

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 200, 18 December 2015

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

Postcode Community Trust

<http://www.postcodecommunitytrust.org.uk/>

(Source: *Devon Funding News*, updates 16 Dec 2015)

“Postcode Community Trust was established in 2014 to support marginalised groups in obtaining the skills & resources to effect change in their own communities – awarding £2 million of funding in 2015 [...]

In 2016, the Trust will invite applications that help communities to overcome barriers to participation in creative and sustainable ways, and increase social cohesion through developing access to community facilities and activities.

Registered charities in England, Scotland & Wales can apply from £500 - £20,000 (£10,000 in Wales) for projects meeting the above remit, whilst other organisations may apply for up to £2,000.”

The form will be open at the following times in 2016:

- **Tue 5th Jan – Fri 29th Jan 2016**
- **Sun 1st May – Tuesday 31st May 2016.**

“Are you working with older people in a museum or gallery setting?”

(Source: email from the Age Friendly Museums Network, 17 Dec 2015)

“Age Friendly Museums Network will be highlighting work with older people in its January newsletter. If you would like to share your work in this area, we would really like to hear from you. Please send a paragraph or two, with photographs if possible, and links.

Also to be included in the newsletter: Research or studies, training opportunities, interesting articles and information requests

Closing date for submissions: **Monday 25th January**”

Further info from the Age Friendly Museums Network,
jturner@britishmuseum.org.

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

“Big Debate: Diversity”

http://museumsassociation.org/video/30112015-diversity-debate?dm_i=2VBX,4AMB,27LU0M,CGJ0,1

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 2 Dec 2015)

The MA have just made available on their website a video of the “Big Debate: Diversity”, filmed at the MA Conference in Birmingham 2015.

2014 Digital Inclusion Survey: survey findings and results

<http://digitalinclusion.umd.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/2014DigitalInclusionSurveyFinalRelease.pdf>

(Source: WebJunction *Crossroads*, Nov 2015)

The results of the US Digital Inclusion Survey have just been published. There are some strong arguments about the role of libraries, which might well be useful here too:

“Does your community know the incredible role your library plays in bridging the digital divide and advancing digital inclusion? Do they understand the difference between the existing digital divide and the value of achieving digital inclusion? The recently released 2014 Digital Inclusion Survey provides data that can help you put your story in the national context.

The 2014 Survey illustrates how public libraries are continuing to bridge the digital divide for the 30% of American households lacking broadband. In rural communities, this number increases to 38% and for homes with incomes under \$25,000 it increases to 52%. Free public access to Internet-enabled workstations is a vital lifeline to individuals living in these households and one that virtually every public library in the U.S. offers.” [Taken from: <http://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/2014-digital-inclusion-survey.html>]

Doing digital inclusion: libraries' handbook

http://www.tinderfoundation.org/sites/default/files/research-publications/libraries_handbook.pdf

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 198, 3 Dec 2015)

Very useful four-page guide to getting started, including:

- Barriers that users experience in using the internet for the first time
- How to engage and recruit learners
- Things to consider before you deliver.

“Libraries shaping the future: toolkit and case studies”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/libraries-shaping-the-future-report-and-case-studies#how-libraries-support-different-policy-areas>

“Toolkit and case studies, produced by the Leadership for Libraries Taskforce, informed by good practice from the library sector.”

Includes, amongst many good examples:

- Portsmouth’s services for blind and visually impaired people, <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/library-services-for-blind-and-visually-impaired-people>

- St Helens libraries as creative hubs, <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/the-art-of-the-possible-libraries-as-creative-hubs>
- Leeds Libraries Studio 12, <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/mandlenkosi-maposa-from-studio-12-at-leeds-library>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Know your rights: support for young carers and young adult carers in England

https://www.carers.org/sites/default/files/know_your_rights.pdf

(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 16 Nov 2015)

“Young carer and young adult carers in England have the right to information and to an assessment of the support they need from the council.

This guide explains what those rights are. It also tells you what should happen when you talk to the council about being a young carer or young adult carer [...]

It is written for all young carers and young adult carers, especially for those aged eight to twenty-five.” [Taken from: <https://www.carers.org/knowyourrights>]

The homelessness monitor: Scotland 2015

Full report:

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

Summary:

http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/Homelessness%20Monitor%20Scotland%202015_ExecSummary.pdf

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 7 Dec 2015)

“The homelessness monitor is a longitudinal study that provides an independent analysis of the impact on homelessness of recent economic and policy developments across the UK. The key areas of interest are the homelessness consequences of the post-2007 economic recession, and the subsequent recovery, as well as welfare reform and cuts. Separate reports are produced for each UK nation.

This year’s Scotland report monitors the impact on homelessness of the slow pace of economic recovery and the effects of welfare and housing reform and analyses key trends from the baseline account of homelessness established in 2012 up until 2015. It also highlights emerging trends and forecasts some of the likely changes, identifying the developments likely to have the most significant impacts on homelessness in Scotland.” [from inside front cover]

Disability issues – Other Agencies

My voice 2015: the views and experiences of blind and partially sighted people in the UK

http://www.rnib.org.uk/sites/default/files/My%20Voice%20UK%20Report-FINAL_0.PDF

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 198, 3 Dec 2015)

This important new report is based on the findings of telephone interviews with a random but balanced sample of 1,200 registered blind and partially-sighted people aged 18 and over. It includes the findings on the following topics:

1. Relationships and household.
2. Sight conditions and sight loss.
3. Early support.
4. Health and wellbeing
5. Domestic life.
6. Learning and work.
7. Finances and benefits.
8. Transport.
9. Access to information and services.
10. Technology.
11. Discrimination.
12. Social contact, choice and control.

The report also provides the findings from “open response questions” covering:

1. Early support.
2. Making everyday life better.
3. Other important areas of life.

It's packed with useful background info for planning and developing services. Further info (and access to some of the My Voice data) at:

<http://www.rnib.org.uk/knowledge-and-research-hub-research-reports-general-research/my-voice>.

Dementia friendly communities: supported learning and outreach with the deaf community

https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/dementia-friendly-communities-supported-learning-and-outreach-deaf-community?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%207th%20December%202015&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%207th%20December%202015+CID_9e6359e957fa5f493ddcc1e45ebf82cb&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20this%20new%20Solutions%20paper%20focusing%20on%20a%20programme%20of%20dementia%20awareness%20for%20deaf%20people

(Source: *JRF Weekly round-up*, 7 Dec 2015)

This report outlines (with recommendations) the programme of dementia awareness for Deaf people, including bespoke resources for the Deaf community, which was developed and delivered collaboratively by Alzheimer's Society in Northern Ireland and British Deaf Association.

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Information, Advice and Support Services Network

<http://cyp.iassnetwork.org.uk/>

(Source: *NCB Members' Newsletter*, Dec 2015)

“The Information, Advice and Support Services Network (IASSN) has developed a new website which aims to help disabled children and young people and those with SEN better understand what rights they have for accessing information, advice and support across education, health and social care. The website also contains full contact details for IAS Services across England.”

“RNIB Talking Books go FREE”

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2015/12/14/rnib-talking-books-go-free/>

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 199, 15 Dec 2015)

Guest blogpost for the Libraries Taskforce from Julie Gibson (RNIB), in which she sets out the basic details of the history of the service and the change to a free service from 10 November, as well as outlining RNIB’s rationale for this major change in the operation of the service.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“Funding arrangements to support the dispersal of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)”

http://www.local.gov.uk/safeguarding-children/-/journal_content/56/10180/7590385/ARTICLE

(Source: *LGA Children and Young People Bulletin*, 7 Dec 2015)

The LGA have reported that:

“Home Office, Education and Communities and Local Government wrote to Leaders setting out an improved funding offer to councils who agree to accept unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) from Kent. Kent has taken responsibility for nearly 1000 UASC arriving from Calais since the summer and although some authorities have offered to help, we argued strongly that many have been prevented from doing so because the initial funding offer did not cover post-18 leaving care costs, which are substantial for this vulnerable group of young people. The new funding offer now addresses this point. We will continue to press for a long-term national dispersal system for UASC to aid the growing number of councils that are facing high numbers and Government has agreed to work towards this goal.”

Also, in case you haven’t seen media coverage of the numbers of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children that are going missing, see:

- <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/dec/05/asylum-seeker-children-refugees-missing>
- <https://www.opendemocracy.net/uk/shinealight/maeve-mcclenaghan/hundreds-of-children-are-disappearing-from-local-authority-care>.

Social dimension of intra-EU mobility: impact on public services

<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/report/2015/labour-market-social-policies/social-dimension-of-intra-eu-mobility-impact-on-public-services>

(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Update*, 14 Dec 2015)

“The claim that that EU mobile citizens are coming from new EU Member States to older Member States in order to access benefits is essentially untrue according to a new report from EuroFound, ‘Social dimension of intra-EU mobility: Impact on public services. The report examines the take-up of benefits and social services of EU10 citizens in nine host countries – Austria, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. EU10 migrants have a lower take-up of benefits and place a lower burden on public services on the whole than the native population in western European Member States.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Immigration – what’s the story?

<http://theredcard.org/news/news-and-events?news=6217>

(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Update*, 14 Dec 2015)

Show Racism the Red Card has produced a 25-minute film, featuring interviews with migrants, Premiership stars Chris Smalling and Cesc Fabregas, as well as ex-England player and TV presenter Gary Lineker.

Just deserters: why indefinite National Service in Eritrea has created a generation of refugees

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr64/2930/2015/en/>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Dec 2015)

“Eritrea is one of the biggest refugee producing countries in the world. During the European summer in 2015, headlines, political summits and activism abounded over the refugee crisis. The largest groups among those risking their lives to cross the Mediterranean were Syrians and Afghans, fleeing from armed conflict and abuses by non-state actors including the Islamic State. But the third biggest group crossing the Mediterranean were Eritreans [...]” [Taken from website]

“A predominant factor in asylum applications made by Eritreans is indefinite conscription into National Service. This system, established by law in 1995, requires every adult Eritrean to undertake an 18 month period of National Service. However, in practice, conscription has been extended indefinitely for a significant proportion of conscripts.” [p6]

LGBTQ issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Providing services for transgender customers: a guide

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/480363/Providing_services_for_transgender_customers-a_guide.pdf

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *eNewsletter*, 7 Dec 2015)

Really useful, practical guidance produced by the Government Equalities Office and Gendered Intelligence.

Together with Inclusive Employers, the GEO has also just published *The recruitment and retention of transgender staff: guidance for employers*, https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/480362/The_recruitment_and_retention_of_transgender_staff-guidance_for_employers.pdf.