

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 175, 12 March 2015

Events

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

New Supplier

Delta Maria Publishing House (continued)

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

(Source: email from Delta Maria)

Further information about Stella Osammor's work is attached at Appendix 1.

Funding & Opportunities

“Building Better Communities”

<https://www.buildingbettercommunities.co.uk/>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace)

“To celebrate and support the communities we serve across the UK, Jewson is offering local projects the financial support needed to help transform a vision – no matter how innovative and ambitious – into reality”

Deadline for entries: **12 April 2015**.

“Spirit of 2012 – Spirit of Achievement Arts and Culture Challenge Fund”

<http://www.spiritof2012trust.org.uk/challenge-fund>

(Source: NCVO Funding Central *Newsletter*, 4 Mar 2015)

“Funding is available in the UK for the creation of opportunities to enable disabled people to participate in arts and cultural activities, individually and with their families.

Arts and cultural activity is taken in the broadest sense and includes visual art, craft, writing and literature, music, dance and performance arts.

Disabled people includes those people with barriers to participation including people with learning disabilities, those with mental health problems and those with long-term life limiting conditions.”

The 2015 deadline is **20 April 2015 (9am)**.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

“The Lancet: International study reveals widening health inequalities among adolescents”

http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-02/tl-tli020215.php

(Source: *Monthly News from The Equality Trust*, Feb 2015)

“Over the past decade, rising national wealth across high-income countries has contributed to some improvements in health and well-being among adolescents. But the gap in health between rich and poor has widened, an international study of nearly half a million adolescents from 34 countries ... across Europe and North America has found.

The findings, published in *The Lancet*, reveal that socioeconomic differences across multiple areas of adolescent mental and physical health increased between 2002 and 2010, with young people from the poorest socioeconomic groups more likely to be in worse health: being less physically active, with larger body mass index (BMI), and reporting more physical and psychological symptoms (such as irritability or headaches).”

Dying Matters

<http://www.dyingmatters.org/>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace)

“Dying Matters is a coalition of 30,000 members across England and Wales which aims to help people talk more openly about dying, death and bereavement, and to make plans for the end of life.”

They coordinate Dying Matters Awareness Week which, for 2015, is **18-24 May**. Their website includes a range of resources – see:

<http://www.dyingmatters.org/page/talk-plan-live-resources>.

Southend Libraries are working with a local hospice team to help promote the week, and staff from the hospice will be on a stall in the Forum, available to talk to those passing by and to give out leaflets.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Updated country information and guidance reports

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* 9-20 Feb 2015)

The Home Office has just published another 3 reports:

- Somalia, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/somalia-country-information-and-guidance>
- Pakistan, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pakistan-country-information-and-guidance>
- India, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/india-country-information-and-guidance>.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“The Birmingham Declaration”

<https://sanctuarysummit2014.wordpress.com/the-birmingham-declaration/>

“The Sanctuary Summit 2014 was an unprecedented gathering of refugees, migrants, advocates and supporters from more than 100 civil society organisations across Britain who voted unanimously to work to stop the tide of negativity facing those who come to our shores. 400 participants at the first ever national ‘Sanctuary Summit’ declared they could no longer watch in silence as thousands are left to drown while fleeing for their lives, and others find themselves warehoused in refugee camps, barred from travelling to safety in the West.” [Taken from:

<https://sanctuarysummit2014.wordpress.com/201-2/>]

The Birmingham Declaration was launched at the Sanctuary Summit 2014 – it's "a statement of principles and asks".

The Declaration asks the Government to do all they can to ensure that:

1. All asylum seekers, refugees and migrants should be treated with dignity and respect.
2. A fair and effective process to decide whether people need protection should be in place.
3. No one should be locked up indefinitely.
4. No one should be left sick or destitute in our society.
5. We should welcome the stranger and help them to integrate.

More info on each point at the above weblink. The network has signed up to the Declaration, and the Summit are hoping that as many organisations as possible do too.

Migrant education and community inclusion: examples of good practice

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/migrant-education-and-community-inclusion-examples-good-practice>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* 9-20 Feb 2015)

"This policy brief reviews current measures to promote the integration of migrant students around Europe, specifically those policies and government-backed projects that include the family and community as an integral part of the educational process. The brief focuses on seven examples of good practices that might serve as an inspiration for educational policies across the continent."

"Immigration in Britain laid bare in powerful portrait photos from the streets of Nottingham"

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2015/02/19/immigrants-britain-portrait-exhibition_n_6711414.html

(Source: MEMO [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 428, 23 Feb 2015)

Short article about a new photo exhibition which looks at the "complex issues of identity and assimilation for people coming to the UK from abroad."

"Asylum seeker volunteering legislation"

http://www.sheffieldvolunteercentre.org.uk/asylum-seeker-volunteering-legislation?_cldee=am9obkBuYWRkZXIub3JnLnVr&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Networks%3A%20Volunteering%20Bulletin&urlid=17

(Source: NCVO *Volunteering Bulletin*, Feb 2015)

Useful brief guide to the legal position of asylum-seekers carrying out volunteering activities.

Cities of Migration: *Conversations in Integration* – a monthly review of good ideas

http://citiesofmigration.ca/ezone_stories/living-together-in-difficult-times/

(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 56, Feb 2015)

The Feb 2015 issue of the Review is dedicated to "Living Together", and includes some interesting links and short case studies.

“Café Politique: Stories of seeking asylum”

<https://soundcloud.com/cafeculture-northeast/episode-41-cafe-politique-stories-of-seeking-asylum-fiona-cuthill>

(Source: *IPPR Newsletter*, 6 Mar 2015)

In this podcast:

“Dr Fiona Cuthill, Edinburgh University, considers the ways that people seeking asylum in the UK can either survive and thrive, or end up living in destitution. The UK has a proud history of supporting human rights but cracks remain ... and questions need to be asked.”

“Number of foreign-born by local area district”

<http://www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/number-foreign-born-local-area-district>

(Source: *MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview]*, 430, 9 Mar 2015)

These are the projections which have hit the headlines:

“The first three maps show the projected number of foreign-born residents across local areas of England in 2014 by country of birth. Three broad groupings are used for countries of birth (old EU, new EU, non-EU). These are followed by a series of projection tables. The final map shows the foreign-born share of the total usual resident population in each local area within England and Wales, based on the 2011 Census results.”

Improving education outcomes for pupils from the new Roma communities

<https://eal.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/document-files/Improving%20education%20outcomes%20for%20Roma%20pupils.pdf>

(Source: Institute of Equality & Diversity Practitioners *Newsletter*, 35, Mar 2015)

Important new research study:

“This project aims to identify background information required to understand the education needs of pupils from the new migrant Roma communities and bring together best practice and practical strategies to help meet these needs.” [p2]

Coram Children’s Legal Centre Migrant Children’s Project Newsletter

<http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=727f7cb511aa9ca211dde2fbc&id=8a4e53f695&e=3933e14268>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* 23 Feb-6 Mar 2015)

The Feb 2015 *Newsletter* includes links to two new factsheets:

- *Registration of children as British citizens*: “This fact sheet provides some basic information on which children are automatically British citizens and which children can apply for British citizenship. It relates to children born in the UK.” [p1]
http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com/userfiles/Registration_fact_sheet_Feb_2015.pdf

- *Further education for migrant young people*: “This fact sheet provides some basic information on how immigration status can impact on access to further education in England, covering both those aged 16 to 19 and those aged over 19.” [p1]
http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com/userfiles/Further_education_fact_sheet_Feb_2015.pdf.

“England’s Immigrants 1330-1550”

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

(Source: email from Valerie Richards, 6 Mar 2015)

“[This is] a fully-searchable database containing over 64,000 names of people known to have migrated to England during the period of the Hundred Years’ War and the Black Death, the Wars of the Roses and the Reformation.

The information within this database has been drawn from a variety of published and un-published records – taxation assessments, letters of denization and protection, and a variety of other licences and grants – and offers a valuable resource for anyone interested in the origins, destinations, occupations and identities of the people who chose to make England their home during this turbulent period.”

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

“Excavating our history: what does it mean to be a Social Justice Archivist?”

<http://www.kzoo.edu/praxis/social-justice-archivist/>

(Source: *Progressive Librarians Guild Digest*, 29 (1), 1 Mar 2015)

Interesting post on the role of the archivist:

“I confessed that I’d always viewed myself as a behind-the-scenes accomplice and solutionary, a change agent. I wasn’t bold enough, so to speak, to be on the front lines with picket signs. After a short debate, discussing and juxtaposing said actions of “the activist” and “the change agent”, we determined that, at the core, the roles are synonymous. Whether the actions are on the frontlines or behind-the-scenes, all are carried out by people who have accepted the charge to be committed to changing the current injustices in the social climate and therefore committed to social justice.”

“Culture-led regeneration in seaside towns”

<http://www.coastalcommunities.co.uk/regeneration-handbook/culture-led-regeneration-in-seaside-towns>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace)

Chapter of the *Coastal Regeneration Handbook* looking at the role of culture in regeneration. Includes brief case studies.

“Millions of pounds are being invested in coastal initiatives based on ‘arts’ or ‘culture-led’ regeneration schemes, designed to improve the visitor image and quality of life in some of the most deprived coastal areas of England. What contribution can such schemes make, what are

the barriers to successful commissioning and implementation, and what is being learned about the role of arts and culture in coastal regeneration?”

Broader issues – Other Agencies

Volunteer internships in the voluntary sector: review and guidance

<http://knowhownonprofit.org/people/volunteers-and-your-organisation/ncvoguidancevolunteerinternshipsvoluntarysector.pdf>

(Source: email from NCVO, 5 Mar 2015)

NCVO has just produced this good practice guidance on volunteer internships, which sets out a number of principles for organisations to follow.

Commissioning

http://www.clinks.org/support/commissioning?utm_source=Newsflash&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=newsflashcommissioning9mar15

(Source: email from Clinks, 9 Mar 2015)

“Clinks has produced a wide range of resources that can help inform and support your organisation when bidding for contracts. These include tools to assess your organisation's strengths and weaknesses, a directory for identifying bid partners, commissioning case studies and much more.”

Stella Osammor (Appendix 1)

Nigerian born writer Stella Osammor has been resident in Britain since 1983. *The Triumph of the Water Lily* was Stella's first fictional work for adults (and was on the final shortlist for the Nigerian Author's Award in 1996). *The Triumph of the Water Lily* is a literature text used by Nigerian Universities and Colleges of Education (and was an examination text for Nigeria's Joint Admission and Matriculation Board between 1999-2003). Interestingly, the first time *The Triumph of the Water Lily* was stocked by the Librarians in Morecambe and Lancaster Libraries, special stickers on the back page of the text required the book be returned on the due date; as there was a pressing demand for the text. The text tells a passionate tale of trial and tribulation and the Triumph of love and life even in the throes of death. The book encourages a social disposition that is moderate and tolerant and advocates that a nation's finest resource is its Human Resource.

Silhouettes of a Treasured Heritage is Stella's second fictional work for adults. The text was on the reading list of Princeton University's department for racial studies. *Silhouettes of a Treasured Heritage* (among other things) examines what it means to be a mixed-race person in Britain today. The work also examines the potential role mixed race people could play in healing our racially divided world.

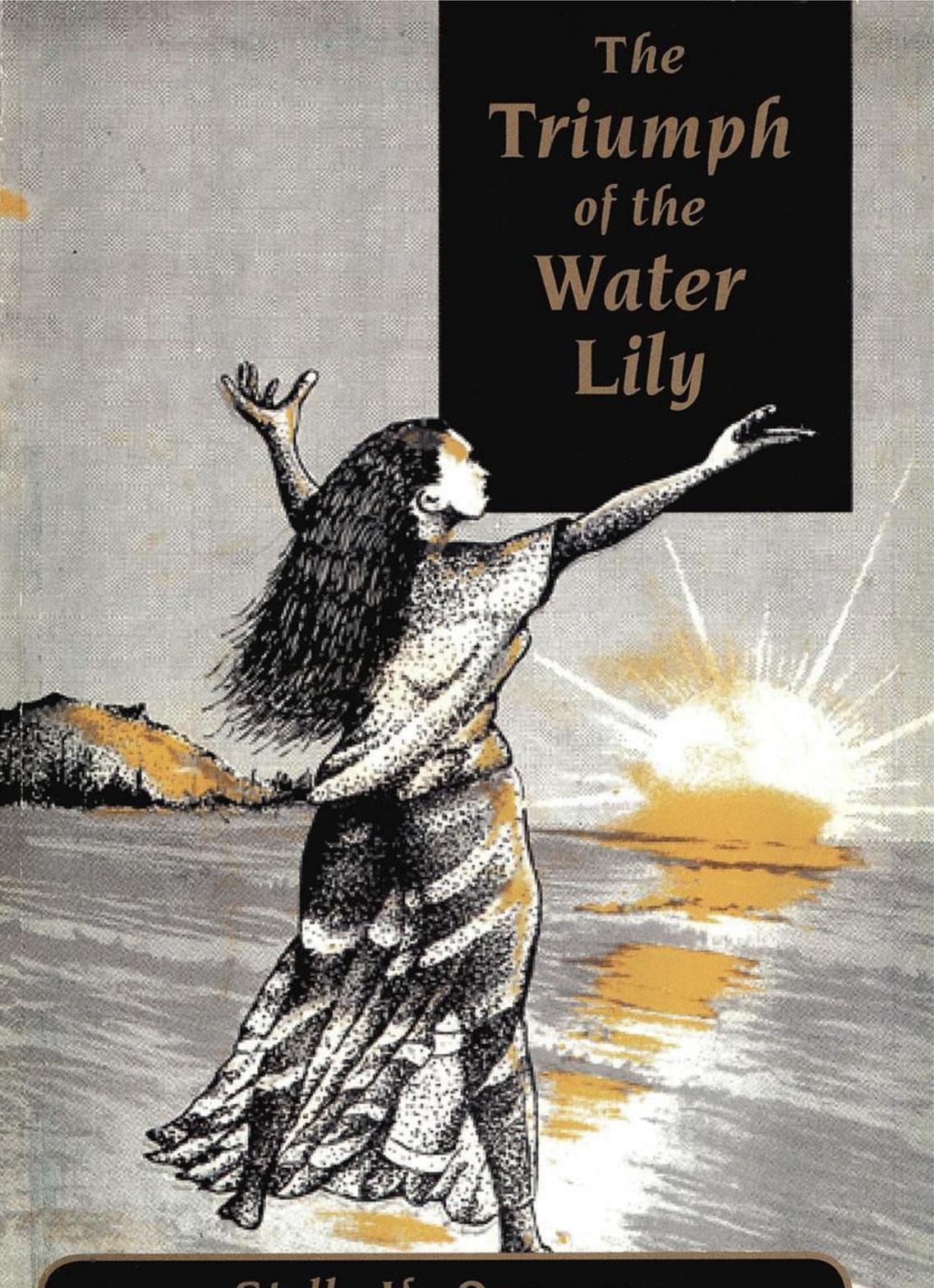
The QCA (Qualifications and Curriculum Authority) in 2005 recommended *Silhouettes of a Treasured Heritage* as a teaching text for Britain's Modern multicultural History.

The Think-tank body set up by the government in 2003 to look at Britain's present Citizenship profile wrote a report as its concluding strategy and titled it "Who do we think we are?" The project recommended that *Silhouettes of a Treasured Heritage* be used as a reading text for key stage 3 and 4 citizenship workshops in Secondary schools.

Stella has published four African fables for children: *Orisun of the Savannah Grassland*, *Seluwa of the Fulani People*, *The Cunning Tortoise*, *Tortoise and the Sardines*.

Stella has successfully worked in several private and mainstream schools in Manchester promoting the idea of advancing children's emotional intelligence and literary growth through literature that exposes them to diverse ecosystems and cultures.

For more information about Delta Maria books and resources, go to Amazon.com or www.deltamariapublishinghouse.com.



*The
Triumph
of the
Water
Lily*

Stella Ify Osammor

Forward by: Christopher Kolade, CON, Nigeria High Commissioner to the Court of St James's