_us/cocreating_change_call_out/cocreating_change_call_out.

“Library cuts hurt us all, but they hit homeless people the hardest”

<https://www.theguardian.com/public-leaders-network/2018/apr/07/library-cuts-hurt-hit-homeless-people-council-outreach>

(Source: CILIP weekly email, 11 Apr 2018)

Excellent article about the role of public libraries in supporting homeless people:

“I’ve seen first-hand the difference that libraries make to everyone , particularly the most vulnerable people. It breaks my heart to see the cuts to staff, budgets and outreach work across my former library service.”

“Trafford MBC: Why we've abolished library fines”

<https://www.lgcplus.com/7024071.article>

(Source: The Campaign Company *Weekly*, 27 Apr 2018)

Brief article which makes a good point about tackling social exclusion:

“Scrapping fines makes the loan service fairer (customers who borrow e-books have never been subject to fines). It also encourages more people to become borrowers and take advantage of the wide range of library activities that are on offer, so boosting social inclusion.”

TCC *Weekly* itself says:

“The decision is a classic example of how understanding human behaviour is crucial. Libraries are an area where the use of ‘stick over carrot’ is likely to mean people simply don’t use the service. Getting out a book is supposed to be a pleasure not a chore, after all, yet the fear of a fine is liable to make reading a chore not a pleasure. The success of the policy also shows the merits, for public organisations, of trusting those they serve to do the right thing. The more people are trusted, the more their interaction with services is likely to be reciprocal rather than transactional.”

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

“Unconscious bias training: no such thing as a quick fix”

https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/blogs/unconscious-bias-training-no-such-thing-quick-fix?utm_campaign=GB+e-newsletter+%7C+April+2018+%28a%29&utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_content=&utm_medium=email

EHRC blogpost drawing attention to their new research report, *Unconscious bias training: an assessment of the evidence for effectiveness* (see:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/unconscious-bias-training-assessment-evidence-effectiveness>).

(Source: email from EHRC, Apr 2018)

“Our findings reveal a mixed picture. We found that UBT is most effective for awareness raising, that is, making people aware that unconscious bias exists and the impact it can have.

We also found that UBT can be effective for reducing unconscious bias, but it is unclear how permanent this reduction is. What’s more; our research showed that this type of training is unlikely to eliminate it all together.

Significantly, we also found that there is potential for back-firing effects.”

Income inequality in the UK

<http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7484#fullreport>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 24 Apr 2018)

House of Commons Library Briefing Paper available to download from above weblink.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

The Homelessness Monitor: England 2018

<https://www.crisis.org.uk/ending-homelessness/homelessness-knowledge-hub/homelessness-monitor/england/the-homelessness-monitor-england-2018/>

(Summary + downloads available from this weblink)

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 13 Apr 2018)

This is “[...] the seventh annual report of an independent study, commissioned by Crisis and funded by Crisis and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, of the homelessness impacts of recent economic and policy developments in England.”

Key findings include:

- “The majority of local councils in England are struggling to find any stable housing for homeless people in their area, leaving them forced to place more and more people in unstable temporary accommodation. There are urgent calls for more permanent and genuinely affordable homes to be built [...]”
- There are 78,000 homeless households in England in temporary accommodation and, if current trends continue, more than 100,000 such households will be trapped in temporary accommodation by 2020.
- The problem of rising homelessness pressures is not limited to London - 40% of councils in London said the number of people seeking help from their homelessness services had risen over the last year, compared to 76% in the Midlands, 70% in the south and 62% in the north.” [Taken from: https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/homelessness-monitor-england-2018?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%209%20April%2018&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%209%20April%2018+CID_29522d05cf3aeb0fae9d25640f8068cf&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20the%20report]

“Quick Reads”

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 24 Apr 2018)

Two important articles (just in case you missed them):

- Gail Rebeck “Getting the reading fix”, celebrating the launch of new titles, but also warning of the possible end of the scheme because of lack of funding, <https://www.thebookseller.com/blogs/getting-reading-fix-771196>
- Philip Jones “A quick end?”, a follow-on piece on the possible demise of “Quick Reads”, <https://www.thebookseller.com/blogs/quick-end-773226>

A guide to the hostile environment: the border controls dividing our communities – and how we can bring them down

<https://www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/sites/default/files/HE%20web.pdf>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 24 Apr 2018)

Timely paper from Liberty, which looks at the effects on schools, higher education, health, etc.

NICCO

<https://www.nicco.org.uk/>

(Source: NICCO *E-news*, Apr 2018)

This new website “[...] is the updated version of the well-established Barnardo's i-HOP knowledge hub.”

“The National Information Centre on Children of Offenders, formerly i-HOP, has been established to provide an information service for all professionals who come into contact with the children and families of offenders, as well as academics and those responsible for strategic development and commissioning. The Centre is delivered by Barnardo's in partnership with Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS).”

Diversity in books and other materials

“Romance so white? Publishers grapple with race issues amid author protests”

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/mar/19/romance-so-white-publishers-grapple-with-race-issues>

(Source: *Equality In Publishing Update*, 26 Apr 2018)

Just in case you didn't see this article in *The Guardian* – and it also mentions a recent US report, *The state of racial diversity in romance publishing*, which “[...] tracks the publication of books written by authors of color and indigenous peoples in the romance genre” – see:

<http://www.therippedbodicela.com/sites/therippedbodicela.com/files/2017%20diversity%20study%20%281%29.pdf>

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

Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance Bulletin

The first *Bulletin* (Apr 2018) has just been published by the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance.

To subscribe, please go to: <https://www.culturehealthandwellbeing.org.uk/>.

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

MANIL 4-17 June 2018

Message from Mark Freeman (Chair, STV), mark.freeman@stockton.gov.uk:

“A number of people have already asked about plans for Make a Noise in Libraries fortnight for 2018 and I’m writing to confirm that this will run from June 4-17. Due to the changes at RNIB we will be developing downloadable posters and support materials this year and are in the process of designing these, so please bear with us and we will update you as soon as we can with the details.

We plan to review MANIL this year with a view to improving it and expanding it next year, hopefully with the help of CILIP and SCL. We’d like to hear any ideas you have for the future, whether they be about how the fortnight is organised, how it’s marketed and what kind of activities could be planned. Please do get back in touch if you have any specific ideas or comments about the Fortnight.”

“Incident Offers Opportunity for Education on Serving Patrons with Autism”

<https://www.slj.com/2018/04/industry-news/incident-offers-opportunity-education-patrons-autism/#>

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 24 Apr 2018)

US article which draws together resources and looks at some background issues around this unfortunate incident.

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

Chief Social Worker for Adults Annual Report 2017-18: from strength to strength – strengths-based practice and achieving better lives

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/691638/Chief_Social_Worker_for_Adults_-_Annual_report_2018.pdf

(Source: email from Jan Holden, Norfolk, 9 Apr 2018)

On pp37-38 of this Annual Report, there is a piece on “Norwich: Migrant social work service integrated within a library” – which briefly highlights the key role that a library-based team (and library membership) play.

Great to see our role being recognised more widely!

“Research to help integrate Syrian refugees in Scotland”

<https://www.agcc.co.uk/news-article/research-to-help-integrate-syrian-refugees-in-scotland>

Apologies – somehow I missed this project at the time it was running. There is a summary at the above weblink, and also a wealth of info about it on the project blog, see: <https://syrian-information-literacy.blogspot.co.uk/2017/>.

The blog also includes presentations made by the team, and there are also some on SlideShare at: <https://www.slideshare.net/martzoukou>.

What alerted me to this was an email from Konstantina Martzoukou with an invitation to libraries in Scotland:

“This is an invitation to contribute to a book chapter on ‘**Information literacy and the integration of refugees in host societies**’ as part of the book ‘Information literacy, democracy and citizenship’ published by Facet (the title is still provisional). I am looking for examples/case studies from different Scottish public libraries on activities, resources, programmes and support for Syrian refugees.

This is part of continuing work connected to a research project we competed last year with the support of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals Information Literacy Group:
<https://www.agcc.co.uk/news-article/research-to-help-integrate-syrian-refugees-in-scotland>

I’d be delighted if your public library was interested to showcase your approach towards supporting Syrian refugees. For any enquiries please email me directly k.martzoukou@rgu.ac.uk. I am looking for the following:

- A brief description (up to 200-300 words maximum) of any support you are currently offering to Syrian refugees in your library: for example, resources (in Arabic) /information provision/activities/community events & engagement /training/classes (e.g. English, early years)/space reconfiguration etc.
- Any photographs/ visual material you would like to include (only if you wish to include).

Our deadline for collating all the examples is on 31st May.

Please consider contributing to this book chapter to help with increasing awareness of the excellent work that public libraries in Scotland are doing in this area!”

Further info from: Konstantina Martzoukou, k.martzoukou@rgu.ac.uk.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Migrants In European Labour Markets Are Persistently Disadvantaged By Region Of Origin”

<https://www.socialeurope.eu/migrants-in-european-labour-markets-are-persistently-disadvantaged-by-region-of-origin>

Interesting blogpost from *Social Europe*, which introduces a new research paper [see below]. Key points include:

“The classic theory on how migrants and their descendants assimilate into a host society argues that integration is a linear process as successive generations gradually come to resemble the native population. This was the dominant theory up to the 1990s; in recent decades, alternative theories have proposed more complex processes of adaptation to explain why some ethnic minorities integrate better than others. These theories emphasise, for instance, the influence of societal factors on integration, such as social capital, discrimination, and the context of reception – in other words, the opportunities and challenges presented by the host society [...]

The full paper, *Labour market integration of migrants and their descendants*, is available at: <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wpef17037.pdf>.

Engaging with LGBT and migrant equalities: a youth and community practitioner toolkit

<https://intimatemigrationsdotnet.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/community-and-youth-practitioner-resource.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 561, 2 Apr 2018)

“This learning resource facilitates an exploration of LGBT and migrant equalities, and aligns with wider work aimed at challenging prejudice through an intersectional approach [...]

The resource is predominantly intended for frontline services working with youth groups and in community or informal education settings. However, some of the material can also be adapted for staff training within both frontline and second tier organisations. [p1]

“Integration Of Women Migrants Needs More Attention”

<https://www.socialeurope.eu/integration-of-women-migrants-needs-more-attention>

(Source: email from Social Europe, 12 Apr 2018)

Brief article which looks at the employment position of women migrants:

“Non-EU women immigrants make up about six percent of the prime-age population (25-54 years old) in the EU15 countries. Their lack of integration into the labour market is not only a story of lost opportunity at an individual level. It also carries important macroeconomic and social implications.”

Exiled Ink E-Magazine

http://www.exiledwriters.co.uk/exiled_ink_e-mag/

The first issue of the e-version is now available.

“Windrush: Where next in whirlwind of national chaos?”

https://migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2018/04/24/windrush-where-to-in-whirlwind-of-national-chaos/?mc_cid=5ef9a58908&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3

Thoughtful post from MRN, with a reminder that we need to look at the position of all migrants.

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

“Storysmash in Nottingham”

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/04/10/storysmash-in-nottingham/>

Libraries Taskforce guest blogpost, outlining the LOFE project’s development and successes:

“Storysmash was an ambitious 12 month project looking to increase library engagement with young people 11 – 25 across Nottingham, and to increase literacy skills.”

“The Common Room – getting back to the roots of public libraries”

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/general/custom.asp?page=TheCommonRoom>

Speech by Nick Poole (CE of CILIP) at the joint CILIP Ireland and Library Association of Ireland conference on 19 Apr, in which he celebrated the role of libraries:

“So I wanted to take a moment to invite you – whichever part of our sector you work in, whichever type of library you work for, whichever community you serve – to celebrate and stand in solidarity with our colleagues in all libraries, but particularly in our prison, school and public libraries.”

and also argued for proper levels of funding.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

Employability and enterprise

<https://culturallearningalliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/CLA-Employability-and-enterprise-briefing-A4.pdf>

(Source: Cultural Learning Alliance *Newsletter*, 27 Mar 2018)

This paper from the Cultural Learning Alliance (Briefing Paper no.2) makes the case for:

“Why the arts make us more employable, and why the creative industries are our international economic life-raft.” [p1]

The thrust behind the paper is:

“The Fourth Industrial Revolution will have an impact like none other because automation and artificial intelligence will lead to a significant reshaping of the labour market and a loss of employment in traditional areas [...] This may hit industries like logistics first through driverless vehicles but it will impact professions like law, insurance and accountancy just as significantly. If we are to stay ahead of the ‘rise of the robots’, we need to develop a new generation of creative, resilient team players who think, question and collaborate. Studying the arts is an essential part of that process.” [p1]