

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 194, 19 October 2015

Events

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

Consultations

Review of Education in Prisons

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PrisonEducationReview>

(Source: *Learning Matters Update*, 9 Oct 2015)

Call for evidence from Dame Sally Coates (who's leading the Review):

“To inform my thinking about options for reform I would like to invite the submission of evidence from anyone who has thoughts to contribute in relation to how the provision of education for adult prisoners (over 18s) can be improved. I welcome submissions on behalf of an organisation or direct from individuals (including current or former prison learners).”

Enquiries

Autism in museums

Sally Fort emailed (via museumsandwellbeingalliance@jiscmail.ac.uk) to ask:

“I am currently carrying out some research about helping museums become more autism friendly. This is something I've been doing on a very small level for quite a while but have very fortunately been commissioned to do something a bit more thorough and practical.

I have compiled a long list of examples and museums already making steps towards this (including of course the RAF Museum, well known, but there are others, less well known, both here and overseas) and I'm hearing of more and more every day. Obviously I am also talking to / working with people with autism as part of this, I would hope that goes without saying but you never know.

I'm also looking at comparable learning from other sectors.

Anyway - if you have done anything in this field, or are doing anything as we speak, please could you email me or put me in touch with your colleagues as I'd love to ask a few questions if you'd be happy to share what you've learnt so far, whether you are a museum or other kind of site / venue etc.

I know this is of interest to a lot of colleagues and I am hoping to share a blog which includes everything I find in due course.”

If you can help, please contact Sally at: sally.fort@outlook.com.

Funding & Opportunities

“Building Better Opportunities”

https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf?utm_source=Big%20Lottery%20Fund&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=6250592_England%20eBulletin%20news%20October%202015&utm_content=ESF%20website%20link&dm_i=UH9,3PYZK,J9TKLD,DE4F3,1#

(Source: Big Lottery Fund *Funding News*, Oct 2015)

“Big Lottery Fund is matching funds from the European Social Fund (ESF) 2014-2020 to provide joint investment in local projects tackling the root causes of poverty, promoting social inclusion and driving local jobs and growth.

The funding will be delivered in 38 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas according to local priorities, which have been set by the LEPs, and will support projects ranging from improving employability for the most disadvantaged, helping those with multiple and complex needs, to improving financial literacy [...]

The second round of funding opportunities is **now open**. There are 61 new opportunities in 18 of the 38 LEP areas, totalling £132.6 million investment.”

The website includes info about the 38 LEP areas, and also links to a range of guidance, etc.

“Grow Wild!”

<https://www.growwilduk.com/content/community-project-funding>

(Source: *Devon Funding News*, updates 14 Oct 2015)

Slightly different, but this might well link in to plans you have!

“Grow Wild is awarding of £1,000 to £4,000 to community groups that want to bring people together to transform a communal space by sowing and growing native plants.

Up to 60 community projects will receive Grow Wild funding in 2016. To be in with a chance, projects should:

- engage 12-25 year olds
- involve the whole community
- inspire through creativity and transformation

Projects need to be led by a not-for-profit group working for the benefit of local people and create a lasting impact using plants native to the local area in a communal space which is accessible to lots of people.”

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

Dementia toolkit

<http://www.museumsassociation.org/download?id=1150803>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 14 Oct 2015)

“Tunbridge Wells Museum and Art Gallery has launched a dementia toolkit for small to medium sized museums based on a research project it undertook with the Alzheimer's Society in West Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University.

The two-year project, which was a finalist in the 2015 Dementia Friendly Awards, looked at the effects of object handling on the wellbeing of people with early to mid-stage dementia.

The research found that there were marked and measurable increases in wellbeing after people took part in the object handling.

The toolkit aims to support museums of all sizes that want to develop similar projects. It includes tips on training staff to be dementia friendly, choosing objects and evaluation.” (Taken from: http://www.museumsassociation.org/museum-practice/new-practice/01102015-dementia-toolkit-launched-small-museums?dm_i=2VBX,2UZ4,27LU0M,8AXL,1)

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

Health inequalities in London

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/467805/Health_inequalities_in_London_Oct_15.pdf

Very useful brief document which aims to:

- “describe the importance of health inequalities
- describe the economic case for investing in health inequalities
- provide a descriptive analysis of health inequalities in London.” [p4]

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Volunteering and recovery

<http://www.shu.ac.uk/mediacentre/volunteering-and-working-are-central-addiction-recovery>

(Source: NCVO *Volunteering Round-up*, Oct 2015)

New research from Sheffield Hallam University has found that community-led peer support and volunteering can be more effective in maintaining recovery from drug or alcohol additions than medical intervention.

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

“Disability history to be captured through new Heritage Lottery Grant”

<https://www.leonardcheshire.org/what-we-do/latest-news/news-and-blogs/disability-history-be-captured-through-new-heritage-lottery#.VhzbZD9q2Uk>

(Source: email from Stephanie Nield, Leonard Cheshire Disability, via archives-nra@jiscmail.ac.uk)

Announcement by Leonard Cheshire Disability that they have been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £242,250 to use their archives to raise awareness about the history of disabled people.

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

“How can the cultural sector support refugees?”

<http://www.seapn.org.uk/post/how-can-the-cultural-sector-support-refugees>

Further resources have been added to The Network website, including links to work being undertaken by libraries:

- Examples of work across Europe: *Responding! Public libraries and refugees*, http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/public-libraries/publications/library_service_to_refugees.pdf
- In Germany: a welcome statement from the German Library Association, http://www.bibliothekerverband.de/dbv/presse/presse-details/archive/2015/september/article/bibliotheken-heissen-fluechtlinge-und-asylsuchende-willkommen.html?tx_ttnews%5Bday%5D=21&cHash=1b3f95f3b94074b0e2a7d93574c54bb6, and a list of activities, <http://www.bibliotheksportal.de/themen/bibliothekskunden/interkulturelle-bibliothek/praxisbeispiele/bibliotheksangebote-fuer-fluechtlinge-und-asylbewerber.html>

Do let me (john@nadder.org.uk) have other examples of work you're undertaking.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“The refugees being sent to Coventry are welcome”

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/oct/13/refugees-coventry-welcome-councils-syrians>

Just in case you didn't see this very positive story about local authorities welcoming refugees ...

Broader issues – Other Agencies

“Why all charities aren't Kids Company”

http://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2015/10/15/why-all-charities-arent-kids-company/?_cldee=am9obkBuYWRkZXlub3JnLnVr&urlid=1

(Source: NCVO email update, 15 Oct 2015)

I'm including this, partly because of its reminder of the importance of good governance, but primarily because of the stark warning about evidence (and over-inflating user numbers):

“For Kids Company, the aftermath of its closure was complicated by the fact that different reports circulated about how many young people they actually helped – the charity claimed to help 36,000 young people, but reportedly handed over records for only 1,692 clients in London and 175 in Bristol.”