

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 179, 1 May 2015

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

Big Lottery Fund “Awards for All” webinars

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/englandwebinars#>

(Source: j4bCommunity Funding *Newsletter* 22 Apr 2015, <http://www.j4bcommunity.co.uk/>)

“The Big Lottery Fund is encouraging voluntary and community groups that are considering applying for an Awards for All grant to attend one of the webinars held by funding officers from the Big Lottery Fund.

The Awards for All programme offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 to help pay for project costs for social and environmental projects that benefit local communities and make a difference in the lives of those most in need. The programme is open to applications from voluntary and community groups, charities, not-for-profit organisations, and statutory bodies, including schools and town councils in England. The webinar provides an introduction to this small grants programme, as well as guidance on eligibility, programme criteria, examples of how best to evidence need for the project and top tips on achieving successful outcomes.

Webinars run every week and last approximately 30 minutes to an hour. Questions can be asked throughout the presentation through a live chat panel.”

CILIP Public and Mobile Libraries Group Awards

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/public-and-mobile-libraries-group/awards>

(Source: CILIP Public and Mobile Libraries Group *Newsletter*, Apr 2015)

“Nominations are now open for the CILIP Public and Mobile Library Group’s annual awards, which recognise the outstanding contribution that staff make to their customers, the communities they serve and the wider public library profession.”

The awards are:

- **Public Library Champion of the Year:** Recognising the achievements of outstanding frontline public library staff that make a real difference to the people who use their library
- **Mobile Library Champion of the Year:** Recognising the achievements of outstanding mobile library assistants, drivers or librarians who make a real difference to the lives of the people who use their services
- **Public Librarian of the Year:** Recognising the achievements of outstanding library and information professionals working in a public library service that make a real difference to the communities they serve and the wider public library profession

“A winner and two runners up for each award will be selected and receive greater recognition and profile. The three winners will receive a personal, engraved trophy and sponsorship.”

The awards are open to all library authorities in the UK.

Closing date for nominations is **19 August 2015**.

ESRC and Plymouth University Festival of Social Science, 7-14 Nov 2015
<http://www1.plymouth.ac.uk/research/support/impact/Opportunities/Pages/ESRC-Festival-Social-Science.aspx>

(Source: Devon FEN [Forest Education Network] *Weekly Update*, 17 Apr 2015)

“This year's theme will be: "Social Sciences Shaping a Sustainable World" and we need you to put on an event!

Events can be funded up to a maximum of £1000. We are looking for events that will fit the our theme for the week, whose main audience is non-academic and above all will be engaging, interesting, informative and fun!

There will also be a radio-show running alongside the festival (details coming soon!), and we welcome applications that include ideas for podcasts, interviews and other content suitable for a digital radio.”

Deadline for applications: **20 May 2015, 16.00**.

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

“Rehabilitation through literacy and learning”

http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/blog/rehabilitation-through-literacy-learning?utm_source=Communicator_membership_list&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Untitled51&utm_campaign=Weekly+News+from+CILIP%2c+22+April+2015

Just published on the CILIP Blog is this short piece by ex-Chief Inspector of Prisons, Lord Ramsbotham, who argues that giving prisoners access to books and library services is crucial to their rehabilitation. It's been published following a Libraries All Party Parliamentary Group briefing.

The notes of the briefing are also available:

- *Event notes: Rehabilitation through literacy and learning: the role of prison libraries, expert briefing, Tuesday 3 March 2015,*
http://www.cilip.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Event%20notes%20Rehabilitation%20through%20literacy%20and%20learning_Libraries%20APPG_March%202015.pdf.

“How public libraries can help 120 million illiterate young people”

<http://www.eifl.net/blogs/how-public-libraries-can-help-120-million-illiterate-young-people>

(Source: *Announcement from CILIP*, 16 Apr 2015, CILIP on LinkedIn)

As part of the celebration of “Leaders for Literacy Day” (14 Apr), the International Literacy Association invited people to contribute to a digital dialogue about how best to advance literacy for all.

Rima Kupryte, Director of Electronic Information for Libraries, has posted this blog with brief examples of ways in which public libraries are involved in advancing digital literacy.

- International Literacy Association, see: <http://www.reading.org/>
- Electronic Information for Libraries, see: <http://www.eifl.net/>
- EIFL Public Library Innovation Programme, see: <http://www.eifl.net/programmes/public-library-innovation-programme>.

“Unconnected and out of work: the vicious circle of having no internet”
<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/apr/09/unconnected-and-out-of-work-the-vicious-circle-of-having-no-internet>

(Source: email from Janet Holden, 17 Apr 2015)

Just in case you haven't seen this interesting article about the effects on job-seekers of not having online access – and a positive plug for libraries:

“In a modern-day version of the old casual labour scrum outside the local docks, Nick East scrambles for a free computer screen when the doors of Newcastle's city centre library open.

The fourth floor computer room of the glass-fronted library is stocked with 40 terminals, plus a handful of iMacs. Even so, it's almost always packed, with people waiting for a computer to become free for a designated two-hour slot [...]

East's need for computer time has nothing to do with catching up with friends on social media, online shopping or video downloads. He must apply for 24 jobs a week – with applications taking up to an hour each – on the government's digital jobcentre looking for work, or lose his benefits. When you don't own a computer, this is no mean feat – as East has found out.”

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

I Read ... The final report from the Standing Literacy Commission on the Scottish Government's Literacy Action Plan

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00475485.pdf>

“This second and final report from the Standing Literacy Commission [...] attempts to capture the impact, through the available evidence, of the work undertaken to improve literacy across the different sectors covered by the plan since the Commission's interim report was published in September 2012 [...]

Taken together, the available data and evidence point to a generally improving picture for literacy levels in Scotland from early years, through schools and colleges to adult learning. In each of these areas literacy

enjoys a higher, and increasing, priority than at one time, which can only be good news for Scotland and its people, society and economy. However, the stand-out issue, where more progress needs to be made, is the gap in attainment between the most and least disadvantaged young people.” [Taken from summary at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/04/4553>]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Blog: Don’t judge a book by its cover!”

<http://www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/news/blog-dont-judge-a-book-by-its-cover>

(Source: *Learning Matters e-news*, Apr 2015)

“Nina Champion, [Prisoners’ Education Trust]’s Head of Policy, blogs about a visit to HMP Holloway with author Ben Aaronovitch whose book has been selected as this year’s City Read – a month dedicated to events and activities encouraging Londoners to read.”

“Not Shut Up charity offers prison inmates a path out of their cells and into the arts world”

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/not-shut-up-charity-offers-prison-inmates-a-path-out-of-their-cells-and-into-the-arts-world-10163852.html>

(Source: *Learning Matters e-news*, Apr 2015)

Interesting article about the work of “Not Shut Up” in supporting prison inmates and ex-offenders to develop creative writing and artwork.

“Young Carers in Schools Programme”

<http://www.youngcarer.com/resources/young-carers-schools>

(Source: email from Anne Harding, 30 Apr 2015)

“Young Carers in Schools is an exciting England-wide initiative that equips schools to support young carers and awards good practice.

Run jointly by [Carers Trust](#) and [The Children’s Society Young Carers in Focus](#) partners, we are improving the identification and support of young carers in schools across the country, so that they get the help they need. This initiative is funded by [The Queen’s Trust](#) and [The Big Lottery Fund](#).”

The webpage also has a link to: *Supporting young carers in school: a step-by-step guide for leaders, teachers and non-teaching staff*,

<https://professionals.carers.org/stepbystep>

Disability issues – Other Agencies

El Deafo

http://www.abramsbooks.com/Books/El_Deafo-9781419712173.html

(Source: email from Anne Harding)

New graphic novel which “chronicles the author’s hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with a powerful and very awkward hearing aid called the Phonic Ear.”

See also the interesting interview with the author, Cece Bell, from *The Guardian*: <http://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2015/apr/27/cece-bell-el-deafo-newbery-medal-deafness-childrens-books>.

El Deafo was an “Honor Book” (ie shortlisted finalist) for the ALA’s Newbery Medal.

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

Scottish Records Association Conference and AGM: “Researching the history of immigrant and migrant Scots”

(Source: email from Kirsteen Mulhearn to archives-nra@jiscmail.ac.uk, 27 Apr 2015)

“This year’s Scottish Records Association Conference and AGM will be held on Friday 6th November at the A K Bell Library in Perth. The theme of the conference is: Researching the history of immigrant and migrant Scots.

Proposals for papers are invited from anyone who has undertaken research into the history of immigrants to Scotland and Scottish migrants within the UK, or who has an interest in/knowledge of archival records relating to this theme. The emphasis of the conference is on record sources and the problems and possibilities associated with researching immigrant groups and migration.

The conference is intended to appeal to a wide audience of academic and professional historians, local and family history researchers, archivists, librarians, museum curators and to the general public. The Scottish Records Association also encourages paper proposals on aspects of research on this topic for its journal, *Scottish Archives*.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words are invited. These should be submitted no later than **Friday 29th May 2015** and can be sent by email to enquiries@scottishrecordsassociation.org.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Traces Project”

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

(Source: refed, <http://www.refugeeeducation.co.uk/mailling.htm>)

Produced by [Counterpoints Arts](#), with support from [UNHCR](#):

“*Traces Project* is the first digital timeline to tell the untold history of arts and culture contributions by people who have sought safety in the UK from conflict and persecution.”

It also includes free downloadable lesson plans for KS1-4 exploring refugee issues through the arts.

“Two million British people emigrated to EU, figures show”

<https://euobserver.com/social/123066>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 4 Apr 2015)

From *EUobserver**:

“British figures indicate that just as many UK citizens live in the EU as vice-versa, despite popular perceptions.

The numbers, covering 2010, were put forward last week in a government response to a parliamentary question by Matthew Oakeshott, a Liberal member of the House of Lords.

Compared to the 2.3 million EU citizens in the UK, which includes people who came after Poland and nine other states joined the Union in 2004, British consular authorities estimate that 2.2 million Britons live in the other 26 EU countries, excluding Croatia, which joined in 2013.”

*“EUobserver is an independent online newspaper which values free thinking and plain speech. We aim to support European democracy by giving people the information they need to hold the EU establishment to account.” [Taken from: <https://euobserver.com/static/about>]

“Financial Literacy and Attitudes Towards Immigration”

<http://www.britishelectionstudy.com/bes-impact/financial-literacy-and-attitudes-towards-immigration/#.VUNlcyKIGUn>

(Source: *MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview]*, 434, 20 Apr 2015)

This piece of research has been much covered in the media.

Starting from the viewpoint that “Surveys have consistently shown that UK population as a whole has a negative attitude towards immigration. However, it is far from clear why this should be given the ‘evidence’”, the research draws conclusions that show that the more financially literate we are, the better we understand the arguments around migration:

“Understanding the role played by immigrants in a modern economy such as the UK requires a considerable understanding of economics and finance, particularly the relationship immigrants have to the labour market.”