

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 173, 11 February 2015

Events

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

Enquiries

Working with new arrivals

As many of you will know, this Ebulletin developed out of the work of “Welcome To Your Library”, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation-funded piece of work which looked at good practice in linking public libraries with new arrivals (refugees, asylum-seekers, migrant workers, etc) – if you’d like to find out more about this project, the Evaluation Report is available at:

<http://www.seapn.org.uk/uploads/files/WTYLEvaluationReportrevisedversion.pdf>

At the time (up to 2007), there was growing interest in working with these communities, and libraries (and museums and archives) made real progress in their provision.

Sadly, however, a combination of budget pressures and changing Government priorities has meant that a lot of this work has disappeared. I am very interested in mapping what provision there currently is in the cultural sector, so, if you are working with new arrivals, please could you let me have an outline of the kinds of work you are doing, and I will pull this together and circulate the results. Many thanks in advance!

New Supplier

Delta Maria Publishing House

<http://www.deltamariapublishinghouse.com/>

(Source: email from Delta Maria)

“Delta Maria Publishing House helps teachers to deliver Black History Month workshops that are colourful and rich in educational content. Our resources are targeted at pupils right from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4. Two Key Stage 4 resources are worthy of special mention:

The Triumph of the Water Lily tries to prepare teenagers on the threshold of adulthood for the overwhelming odds and challenges, that sometimes beset adult life and relationships (regardless of social status).

Silhouettes of a Treasured Heritage is a pathfinder guide for young mixed-race people, embarking on a journey of self-discovery outside the context of their white heritage or roots.”

Funding & Opportunities

Two children’s books for review

<http://www.thesongintheair.co.uk/>

I've been contacted by Tsehay Alemayehu (whom some of you will remember from her contributions to "Welcome To Your Library") to say that she has two new children's books being published:

- *The Song In The Air For Bees*
- *The Boy Who Needed To Know Why*

Both are children's books suitable for age group 4-9 years old.

There is a copy of the flyer (plus a discount offer for Ebulletin subscribers) at the end of this Ebulletin.

Tsehay has also asked if anyone would like to review these – if you're interested, please could you let me know, and I'll allocate them on a first-come, first-served basis.

Travelling Librarian Award

http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/membership/membership-benefits/careers-advice-and-support/grants-and-bursaries/travelling?utm_source=Communicator_membership_list&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Untitled27&utm_campaign=Weekly+News+from+CILIP+%2c+5+Feb+2015

(Source: *Weekly News from CILIP*, 5 Feb 2015)

"The Travelling Librarian Award is an opportunity for a CILIP member to build professional relationships between library and information professionals in the UK and their counterparts on a study tour in the United States or a Commonwealth country."

Further details at above weblink. The closing date for 2015 applications is **Monday 27 April 2015**.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

An unfair sentence – all babies count: spotlight on the Criminal Justice System

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/research-reports/all-babies-count-unfair-sentence.pdf>

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Daily*, 2 Feb 2015)

A new report by the NSPCC and Barnardo's says that, because of their circumstances, babies of people serving either a custodial or non-custodial sentence should be treated as a specific group so that their needs are prioritised in healthcare, early years services, and children's services planning.

The homelessness monitor: England 2015

http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/Homelessness_Monitor_England_2015_final_web.pdf

(Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation *Monthly Newsletter*, Feb 2015)

"The Homelessness Monitor series is a five-year study that provides an independent analysis of the homelessness impacts of recent economic and policy developments in England and elsewhere in the UK ... This fourth annual report updates our account of how homelessness stands in England in 2015, or as close to 2015 as data availability allows. The

research was commissioned in response to concerns about the impact of the recession and the Coalition Government's welfare and housing reform agenda on homelessness in the UK." [p vii]

Facing the facts: the truth about ageing and development

<http://www.ageinternational.org.uk/olderworld>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace)

New from Age International, this publication brings together 25 high profile thought-leaders, development experts and academics to discuss the impact of an ageing world on international development.

There is a very short summary at the above weblink. The full report is available at:

<http://www.ageinternational.org.uk/Documents/Age%20International%20Facing%20the%20facts%20report.pdf> [NB it's nearly 10 Mb!], and there is also a

summary at:

http://www.ageinternational.org.uk/Documents/Exec%20Summary_Facing%20the%20Facts_Age%20International.pdf [NB again, this is 12.75 Mb]

“Universal Skills” – Video ‘Teaser’

Please see Appendix 1.

Disability issues – Other Agencies

Evidence-based review: people of working age

<http://www.rnib.org.uk/sites/default/files/Evidence%20based%20review%20working%20age%2019-1-15.pdf>

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 178, 6 Feb 2015)

“[This] review provides a profile of the UK working age population who are blind and partially sighted; those who acquired sight loss in 2013/14; their household income; their employment situation; employment services for them; policy reviews affecting their lives; the role and impact of the Equality Act 2010, Work Programme, Work Choice, Access to Work and the Work Capability Assessment; the devolved situation in Northern Ireland; addressing barriers to the labour market; ways of increasing the numbers of blind and partially sighted people in employment and what the evidence tells us.”

Migration issues – News

“New Europeans launches Community Voices programme”

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/news/2015/new-europeans-launches-community-voices-programme?utm_source=Migrants+Rights+News&utm_campaign=378fe16125-MRN_News_08-09-2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1084a7080c-378fe16125-197822741

(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Migration News*, 9 Feb 2015)

“New Europeans, the network of EU nationals living in the UK, has announced a programme of work that will spend the next six months looking at the impact of migration on local communities in six cities across the UK with high levels of migration (Edinburgh, Lincoln, Birmingham, Belfast, Cardiff and London).”

Further info about New Europeans at: <http://neweuropeans.net/>.

Translation Costs

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm150202/debte xt/150202-0001.htm#1502022000013>

(Source: MEMO [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 426, 9 Feb 2015)

Just in case you missed the report of this exchange in the House of Commons:

“Dominic Raab: What steps he is taking to reduce translation costs in the delivery of local services. [907332]

Reply from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (Eric Pickles): My Department has issued crystal clear guidance to councils that they should cease translating into foreign languages. Translation is a waste of taxpayers’ money and encourages segregation and division. Promoting English is the best way to ensure integration.

Dominic Raab: ... Does he agree that the enormous translation costs for public services that grew up under the previous Government were not just a huge waste of taxpayers’ money, but sent a message that if someone moves here from abroad, they do not need to speak English or to integrate, and that has proved a major policy mistake?

Reply from Eric Pickles: Yes; the cost worked out at something like £140 million a year. It is not good enough to say, ‘Don’t translate’; we must make a real effort to ensure that people can speak English. That is why my Department has invested £6 million in six programmes to deliver courses for more than 24,000 adults with the lowest levels of English. Those people are the most isolated because they are unable to speak English. The courses have been targeted principally towards Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Somali women.

Chi Onwurah: I recently met the profoundly deaf communities in my constituency through DeafLink, and they highlighted how isolated they felt because of the lack of British sign language translation services available when accessing services. What will the Secretary of State do to support them?

Reply from Eric Pickles: The hon. Lady makes a reasonable point: sign languages in English should be available. I shall look into the matter very carefully and, because she has made a reasonable point, respond to her.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“From Home Office application forms to refugee policy, the ‘hostile environment’ now affects all migrants”

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2015/02/home-office-application-forms-refugee-policy-hostile-environment-now-affects-all-migran?utm_source=Migrants+Rights+News&utm_campaign=378fe16125-

[MRN News 08-09-2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1084a7080c-378fe16125-197822741](http://MRN_News_08-09-2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1084a7080c-378fe16125-197822741)

(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Migration News*, 9 Feb 2015)

Rather gloomy blogpost by Don Flynn, Director of the Migrants' Rights Network:

“From the trivia of form filling to callous indifference to the plight of refugees, things are getting worse for newcomers in our country. Add to this the surveillance and monitoring of their personal affairs and we can see what the official ambition for a hostile environment all adds up to.”

Source: John Snowden, 220 Soft Ltd

Universal Skills

Video "teaser" and touch screen tutorials

"Universal Skills" is the online resource providing over 30 guided learning hours of content for people who need assistance with "digital literacy", help and advice for jobseekers and anyone who receives benefits -including those following the Universal Credit process. The latest rates of benefits, eligibility, process and Claimant's Commitment are all covered.

More importantly, the suite of software provides information that will assist your "digital champions" to help members of the public to achieve their own "personal resilience". For example, the step-by-step guides on IT Life Skills and the "Universal Jobmatch" processes are by far the most comprehensive online resources available with at least six hours of learning on "Universal Jobmatch" alone. There are also twenty five "self help" topics covering EmployAbility skills. The program now includes touch screen tutorials as well and there is full human English speech to help users with Literacy and ESOL requirements.

CV creation, interview advice, job skills, set up an email account as well as benefits replaced by Universal Credit and suggestions for monthly budgeting are just a few of the topics that are covered.

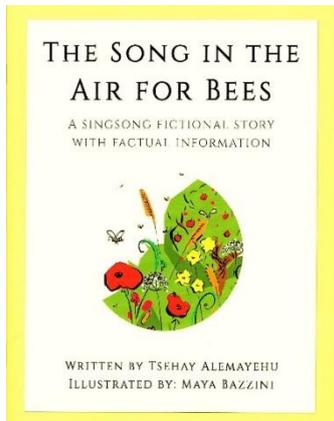
Each month we check every screenshot and information for "Universal Credit" and "Jobmatch" to make sure the program is up to date.

For the quick video "teaser" visit: www.220soft.co.uk/downloads.html

The Services that have already purchased the licence will also be passing the video onto their partners and Benefits Offices, and are: Barnet, Brent, Bury, Coventry, Croydon, Darlington, Derby Adult Learning, Ealing, Harrow, Hounslow, Lambeth, Lancashire, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newham, North Tyneside, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Solihull, South Tyneside, Tower Hamlets and Wirral.

For an Information pack and details of prices, please contact John Snowden:
01625 500551
info@220soft.co.uk.

New Release: Children's books on the theme of bees



A sing-song fictional story with factual information about pollination and pollinators, plus a list of organisations.

ISBN: 9780955434334

Price: £6.99

Tsehay Alemayehu's book *The Song in the Air for Bees* is a moving tribute to bees, detailing their necessity and our dependence on them for survival. In a tone that is at once musical, and enchanting, it beseeches bees to stay and continue to empower the world with their magic – that of spreading and multiplying their fruitful effects.

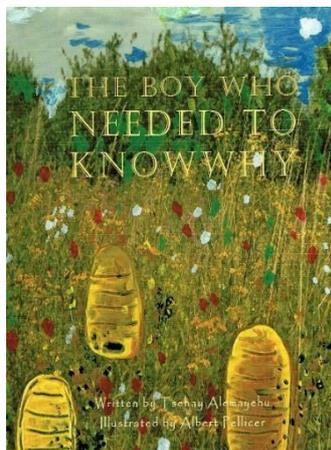
It at once informs, educates and awakens in us the instinct to preserve, love and respect this indispensable creature. This book is musical in mood, tone and style. Its language flows like a subtle song in the air, calling us to consciousness.

As a former schoolteacher and publisher of children's books, I highly recommend *The Song in the Air for Bees* for children of all ages and believe that the adults benefiting from it will also be moved to never again take one bee for granted.

--Maggie Pagratis, Author, Publisher, Mother

10% discount for Network eBulletin subscribers. Please use code Ntku12 at the checkout.

Get your copy at www.thesongintheair.co.uk



This story takes us into Milo's journey to find the answer to his burning question:

'Queen Bee! Queen Bee! I am here to ask you, why we take your honey? Is that okay by you?'

'Father, father, have you asked permission from the bees? Is it okay to take their honey?'

ISBN: 9780955434341

Price: £7.99

Milo was puzzled why humans take honey from bees. He asked his father, other people and his grandfather for an explanation to understand the reason behind it all. Milo's journey includes questions and answers based on the story. Also, a brief note on how bees make honey.

To order your copy or copies please visit our website:

www.thesongintheair.co.uk.

10% discount for Network eBulletin subscribers. Please use code Ntku12 at the checkout.