



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 298, 11 May 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

“Talking about coronavirus and poverty: a guide to framing your messages”

https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/talking-about-coronavirus-and-poverty-guide-framing-your-messages?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%204%20May%202020&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%204%20May%202020+CID_4942b4dee65f31fdda267746662fdf13&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=View%20the%20toolkit

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 7 May 2020)

Important post from JRF:

“How we talk about poverty matters. And amidst the stress, uncertainty and pressure of the coronavirus pandemic, our words are more important than ever. This guide is here to help you frame your messages on coronavirus and poverty - to help your words inspire action and drive change.”

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

Funding & Opportunities

“Women’s History Network Community History Prize”

<https://womenshistorynetwork.org/whn-community-history-prize-sponsored-by-the-history-press/>

(Source: email from Elspeth King, Chair, Community History Prize, 6 May 2020)

Entry for the Prize is now live:

“We encourage submissions from projects that include a strong element of community engagement or collaboration and which communicate a sense of heritage uncovered and learning shared by participants from outside the academic or professional heritage sector.

Projects can have creative or wellbeing outcomes, as well as research outputs, but the entrants’ activity must have led to the creation of something which is based on and communicates the findings of the group’s historical research, such as a drama production, artwork,

website, documentary, pamphlet, heritage trail, book, exhibition, artefact or event.”

Closing date: **31 May 2020**.

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

“Dame Louise Casey to spearhead government taskforce on rough sleeping during pandemic” [press release]

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dame-louise-casey-to-spearhead-government-taskforce-on-rough-sleeping-during-pandemic?utm_source=f280dfdb-b753-464f-8083-a2eb6005d79f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

“A specialist taskforce has been created to lead the next phase of the government’s support for rough sleepers during the pandemic.

Spearheaded by Dame Louise Casey, the taskforce will work hand-in-hand with councils across the country on plans to ensure rough sleepers can move into long-term, safe accommodation once the immediate crisis is over – ensuring as few people as possible return to life on the streets.

The taskforce will also ensure the thousands of rough sleepers now in accommodation continue to receive the physical and mental health support they need over the coming weeks while they continue to self-isolate from the virus.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“COVID-19 doesn’t discriminate but society does”

https://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/blog/covid-19-doesn%E2%80%99t-discriminate-society-does-guest-blog?mc_cid=60e45c463a&mc_eid=17c19d737e

(Source: Just Fair *Newsletter*, Apr 2020)

Guest blogpost by Just Fair:

“Whilst COVID-19 itself does not discriminate, discrimination based on gender, race, disability, age (and other protected characteristics) and/or socio-economic status is leading to people being disproportionately impacted by the virus.”

Ending child poverty: twenty years on

<https://www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2020/03/26024-1.pdf>

(Source: Just Fair *Newsletter*, Apr 2020)

Important assessment of where we’ve got to – which includes:

“[...] the depressing conclusion that 21 years after Tony Blair said we can end child poverty in two decades, we are in fact back to where we started. Child poverty fell by a million between 1998/99 and 2010, and has risen by about a million by 2019/20.” [p19]

“Food banks report record spike in need as the coronavirus pandemic unfolds”

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/food-banks-report-record-spike/>

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 1 May 2020)

The Trussell Trust reports:

“Food banks in the Trussell Trust network reported their busiest ever period in the last two weeks of March. They experienced an 81% increase in need for emergency food parcels, including 122% more parcels going to children compared to the same period last year – that’s over 6,250 food parcels provided to people in crisis every day, with close to 3,000 parcels provided for children each day during the fortnight.”

Further info in their press release – see:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/2020/05/01/coalition-call/>.

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

Health on the shelf: health and wellbeing in public libraries in Scotland

<https://scottishlibraries.org/media/3000/slic-health-on-the-shelf.pdf>

(Source: email from Pamela Tulloch, CEO SLIC, 8 Apr 2020)

Important new research:

“This research report investigates the health and wellbeing offer from public libraries in Scotland and uncovers the large scale of services and activities that are available.” [p2]

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

“Considerations When Working With Vulnerable Groups In Heritage”

<https://www.breakinggroundheritage.org.uk/onewebmedia/Considerations%20when%20working%20with%20vulnerable%20groups%20in%20heritage%20v.1.pdf>

(Source: *Heritage Update*, 417, 30 Apr 2020)

“This resource has been produced by BGH in order to freely pass on the knowledge that we have obtained working with vulnerable members of society on heritage based projects. This is by no means a complete guide on how to deliver a successful project, instead it is a supplementary document to aid with the planning of your own project.

BGH is Breaking Ground Heritage: “Breaking Ground Heritage was developed to work alongside Operation Nightingale to deliver positive outcomes for projects that utilise heritage and archaeology as a recovery pathway.” [taken from: <https://www.breakinggroundheritage.org.uk/index.html>]

Operation Nightingale is controlled by the Ministry of Defence and is “An initiative to assist the recovery of wounded, injured and sick military personnel

and veterans by getting them involved in archaeological investigations.” [taken from: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/operation-nightingale>]

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

“Major increase in mental health problems among NEET young people”

<https://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/article/major-increase-in-mental-health-problems-among-neet-young-people>

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Update*, 5 Mar 2020)

Issues within the new Government figures have been highlighted by Children & Young People Now:

“Department for Education statistics show that a rise in the prevalence of mental health issues among disadvantaged young people comes despite the Neet rate dropping since 2012.

The figures show that the proportion of 16- to 24-year-olds classified as Neet who have a mental health problem has grown from 11.7 per cent in 2012 to 23.9 per cent in 2018.

This includes those who suffer with depression, anxiety, a phobia and panic attacks [...]

The rise in the prevalence of mental health conditions coincides with a fall in the overall rate of 16- to 24-year-olds who are classified as Neet, from 16.1 per cent to 12.2 per cent.”

This refers to *NEET statistics annual brief: 2019, England*,

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869804/NEET_statistics_annual_brief_2019_statistical_commentary.pdf.

“Government launches plan to tackle loneliness during coronavirus lockdown” [news story]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-plan-to-tackle-loneliness-during-coronavirus-lockdown>

(Source: *Heritage Update*, 417, 30 Apr 2020)

“The Government has launched a major effort to tackle loneliness and social isolation during the coronavirus outbreak and period of social distancing.”

It includes:

- New public campaign launched by Culture Secretary to get people talking openly about loneliness
- Oliver Dowden announces loneliness to be a priority category of £750 million charity funding package
- Guaranteed £5 million boost for national loneliness organisations leading the charge

- Government publishes guidance on supporting yourself and others safely
- Loneliness charities including Age UK will be supported to work with NHS Volunteer Responders in their communities
- Network of high-profile charities, businesses and public figures to join 'Tackling Loneliness Network' formed by Government to help connect groups at risk of isolation"

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

“Staying connected during COVID-19”

<https://www.bipolaruk.org/blog/staying-connected-during-covid-19>

(Source: email from Fiona O'Brien, 30 Apr 2020)

Really useful list of apps that people may find helpful for their emotional needs and mental health, put together by Bipolar UK.

“Our Frontline”

<https://www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/ourfrontline/>

(Source: New Philanthropy Capital *Weekly Update*, 5 May 2020)

Latest resource from Mental Health at Work:

“Mental Health at Work is your gateway to documents, guides, tips, videos, courses, podcasts, templates and information from organisations across the UK, all aimed at helping you get to grips with workplace mental health.” [taken from: <https://www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/>]

Targeted at workers in health, emergency services, and social care, and key workers, “Our Frontline”:

“[...] offers round-the-clock one-to-one support, by call or text, from trained volunteers, plus resources, tips and ideas to look after your mental health.”

Disability issues – Other Agencies

“Supporting the arts during the lockdown”

<http://www.stagetext.org/news/476-supporting-the-arts-during-the-lockdown>

(Source: email from Oliver Webster to gem@jiscmail.ac.uk, 3 Apr 2020)

Update from Stagetext:

“If you're uploading shows to YouTube, creating videos for social media, or looking to reach larger audiences online, it is important to keep your work accessible.

There are 11 million people in the UK who rely on subtitles and captions and we need to ensure that no one is made to feel more isolated than they need to be.

Stagetext are here to help make your work accessible, as well as giving you the opportunity to reach and engage with larger audiences.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Valuing life differently: migrants and the coronavirus crisis”

<https://www.socialeurope.eu/valuing-life-differently-migrants-and-the-coronavirus-crisis>

(Source: email from Social Europe, 1 May 2020)

Shocking article about the treatment of migrant workers in parts of Europe:

“Contrary to the meticulous care that is afforded to their nationals when transporting them home, these same states have facilitated the transport of hundreds of thousands of migrant workers in less than safe conditions. Polish and Romanian workers have gathered in their thousands in front of airport terminals, checked only superficially for fever symptoms—symptoms which only appear in some who are affected by Covid-19 and only in the later stages of infection.”

... and this article reports powerfully on the plight of people seeking sanctuary:

“What coronavirus looks like at the Bosnian-Croatian frontier for Europe’s unwanted migrants”, https://theconversation.com/what-coronavirus-looks-like-at-the-bosnian-croatian-frontier-for-europes-unwanted-migrants-137226?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20May%201%202020%20-%201609415427&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20May%201%202020%20-%201609415427+CID_bed34efd3af0b31ef019f14cbab4b5c9&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=What%20coronavirus%20looks%20like%20at%20the%20Bosnian-Croatian%20frontier%20for%20Europes%20unwanted%20migrants.

“Rise in people sleeping rough at Heathrow as councils fail to provide accommodation”

https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/apr/21/rise-in-people-sleeping-rough-at-heathrow-as-councils-fail-to-provide-accommodation?mc_cid=fd5be3b6a6&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3

(Source: Migrants’ Rights Network *Newsletter*, 1 May 2020)

Just in case you didn’t see this *Guardian* article:

“Dozens of homeless people are sleeping at Heathrow airport after being denied emergency accommodation by councils despite promises from the government that all would be taken off the streets during the coronavirus pandemic, it has emerged.”

MRN have also updated their blog – see: “Local Authorities, homeless migrants and families & Covid-19”, https://migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2020/04/30/local-authorities-homeless-migrants-and-families-covid-19/?mc_cid=fd5be3b6a6&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3.

“Undocumented migrants dying of coronavirus because they’re too afraid to seek help’ MPs say”

https://www.voice-online.co.uk/news/coronavirus/2020/04/18/undocumented-migrants-dying-of-coronavirus-because-theyre-too-afraid-to-seek-help-mps-say/?mc_cid=fd5be3b6a6&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3

(Source: Migrants’ Rights Network *Newsletter*, 1 May 2020)

Important article from *The Voice*:

“Cross-party group of 60 MPs sign letter urging an end to ‘hostile environment’ policies they say are undermining the government’s efforts to curb the pandemic”

Adverse childhood experiences in child refugee and asylum seeking populations

English version:

https://issuu.com/acesuppothub/docs/aces_in_child_refugee_and_asylum_seekers_report_welsh

Welsh version:

https://issuu.com/acesuppothub/docs/aces_in_child_refugee_and_asylum_seekers_report_welsh

NB The report is available in its Issuu format online only

(Source: *Clinks Light Lunch*, 632, 1 May 2020)

Important report looking at some of the impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences on young people seeking sanctuary.

Migrant Information Hub

https://migrantinfohub.org.uk/?mc_cid=2b7ca7a9ff&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3

(Source: Migrants’ Rights Network *Newsletter*, Mar 2020)

Created by Migration Yorkshire, this resource pulls together Covid-19 information for migrants and services in Yorkshire and Humber.

Hardly hard to reach: the case for refugee-led mental health services – summary and recommendations

<https://www.rota.org.uk/sites/default/files/events/ALHM%20Hardly%20Hard%20to%20Reach%20Report%20-%20MH%2026062019%20Final.pdf>

(Source: email from the Runnymede Trust, 5 Mar 2020)

Important report, focusing on the needs of Eritrean, Nepalese, Somali and Tamil communities.

The recommendations include:

- Using an intersectional approach: “This includes being aware of the multiple forms of marginalisation faced by community members by creating awareness and consideration of how gender, class, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, refugee or asylum-seeker status and levels of English language proficiency intersect and inform peoples experiences.” [p15]
- Using a holistic, social model
- Working in a linguistically-inclusive way

- Being culturally sensitive and community specific, rather than using a one-size-fits-all approach
- Involving community members and the organisations supporting them at every level
- Working to end racist policies and practices.

LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies

“Home learning packs from Stonewall”

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/home-learning-packs-stonewall?utm_source=Supporter+Main+list&utm_campaign=e9e93c958b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_24_11_36&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b d2212949c-e9e93c958b-212192737&mc_cid=e9e93c958b&mc_eid=bf9d438cb

(Source: Stonewall *Newsletter*, 1 Apr 2020)

Stonewall have launched a set of home-learning packs, covering Frida Kahlo, Different Families, Maths Problems, English Activities, Creativity, and LGBT History.

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

“A new future for public libraries”

<https://medium.com/@nick.poole/a-new-future-for-public-libraries-ecad45a78918>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 3 May 2020)

Call from Nick Poole (CEO, CILIP) for an urgent new plan for public libraries’ future, post-COVID-19, with a focus on the “[...] renewed sense of connection to basic human values – community, kindness, care, personal connection, time spent simply enjoying being with other people”, blending physical and digital provision, with information at the core.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

“How to combat Zoom fatigue”

<https://hbr.org/2020/04/how-to-combat-zoom-fatigue>

(Source: email from Jo Ward, 7 May 2020)

“If you’re finding that you’re more exhausted at the end of your workday than you used to be, you’re not alone.”

Interesting, brief article that looks at how tiring video-conferencing is, and makes some suggestions for alternatives.