



## The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 296, 6 April 2020

### Events

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

### Coronavirus/COVID-19

#### “ARA statement on impact of coronavirus outbreak”

<https://www.archives.org.uk/latest-news/790-ara-statement-on-impact-of-coronavirus-outbreak.html>

The ARA have issued a statement for its members.

#### “COVID-19 service user advice”

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/193qQN9I04Dvf0N9L5zeWTiXK\\_DRbrAxg](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/193qQN9I04Dvf0N9L5zeWTiXK_DRbrAxg)

(Source: email from Colleen Molloy, City of Sanctuary, 16 Mar 2020)

Produced by Doctors of the World in partnership with Clear Voice, Migrant Help and the British Red Cross, this is clear and simple guidance for the public in multiple languages (and additional languages will be added as they become available).

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

#### “‘You’ve got to start at home’: How the Thunder Bay library is fighting racism”

<https://www.tvu.org/article/youve-got-to-start-at-home-how-the-thunder-bay-library-is-fighting-racism>

(Source: email from John Pateman, 11 Mar 2020)

Positive newspaper coverage:

“In a city known for systemic inequalities, the library has made inclusiveness a priority”

#### “The ‘Digital Lounge’ – a Case Study from Upper Norwood Library Hub, London”

<https://communitylibrariesnetwork.wordpress.com/2020/03/09/the-digital-lounge-a-case-study-from-upper-norwood-library-hub-london/>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 15 Mar 2020)

Blogpost from *Community Managed Libraries*.

“Digital Lounge supports people of all ages and backgrounds to be more digital savvy whilst socialising and building new friendships in the community.”

## **“Should museums remain impartial?”**

<https://www.museumnext.com/article/should-museums-remain-impartial/>

(Source: email from Nicky Boyd to [gem@jiscmail.ac.uk](mailto:gem@jiscmail.ac.uk), 11 Mar 2020)

Important new post on the MuseumNext site – it concludes:

“Many museums began life as an institution for the status quo; a place where the wealthiest and most powerful could assert their status and cement their view as the default state of things.

Today, however, things can be different. They may not have started as such, but nowadays museums have the potential to be a force for public good. Modern museums welcome all kinds of people and views, not just those of the rich and powerful, and use these views to create discourse, awareness, education and exchange.

Democratic cultural spaces are made by aiming for neutrality, but by recalibrating the balance of power and giving voice to those who would otherwise struggle to be heard. Through social conscious exhibitions and outreach efforts, many museums are already playing their part in this, giving voice to what’s important to their audience.

## ***Museums Change Lives: Northern Ireland***

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/download?id=1266325>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 12 Mar 2020)

Just launched is this “[...] new series of Museums Change Lives (MCL) case studies to highlight the dynamic and impactful work taking place in museums across Northern Ireland.”

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

## **Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies**

**“Not all young people are ‘digital natives’ – inequality hugely limits experiences of technology”**

[https://theconversation.com/not-all-young-people-are-digital-natives-inequality-hugely-limits-experiences-of-technology-133102?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2016%202020%20-%201563914955&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2016%202020%20-%201563914955+CID\\_8c43500357f49bb01ae2644b4042b727&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Not%20all%20young%20people%20are%20digital%20natives%20%20inequality%20hugely%20limits%20experiences%20of%20technology](https://theconversation.com/not-all-young-people-are-digital-natives-inequality-hugely-limits-experiences-of-technology-133102?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2016%202020%20-%201563914955&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2016%202020%20-%201563914955+CID_8c43500357f49bb01ae2644b4042b727&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Not%20all%20young%20people%20are%20digital%20natives%20%20inequality%20hugely%20limits%20experiences%20of%20technology)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 16 Mar 2020)

Interesting article introducing some new research:

“There is a belief that younger people are fully engaged with the digital world. But I am currently leading a project exploring people’s knowledge

and use of online data, and the preliminary findings from our research has found that data literacy is not uniformly high among younger people, as is often assumed. Instead, some young people have very low levels of data literacy.”

Looking at different types of users of digital resources, the research found of “social and media users”:

“On the surface, they might look like the archetypal ‘digital natives’: young people deeply engaged with social and entertainment media, and with their smart phone to hand all the time. But our social and media users are a group marked by narrow and limited digital media use and a lack of data literacy. They are likely to come from some of the poorest households in the country.

Though age has played a key factor in many aspects of digital exclusion to date – and it is a defining feature of limited and non-internet use – it is by no means the only factor. Aspects of social inequality such as education and social class have a huge impact on how we experience digital technologies. They affect the skills we acquire and our ability to think critically about the systems, platforms, data, information and content we encounter.”

### ***Monitoring Equality in Digital Public Services***

<https://theodi.org/article/monitoring-equality-in-digital-public-services-report/>

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 12 Mar 2020)

New report from Open Data Institute, which has found that:

- “People with mental health conditions, for example, have encountered barriers using everyday services
- Women, people aged over 65 and disabled people are all disproportionately affected by digital exclusion, meaning they are less likely to have the skills or access to use the internet and are therefore excluded from using online services.” [Taken from: [https://www.equallyours.org.uk/open-data-institute-report-monitoring-equality-in-digital-public-services/?utm\\_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=5420bcb39b-March+1+2020+newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_104ed5022f-5420bcb39b-58965893](https://www.equallyours.org.uk/open-data-institute-report-monitoring-equality-in-digital-public-services/?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter&utm_campaign=5420bcb39b-March+1+2020+newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_104ed5022f-5420bcb39b-58965893)]

### ***Gender matters***

Full report: <https://lankellychase.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Gender-Matters-full-report-Feb-2020.pdf>

Summary: <https://lankellychase.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Gender-Matters-summary-report-Feb-2020-1.pdf>

(Source: *Sounddelivery News*, 19 Mar 2020)

“The findings point to a significant number of women who face combinations of severe disadvantage at least as serious as those faced

by men and on an equivalent scale. Part of the reason this hasn't been so visible before is that we have relied on administrative data from services, and so the experiences of people who aren't on their caseloads have remained hidden.

Perhaps the starkest finding of the report is the degree to which violence and abuse in the home are ongoing facts of life, from childhood onwards, for many people facing severe and multiple disadvantage, particularly women.

### **Key statistics**

- 336,000 people in England today (that's roughly the same size as the population of Nottingham) face at least three of four of life's harshest disadvantages – homelessness, mental ill-health, substance misuse and violence and abuse.
- 17,000 people experience homelessness, substance misuse, mental ill-health and domestic abuse at any one time.
- 70% of the 17,000 – that's nearly 12,000 – are women.” [Taken from: <https://lankellychase.org.uk/resources/publications/gender-matters/>]

### ***Telling a different story: understanding news media coverage of severe and multiple disadvantage***

<https://lankellychase.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Telling-a-different-story.pdf>

(Source: *Sounddelivery News*, 19 Mar 2020)

Results of research carried out between Jan 2018-Mar 2019.

“This inquiry reveals three main points; firstly, that news media is mostly concerned with the symptoms rather than the root causes of social disadvantage. Secondly, it references some disadvantages significantly more than others and thirdly, there is a selection of pre-determined narratives that are used as a framework for reporting on them.” [p12]

### **Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies**

#### ***Racial disparities in mental health: literature and evidence review***

<https://raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/mental-health-report-v5-2.pdf>

(Source: *MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview]*, 650, 16 Mar 2020)

Important background info.

“This research review has been created as part of the Racial Disparities in Mental Health project commissioned by NHS England [...]

Black and minority ethnic people experience a wide number of inequalities related to mental health. This ranges from particular ethnic communities having a higher risk of being detained in secure institutions

to more general difficulties for all black and minority ethnic communities in accessing appropriate care and support their for mental health needs.

The evidence suggests that black and minority ethnic communities are at comparatively higher risk of mental ill health, and disproportionately impacted by social detriments associated with mental ill health. From accessing treatment to receiving mental health support, through to assessment and treatment, inequality and discrimination remains rife for black and minority ethnic communities.” [p4]

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

#### **“New Manchester poem in 64 languages”**

<https://manclibraries.blog/2019/06/18/watch-a-brand-new-manchester-poem-in-64-languages/>

(Source: email from Debby Bolding, Greater Manchester Libraries, 16 Mar 2020)

“A brand new multi-lingual poem incorporating an incredible 64 different languages and written mostly by school children, takes pride of place from this week in Manchester Central Library for the next year.”

### **Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government**

#### **“Call for Investigation into Interpreters’ Pay”**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-21229>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 650, 16 Mar 2020)

Motion to The Scottish Parliament (12 Mar) highlighting the shocking treatment of interpreters:

“[...] that interpreters are paid via agencies that pay an hourly rate but no travel time or travelling expenses, leaving interpreters often receiving less than the national minimum wage once public transport costs are taken into account [...]”

#### **“Immigration statistics, year ending December 2019: Summary of latest statistics”**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-december-2019/summary-of-latest-statistics>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 650, 16 Mar 2020)

Very useful summary which includes:

“Since [the Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme] began in 2014, 19,353 people (mainly Syrian nationals) have been resettled under the scheme.”

#### ***Wales position paper on migration***

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-03/wales-position-paper-on-migration.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 650, 16 Mar 2020)

“This position paper sets out a united Welsh position on a number of key issues. These priority issues have been agreed by representatives of various sectors, including manufacturing, higher education, tourism, retail, steel, agri-food and public services, including Local Government, the NHS and social care, and Welsh Government.” [p1]

### **Migration issues – Other Agencies**

#### **“‘Gayropa’: challenges and hopes of Europe's LGBT+ refugees – in pictures”**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/09/gayropa-challenges-and-hopes-of-europes-lgbt-refugees-in-pictures>

(Source: *The UoP Equality & Diversity Newsletter*, 12 Mar 2020)

“In his photojournalism series Gayropa, Bradley Secker profiles individuals from around the world who have made the difficult decision to migrate to Europe and claim asylum because of their sexuality”

“‘Gayropa’ is a disparaging name often used by Russian conservatives and officials to refer to Europe, signifying both a lack of acceptance towards LGBTQ+ people, and a perceived separation between east and west in terms of attitudes towards LGBTQ+ rights.”

#### **“Solidarity with refugees can’t survive on compassion in crisis-stricken societies of Greece and Italy”**

[https://theconversation.com/solidarity-with-refugees-cant-survive-on-compassion-in-crisis-stricken-societies-of-greece-and-italy-133278?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2019%202020%20-%201567514997&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2019%202020%20-%201567514997+CID\\_353f97a9b6b9dbfb563dc86d296c77f1&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Solidarity%20with%20refugees%20cant%20survive%20on%20compassion%20in%20crisis-stricken%20societies%20of%20Greece%20and%20Italy](https://theconversation.com/solidarity-with-refugees-cant-survive-on-compassion-in-crisis-stricken-societies-of-greece-and-italy-133278?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2019%202020%20-%201567514997&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2019%202020%20-%201567514997+CID_353f97a9b6b9dbfb563dc86d296c77f1&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Solidarity%20with%20refugees%20cant%20survive%20on%20compassion%20in%20crisis-stricken%20societies%20of%20Greece%20and%20Italy)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 19 Mar 2020)

Grim article, looking at why responses to the arrival of refugees have changed:

“Yet less than five years ago, local communities across Greece and Italy joined forces with international networks of volunteers to address the most urgent needs of those arriving on European soil [...]

But there is little compassion left in Greece or Italy nowadays. This is to do with two linked developments: the decline of these countries’ welfare states after the financial crisis, and the EU’s de facto abandonment of its commitment to human rights for refugee populations.”