



## The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 323, 9 March 2021

### Events

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

### Black Lives Matter

**“The history of Black British gardeners is one of resistance”**

<https://gal-dem.com/the-history-of-black-british-gardeners-is-one-of-resistance/>

(Source: *Black & Asian Heritage Mix Newsletter*, Mar 2021)

Really interesting post covering an area of Black history that is rarely recorded:

“From the transatlantic slave trade to Kew Gardens and the Chelsea Flower Show, the long history of Black horticulturists can’t be forgotten.”

**“Decolonising through critical librarianship: a platform for Cambridge librarians approaching decolonisation”**

<https://decolonisingthroughcriticallibrarianship.wordpress.com/>

(Source: email from Jenni Skinner, Library Manager, African Studies Library to “Sharing good practice in decolonising library collections and services”, [LIS-DECOLONISE@JISCMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:LIS-DECOLONISE@JISCMAIL.AC.UK))

The Decolonising Through Critical Librarianship group at the University of Cambridge have updated their platform – they have drawn together resources on “Black Lives Matter” at:

<https://decolonisingthroughcriticallibrarianship.wordpress.com/2021/02/07/black-lives-matter/#more-937>.

### Funding & Opportunities

**Community Archive Heritage Awards 2021**

<https://www.communityarchives.org.uk/content/category/awards/community-archive-heritage-awards-2021>

(Source: *ARA Today*, Mar 2021)

Submissions for the 2021 Awards are now open. The closing date is **30 April 2021**.

The Award categories are:

1. “Community Engagement
2. Gathering and Preserving Heritage
3. Contribution to Wellbeing
4. Networks of Archives

There is also an award for Best Community Archive and Heritage Group of 2021. All entrants are automatically considered for this award.” [Taken from:

<https://www.communityarchives.org.uk/content/awards/community-archive-heritage-awards-2021/awards-categories-2>]

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

**“Libraries are a safety net, what happens when they are pulled away?”**

<https://www.bigissue.com/culture/books/libraries-are-a-safety-net-what-happens-when-they-are-pulled-away/?fbclid=IwAR166fsMYDdB47pEIH0WFaxBByr4Nyg4GYDJxYW0zQ8WZNpSTFSCX3OWpJk>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 9 Mar 2021)

Positive piece about the importance of libraries (written by a library worker):

“Covid doesn’t just claim lives. It claims livelihoods. It has devastated communities and widened the gap between the rich and poor. With the Government and local authorities stretched beyond breaking point, more people than ever will need the services of their local library.”

**“Libraries are lifelines”**

<https://www.thebookseller.com/blogs/libraries-are-lifelines-1238275#>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 7 Mar 2021)

Similar set of arguments from writer Miriam Balanescu; she argues that:

“Countless young people right now will be struggling in difficult situations without wanting to call for help.

If children can’t go to libraries, maybe the way forward is to bring libraries to children: some have already been setting up under tents, while in the US, staff have turned to mobile libraries, including book bikes and an ‘Icicle Tricycle’. Yet these schemes have their limits (bad weather especially). I would like to see libraries trialling booking systems for children from low-income backgrounds. If libraries can be made safe for small numbers, they could make a huge difference to young people.”

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

**“Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), UK: March 2021”**

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peoplenotinwork/unemployment/bulletins/youngpeoplenotineducationemploymentortrainingneet/march2021>

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Update*, 8 Mar 2021)

- “There were an estimated 797,000 young people in the UK who were NEET in October to December 2020; this increased by 39,000 compared with July to September 2020 and was up by 34,000 compared with October to December 2019.
- The quarterly increase of 39,000 was the largest since July to September 2011 and was almost entirely driven by economically inactive men.”

As the article in *Children & Young People Now* says:

“The number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) has risen by the highest quarterly figure in a decade [...]”

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

#### **“Diversity and inclusivity”**

[https://www.independentpublishersguild.com/IPG/Latest/Diversity\\_and\\_inclusivity/IPG/Latest/Diversity\\_and\\_inclusivity/Diversity-and-inclusivity.aspx](https://www.independentpublishersguild.com/IPG/Latest/Diversity_and_inclusivity/IPG/Latest/Diversity_and_inclusivity/Diversity-and-inclusivity.aspx)

(Source: email from the Independent Publishers Guild, 5 Mar 2021)

The IPG have produced a brief guide to the resources that they currently have, but are also encouraging people to contact them with suggestions.

#### **“Fissures that tear us apart and pressures that weigh us all down”**

<https://www.socialeurope.eu/fissures-that-tear-us-apart-and-pressures-that-weigh-us-all-down>

(Source: email from Social Europe, 8 Mar 2021)

Important article by Kate Pickett, which argues that:

“Instead of trying to prioritise different kinds of inequalities to be addressed, trying to understand the connections between them might help us tackle them.”

#### **“Nearly two million over-75s in England are still digitally excluded in a COVID-19 world”**

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/latest-press/articles/2021/nearly-two-million-over-75s-in-england-are-still-digitally-excluded--in-a-covid-19-world/>

(Source: *Later Life AGEnda*, 8 Mar 2021)

New report from Age UK:

“New analysis from Age UK shows that the pandemic has not in fact produced a sea-change in older people’s use of digital technology [...]”

The briefing paper, *Digital inclusion and older people – how have things changed in a Covid-19 world?*, is available at:

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/reports-and-briefings/active-communities/digital-inclusion-in-the-pandemic-final-march-2021.pdf>.

### **Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people**

#### **“Dr Seuss: Six books withdrawn over 'hurtful and wrong' imagery”**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-56250658>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 7 Mar 2021)

BBC News coverage of this story which has stirred up issues about ‘cancel culture’:

“Six Dr Seuss books will no longer be published because of racially insensitive imagery, the company that preserves the author's legacy has said.”

## Disability issues – Other Agencies

### “Preparing for your Coronavirus vaccination when you have hearing loss”

[https://www.hearinglink.org/news/202102/preparing-for-your-coronavirus-vaccination-when-you-have-hearing-loss/?source=ENEWS&\\_cldee=am9obkBuYWRkZXlub3JnLnVr&recipientid=contact-4d9de5f4953fe71181015065f38bd502-23b6cce0836846af949885a5d579c412&esid=6fc2c28f-5e77-eb11-a812-000d3ab20204](https://www.hearinglink.org/news/202102/preparing-for-your-coronavirus-vaccination-when-you-have-hearing-loss/?source=ENEWS&_cldee=am9obkBuYWRkZXlub3JnLnVr&recipientid=contact-4d9de5f4953fe71181015065f38bd502-23b6cce0836846af949885a5d579c412&esid=6fc2c28f-5e77-eb11-a812-000d3ab20204)

(Source: Hearing Dogs for Deaf People *Newsletter*, Mar 2021)

Very useful tips:

“Staff on site – vaccinators and usually a team of volunteer support staff – will be wearing PPE and face masks as a safety precaution. This may make it more difficult if you rely on lipreading to hear and understand what is being said about the process.

To help you, we have prepared some useful tips and created a printable resource to reassure you and help your vaccination appointment go a little more smoothly.”

## LGBTQ+ issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

### “Unorthodox and Out Loud”

[https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/history-and-heritage/london-metropolitan-archives/about-lma/unorthodox-and-out-loud?utm\\_source=mailchimp&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=newsletter&utm\\_term=2021-01&ct=t\(LMA-Newsletter-44\)&mc\\_cid=1e741c5882&mc\\_eid=064cf5f405](https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/history-and-heritage/london-metropolitan-archives/about-lma/unorthodox-and-out-loud?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter&utm_term=2021-01&ct=t(LMA-Newsletter-44)&mc_cid=1e741c5882&mc_eid=064cf5f405)

(Source: *London Metropolitan Archives Newsletter*, 44, Feb 2021)

If you weren't able to get to the London Metropolitan Archives LGBTQ+ Conference last Dec, here's a brief write-up – and also an introduction to “Out Loud”:

“[...] the conference also saw the relaunch of the LMA's LGBTQ+ programming under the new umbrella Out Loud: London Metropolitan LGBTQ+ Archives. Working with depositors, volunteers, project partners and researchers, its vision is to be a living centre for principles, practice, promotion and performance that connects archives to the LGBTQ+ communities they serve.”

## LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies

### “Why LGBTQIA+ representation matters in the Early Years – and how you can get started”

<https://family.co/blog/management/lgbtqia-representation-early-years/>

(Source: email from Anne Harding, 26 Feb 2021)

Important and interesting new article (to celebrate LGBTQIA+ Early Years Awareness Week):

“The importance of representation within the Early Years is a subject of continual discussion.

What do we hope to add to that discussion? Well, we felt like we had heard from so many other professionals about the different ways that we should promote diversity and support children and families within the sector.

Yet, there wasn't a lot of accessible information to help us explore why we do things the way we do when it comes to discussing LGBTQIA+ in the Early Years.

Some settings had even told us that they didn't focus on this enough 'in case the parents find out'. In fact, it's something we hear a lot. We thought it was time to ask why, and what we can do about it.”

### **LGBTQIA+ Early Years Magazine**

<https://lgbtqearlyyears.org/product/lgbtqia-early-years-magazine-downloadable-copy/>

(Source: email from Anne Harding, 3 Mar 2021)

Important new resource – the magazine is free, you just need to register to be able to download it.

The website also has a lot of useful resources and blogposts and articles.

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

#### **“Welcoming families to your venue”**

<https://kidsinmuseums.org.uk/resources/welcoming-families-to-your-venue/>

(Source: *Museums North East News & Updates*, 17 Feb 2021)

New from Kids in Museums:

“Our top tips on supporting your staff and volunteers to give a friendly welcome to family visitors.”

#### **“Three ways museums are making classic literature more attractive to young readers”**

[https://theconversation.com/three-ways-museums-are-making-classic-literature-more-attractive-to-young-readers-155612?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%205%202021%20-%201880718351&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%205%202021%20-%201880718351+CID\\_42d9991d99c1a06ea0e054e9b1d1ce52&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Three%20ways%20museums%20are%20making%20classic%20literature%20more%20attractive%20to%20young%20readers](https://theconversation.com/three-ways-museums-are-making-classic-literature-more-attractive-to-young-readers-155612?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%205%202021%20-%201880718351&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%205%202021%20-%201880718351+CID_42d9991d99c1a06ea0e054e9b1d1ce52&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Three%20ways%20museums%20are%20making%20classic%20literature%20more%20attractive%20to%20young%20readers)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 5 Mar 2021)

Interesting practical article:

“Since COVID-19, finding new ways to share our literary heritage both inside and outside of museum walls has become incredibly important. So how should museums show that these authors remain relevant in the 21st century? Literary heritage museums are doing this in a whole host of ways, but here are the three examples of approaches I believe are particularly successful.”

### **Broader issues – Other Agencies**

#### **“The Librarian War Against QAnon”**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2021/02/how-librarians-can-fight-qanon/618047/>

(Source: *CILIP Fortnightly News*, 2 Mar 2021)

Important article that argues that “classic” information literacy is no longer enough:

“We are experiencing a moment that is exposing a schism between two groups: those who have faith that there is a way to arrive at truth using epistemological practices that originated during the Enlightenment, and those who believe that events and experiences are portents to be interpreted in ways that align with their personal values.”

In addition, HOPE not Hate have just published a very useful guide:

*QAnon in the UK: the growth of a movement*

<https://www.hopenothate.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/qanon-report-2020-10-FINAL.pdf>