

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 195, 29 October 2015

Events

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

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

“[Denver & San Francisco Public Libraries] Develop Innovative Services for the Homeless”

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2015/09/library-services/dpl-sfpl-develop-innovative-services-for-the-homeless/#>

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 6 Oct 2015)

Interesting brief article about innovative approaches to working with homeless people.

More on this and other initiatives at:

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2015/10/opinion/editorial/real-world-barriers-expanding-on-a-tradition-of-access-editorial/>.

“Beyond Walls: Libraries and Incarcerated Youth”

<http://www.slj.com/2015/10/programs/beyond-walls-libraries-and-incarcerated-youth/#>

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 6 Oct 2015)

Lengthy article about the work being developed by the Boston Public Library system.

Also interesting is:

“The Book Club at Camp Glenwood, A Minimum-Security Facility for Boys”,

<http://www.slj.com/2015/10/programs/the-book-club-at-camp-glenwood-a-minimum-security-facility-for-boys/>.

“Amnesty CILIP Honour announced”

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/news/amnesty-cilip-honour-announced> and <http://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2015/oct/23/new-human-rights-prize-amnesty-cilip-honour>

“CILIP and Amnesty International have announced a major new partnership which will commend human rights in children’s literature. The human rights partnership will span both the Carnegie Medal, awarded to the author of an outstanding book for children and the Kate Greenaway Medal, awarded for an outstanding illustrated book for children and young people).

Beginning with the 2016 medals, a title from each of the prestigious shortlists will receive the Amnesty CILIP Honour, a commendation for the books that most distinctively illuminate, uphold or celebrate freedoms. The books receiving the commendation will be able to carry an Amnesty CILIP Honour logo.

The inaugural Amnesty CILIP honour judging panel will include last year's Carnegie medal winner, Tanya Landman whose book *Buffalo Soldier* dealt with issues including racism, slavery and gender discrimination.

The winners will be announced at the Medals ceremony in June 2016."

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

"The young and the homeless"

http://bigblog.org.uk/2015/10/08/the-young-and-the-homeless/?utm_source=Big%20Lottery%20Fund&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=6250592_England%20eBulletin%20news%20October%202015&utm_content=Young%20%26%20Homeless%20button&dm_i=UH9,3PYZK,I9TKLD,D E4F4,1

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

Brief look at some projects funded by the Fund, which are helping tackle homelessness.

Unequal nation: the case for social innovation to work for a gender equal future

http://static1.squarespace.com/static/555dad68e4b03820b3f996b5/t/55a63ffce4b06d4dd52eb4aa/1436958716372/2015+07+01+YF_GF_report_01.pdf

(Source: Young Foundation *Newsletter*, 16 Oct 2015)

Interesting paper, proposing ways of combining moves towards gender equality with social innovation.

"Social innovations are new solutions (products, services, models, markets, processes etc.) that simultaneously meet a social need (more effectively than existing solutions) and lead to new or improved capabilities and relationships and better use of assets and resources. In other words, social innovations are both good for society and enhance society's capacity to act." [p8]

"Digital Exclusion Heatmap"

<http://www.go-on.co.uk/resources/heatmap/>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 20 Oct 2015)

Very useful tool for looking at digital in/exclusion in your area – and helping to build a case for improvements.

"The Go ON UK Digital Exclusion Heatmap shows the likelihood of exclusion from a digital United Kingdom at Local Authority level. It has been developed with support from the BBC as part of their Make It Digital and wider digital literacy initiatives, the Local Government Association and The London School of Economics and Political Science, using fresh insight into Basic Digital Skills in association with Lloyds Banking Group.

Eight different metrics have been used to calculate the overall likelihood of exclusion. Four of these are digital metrics (infrastructure, access, Basic Digital Skills and Basic Digital Skills used), which have been aggregated to provide a combined digital indicator. Four are social

metrics (age, education, income and health), which have been aggregated to create a combined social indicator.

These combined indicators have been further aggregated using a formula designed by the London School of Economics and Political Science to provide, for the first time, a single measure of predicted overall exclusion from a digital United Kingdom.”

A poverty of information: assessing the government’s new child poverty focus and future trends

<http://www.resolutionfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Child-poverty-briefing.pdf>

(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 12 Oct 2015)

New briefing by the Resolution Foundation, which suggests that measures announced in the Budget will significantly increase the number of children (and households) living in poverty (households with less than 60 per cent of median income). Despite positive action on low pay, cuts to working age benefits mean that most of this increase is expected to be among those living in working households.

HELLO Programme

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/hello>

(Source: National Literacy Trust *Newsletter*, Oct 2015)

The NLT have launched HELLO (Helping Early Language and Literacy Outcomes).

“In partnership with two local authorities and five nursery teaching schools across England, we are developing a new tool to improve the language, literacy and communication of children aged under three [...]

The aim is to increase knowledge and confidence among staff in early years settings of how young children develop their literacy, language and communication skills and around the use of digital media in early literacy development. HELLO will also increase staff confidence in engaging parents in developing their child’s communication and home language skills.” [Taken from:

http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/news/6835_our_new_hello_tool_set_to_raise_literacy_levels_of_pre-school_children]

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

“if: Volunteering for wellbeing”

<http://volunteeringforwellbeing.org.uk/>

(Source: info from Jo Ward, 20 Oct 2015)

“**if: Volunteering for wellbeing** is a life changing social learning programme delivered at IWM North, Manchester Museum, Museum of Science & Industry and our partner venues to support participants into volunteering and away from social and economic isolation.”

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

A new home for public health services for children aged 0-5: a resource for local authorities

http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/6869714/L15-392+new+home+for+public+health_v03+%28%29-WEB.pdf/3f80f921-f7a2-4c05-9305-061e51f079b0

(Source: LGA *Health, adult social care and ageing bulletin*, Oct 2015)

“This resource provides an overview of the work that is taking place both locally and nationally to safely transfer children’s public health commissioning responsibilities for children aged 0 to 5 from NHS England to local authorities ...” [p2]

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

“Words Work Well bibliotherapy toolkit”

<http://wordsworkwellscotland.co.uk/>

(Source: email from Christine Cather, 29 Oct 2015)

New toolkit which draws together a range of different and useful resources to help develop bibliotherapy. They are looking for additional resources to add to this too ...

Disability issues – Other Agencies

Disabled consumers’ use of communications services

http://stakeholders.ofcom.gov.uk/binaries/research/media-literacy/1515282/Disabled_consumers_use_of_communications_services.pdf

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 195, 16 Oct 2015)

Important new report from Ofcom, which:

“[...] compares the profiles of consumers with different types of disability: their households’ access to, their use of, and their limitations in using communications services, i.e. landline, mobile, PC/laptop, tablet, games console, TV, DAB (digital audio broadcasting) and internet access.” [p5]

“By working with the [British Population Survey] we achieved a robust sample of disabled consumers (4,004 consumers aged 15 or over). This has meant that, for the second time, we have been able to publish quantitative analysis comparing household ownership/access to and use of communications services among consumers with different types of impairment or disability [...]

This 2015 report provides a detailed analysis among consumers with hearing, visual, mobility or multiple impairments or learning disabilities, making comparisons by type of disability and by demographic group. It draws out differences between disability groups and makes comparisons with non-disabled consumers. Where possible, comparisons have been made with the 2012 data.

Previously, this type of analysis has been limited by the fact that observed differences between groups of disabled consumers can be explained by the substantial demographic differences between the groups. The analysis in this report is unique in that it compares age and

social groups on a like-for-like basis. The findings suggest that demographic differences offer only a partial explanation for the differing levels of communications service take-up. Other factors, including the disability itself, are affecting access and use of key communications services, or compounding the effects of age and socio-economic group among consumers with disabilities.” [p4]

“Spotlight on visual inclusion – supporting learners with sight loss”

<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/blog/spotlight-on-visual-inclusion-supporting-learners-with-sight-loss-08-oct-2015>

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 195, 16 Oct 2015)

As a contribution to World Sight Day on 8 October, Margaret McKay, a JISC accessibility and inclusion specialist, published a blogpost:

“As part of World Sight Day I want to consider some of the issues that learners with sight loss face when accessing information.

I spoke to friends, learners and colleagues who have experienced sight loss to discover the technologies and tools they find useful for learning and teaching – and to find out where problems arise.”

The post includes some important info, particularly looking at some problems with accessing ebooks; and also seven basic things to consider in making services accessible.

“Access2books”

<http://www.access2books.org/>

“This Community Interest Project produces and publishes high quality early years’ books in dual format - giant print (75pt) & braille - with illustrations. The design enables braille or large print readers to read without obscuring the text or illustrations; and therefore gives children and adults the opportunity to read together, forming both educational and social relationships - the biggest contributing factor to children's early years' learning of language, confidence and social interaction.

The most likely users of this format are adults or children with macular conditions, maybe cataracts and other sight conditions that affect the macular and therefore reading. Another group is people with learning disabilities who require giant print and illustrations to support their reading. The design will also assist people with conditions that affect co-ordination and dexterity.

These books may be available in your local library.”

“Why many learners with partial sight still need specialist computer magnification”

http://www.rnib.org.uk/partial-sight-specialist-computer-magnification?utm_medium=email&utm_source=October%20Insight%202015&utm_campaign=why%20many%20learners%20still%20need%20specialist%20computer%20magnification

(Source: RNIB *Insight enews*, Oct 2015)

“Tablets, phones, and CCTVs all play their part in the life of a partially sighted student. For learners at school or college magnification on a handheld device can be the difference between independently filling out a printed questionnaire instead of having to rely on sighted assistance to do something which they are otherwise perfectly capable of doing for themselves.

But there are many learning tasks which only work, or are so much easier to do using specialist magnification software on a computer [...]

Learning Difficulty issues – Other Agencies

How to make sense of dyslexia

<http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/news/make-sense-of-dyslexia>

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 195, 16 Oct 2015)

New resource from Dyslexia Action, published at the beginning of October for Dyslexia Awareness Week.

“Tints”

<http://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/tints.html>

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 195, 16 Oct 2015)

The publisher Barrington Stokes have just launched:

“[...] brand-new e-reading app Tints [which] is designed to break down the barriers that can prevent children from succeeding with reading, including dyslexia and visual stress.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Destitute and asylum-seeking women in the West Midlands: immigration issues and charity support related to housing and subsidy

http://www.hope-projects.org.uk/PDFs/Destitute_and_asylum-seeking_women_in_the_West_Midlands.pdf

(Source: *Migrants Rights Network News*, 19 Oct 2015)

Hope Projects, a West Midlands-based charity to support destitute asylum-seekers and others barred from public fund support, has published a new report on the situation of women seeking asylum in their region.

According to its foreword, the report "offers an important window and an insight into the work done with women in Birmingham and the difficulties they experience in seeking legal representation, the impact of Home Office policy and practice on their physical and mental health." [p3]

Modern Poetry in Translation

<http://www.mptmagazine.com/product/spring-2016-152/>

(Source: email from Exiled Writers Ink, 20 Oct 2015)

The next issue (Spring 2016) will include a focus on refugee poetry. *MPT* publishes poetry originally written in another language and then translated into English.

The deadline for submissions is **mid-February 2016**. This could be a good opportunity for work with local refugee communities.

“Ensuring Northern Ireland responds to the needs of refugees”

http://www.equalityni.org/Footer-Links/News/Delivering-Equality/Ensuring-NI-responds-to-the-needs-of-refugees?utm_source=NewZapp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=test%201

(Source: Equality Commission for Northern Ireland *Latest News*, Sep 2015)

The Refugee and Asylum Forum's five key actions for ensuring that NI responds to the needs of refugees include:

- A Refugee Integration Strategy for Northern Ireland
- A long-term commitment to funding refugee settlement.
- A mechanism is in place to ensure that no person experiences destitution on being granted refugee status.
- All refugees have access to free, accredited English language classes.
- Work with the refugee support sector in designing a Syrian Vulnerable Persons' Relocation resettlement scheme.

“The Refugee and Asylum Forum is an informal network of organisations with direct experience of providing support and services to asylum seekers and refugees in Belfast. Our collective expertise is wide and spans health and social care, accommodation, integration and participation, legal rights, welfare as well as policy development. Organisations involved in the Forum have been working in support of these communities for many years.”

“Refugee Crisis In Europe Explained Through Infographics Laying Bare Current Situation”

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2015/10/27/europe-refugee-crisis-graphics-latest-developments_n_8398868.html

(Source: email from Bill Bolloten 28 Oct 2015)

Very useful info, and especially the ‘moving streams’ graphic:

“The moving streams represent refugees flowing into northern and western Europe from southern and eastern states drawing from data collated by the UN Refugee Agency.”

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

“Arts Council England launches Cultural Education Challenge”

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news/arts-council-news/arts-council-england-launches-cultural-education-c/>

(Source: News from the Cultural Learning Alliance, 20 Oct 2015)

Just in case you haven't seen this:

“The Cultural Education Challenge was launched [14 Oct] at the Barbican in London. It challenges sector leaders across the arts, education, local authorities, schools, higher education institutions and others to create new ways of working. It encourages them to share resources to create joined-up arts and cultural provisions locally, at a time when public funding remains under pressure.”

The economic and social value of information services: libraries – report of findings

<http://www.fesabid.org/sites/default/files/repositorio/economic-social-value-information-services-libraries.pdf>

(Source: email from Mikael Book, 24 Aug 2015)

This report from FESABID [Spain's Federation of Archive, Library, Documentation and Museum Science Associations] looks at the contribution of Spain's libraries:

“Beyond the economic value deduced from the statistics and from users' responses, this study reaches several conclusions that reflect libraries' value to Spanish society.

Libraries are the most highly valued public service in many Spanish towns and cities. They are viewed very positively by both users and non-users, all of which see them as welcoming places. A large proportion of non-users would be willing to participate in the activities libraries organise. Lack of time is the main obstacle to library use, a cause that is likely to be compounded by work-related concerns and stress.” [p94]

Broader issues – Other Agencies

“A Guide to DBS Checks”

http://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2015/09/16/a-guide-to-dbs-checks/?_cldee=ZW1pbHkuZ3JhaGFtQG5jdm8ub3JnLnVr&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BD%3A%20DBS&urlid=1

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

Useful round-up of current position for volunteers.