The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 172, 2 February 2015

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

2015 ARA Volunteer Award

http://www.archives.org.uk/ara-in-action/campaigns/volunteering/volunteering-awards.html

(Source: email from Sally Bevan, Volunteering Awards Administrator, via archives-nra@jiscmail.ac.uk)

> "This award is open to archives across the United Kingdom and Ireland. Awards will be publicised widely throughout and beyond the sector.
>
> We welcome nominations for the award. A short nomination form is available from the ARA website [see above weblink] and organisations may nominate projects, or ongoing volunteer programmes, that ran during 2014/2015.
>
> Nominations will be assessed against three key outcomes:
>
> > A) Impact on volunteers
> > B) Impact on service
> > C) Wider impact
>
> Completed nomination forms need to be returned to volunteeringaward@archives.org.uk by the end of National Volunteers Week – **8 June 2015**."

Museums Association call for case studies

> "The MA is currently seeking case studies on museum projects for people with learning disabilities. Send your case studies to the MA's policy officer Alistair Brown at alistair@museumsassociation.org by **13 February** for publication on our website."

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

Developing a community-led strategy

https://clacommunityled.wordpress.com/2015/01/26/developing-a-community-led-strategy/

> "In this second paper of the CLLS Network's "Community-Led Work in Practice: Experiences from Canadian libraries" series, Thunder Bay Public Library CEO John Pateman explores the importance of active community and stakeholder involvement in the development and evaluation of a community-led library's strategy."

"Museums Change Lives case studies published"
http://www.museumsassociation.org/news/28012015-museums-change-lives-
case-studies-
published?utm_source=ma&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=28012015
(Source: *Museums Association Update*, 28 Jan 2015)
> "The Museums Association (MA) has published a series of case studies
> on how museums are putting the principles of Museums Change Lives
> into practice."

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

What do we know about in-work poverty? A summary of the evidence
http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00468484.pdf
> "This paper summarises what the evidence tells us about the extent and
> impact of in-work poverty in Scotland. It then identifies three key factors
> that influence in-work poverty:
>
> - The hourly rate of pay
> - The number of hours worked by members of the household (work
>   intensity)
> - Income gained and lost through the welfare and tax systems." [p1]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

The Coalition's social policy record: policy, spending and outcomes 2010-2015
http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/dps/case/spcc/RR04.pdf
(Source: *Children & Young People Now Daily*, 27 Jan 2015)
Important new report which analyses the impact of the Coalition's social
policies.
NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Clinks Annual Review 2014: *What if … there was no voluntary sector*
http://www.clinks.org/sites/default/files/basic/files-
downloads/clinks_annual_review_2014.pdf
Gives a useful snapshot of their activities, plus there is a more detailed
overview of their main areas of work (eg Transforming Rehabilitation; policy;
offender health; the Young Review) at: http://www.clinks.org/annual-review-
2014; and case studies of good practice (eg arts and culture) at:
http://www.clinks.org/case-studies.

Wealth: having it all and wanting more
http://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/publications/wealth-having-it-all-and-wanting-
more-338125
Just in case you haven't seen the much-quoted Oxfam Briefing which pointed
out the stark statistic:

> "In 2014, the richest 1% of people in the world owned 48% of global
> wealth, leaving just 52% to be shared between the other 99% of adults
> on the planet." [p2]

New 2015 Quick Reads available
http://www.niace.org.uk/news/new-2015-quick-reads-available-for-pre-order?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2flists.niace.org.uk%2flz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=1227+Members+Update%3a+20+December+2014+-+30+January+2015&utm_term=Members'%20Update:%2020%20December%202014%20-%2030%20January%202015&utm_content=95162
(Source: NIACE *Members' Update,* 20 Dec 2014-30 Jan 2015)
> "The books, which are sponsored by Galaxy® for the fifth year running, will be published on 5 February 2015:
>
>> Roddy Doyle – *Dead Man Talking*
>> Jojo Moyes – *Paris for Two One*
>> Sophie Hannah – *Pictures Or It Didn't Happen*
>> Fanny Blake – *Red for Revenge*
>> Adèle Geras – *Out of the Dark*
>> James Bowen – *Street Cat Bob.*"

Trends and friends …
http://www.lemosandcrane.co.uk/home/register?id=235023
(Source: email from Kevin Harris)
Subtitled "Access, use and benefits of digital technology for homeless and ex-homeless people", this important report looks at access and some of the barriers (with a mention of the role of public libraries).

If you haven't done already, you will need to register on the website to access the report.

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

Health & Wellbeing issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations
"New cancer service in Northamptonshire libraries will help teens be themselves"
http://www.northamptonchron.co.uk/news/local/new-cancer-service-in-northamptonshire-libraries-will-help-teens-be-themselves-1-6540968
(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 28-29 Jan 2015)
> "Teens and other young people in Northamptonshire from today have an informal service based at libraries to help them deal with cancer.
>
> The C Word, run by Macmillan Cancer Support, will offer activities from 36 libraries and aims to let 13 to 24-year-olds with a friend, parent, brother or sister with the disease – or who have it themself [sic] – to be themselves."

Disability issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations
"How Midlothian libraries are improving the services they provide for disabled people"
https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/improving-library-services-for-disabled-people-in-midlothian
(Source: *STV Bulletin* 177, 22 Jan 2015)

"Libraries in Midlothian are improving the services they provide disabled people, helping them to become full and active participants in their community."

Published as part of the 'Accessible Britain Challenge' case study series, this includes brief info on provision for:
- Blind and visually-impaired people
- Deaf and hearing-impaired people
- People with physical disabilities
- People with dementia and Alzheimer's
- People with mental health issues.

Also includes very brief info on improving access, and IT and assistive technology.

"Libraries for Everyone"
http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/libraries-archives-and-heritage/-/journal_content/56/10180/6890341/ARTICLE
(Source: *STV Bulletin* 177, 22 Jan 2015)
New LGA case study:

"Libraries for Everyone is a new accessible-by-default model that provides access to print and the internet in public libraries, for those who are blind, have visual impairment, dyslexia or low literacy levels.

The online access technology is now standard in all Lambeth Libraries and for the first time those with visual impairment are able to use all public computers independently, to carry out basic tasks such as paying Council Tax, accessing benefits, job searching or studying. As local and central government move to delivering more services online, providing facilities like this becomes essential to ensure that those with disabilities are not marginalised …"

Disability issues – Other Agencies
"Learning through Touch"
http://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-blogs/blogs/booktrust/814
(Source: *STV Bulletin* 177, 22 Jan 2015)
Booktrust recently published a blogpost on "Learning through touch" by its consultant, Alex Strick, who points out that although the number of Braille readers in the UK is in decline it is important to realise the benefits of children learning Braille and the value of access to stimulating tactile books for visually impaired children.

The blogpost also provides links to existing Booktrust booklists for blind and partially-sighted children.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government
Questions and answers: smuggling of migrants in Europe and the EU response
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-3261_en.htm
(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash*, 12-23 Jan 2015)

Useful summary of info, eg:

> "In 2014, more than 276 000 migrants irregularly entered the EU, which represents an increase of 155% compared to 2013.
>
> Syrians together with Eritreans were the largest group of person apprehended at EU external borders trying to enter the EU in an irregular manner. Other large groups included nationals from Afghanistan, Mali and Kosovo."

Migration issues – Other Agencies
Working in the UK
http://www.tuc.org.uk/workingintheuk
(Source: Migrants' Rights Network *Weekly Migration News*, 26 Jan 2015)
The TUC has just launched a new online guide in 13 languages (Bulgarian, English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovakian and Spanish). It provides essential information on working rights including pay, rest-breaks, contracts, dealing with problems at work and how to join a union.

The Big Society
Whose society? The final Big Society audit
http://www.civilexchange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Whose-Society_The-Final-Big-Society-Audit_final.pdf
(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 26 Jan 2015)
Final audit by Civil Exchange*:

> "Many of us would be forgiven for asking 'what happened to the Big Society?' Launched to great fanfare at the start of 2010, this was David Cameron's personal project to give power back to the people, to involve us all in creating a fairer society. In fact, successive governments had similar goals and the next is likely to continue to do so after the election. There are compelling reasons: people expect more control, governments can only deliver more with less with the help of wider society, and democracy can only be revitalised by sharing more power.
>
> Five years on, what did happen to the Big Society? The conclusion of this report is that, despite some genuinely positive initiatives, the Big Society has failed to deliver against its original goals. Attempts to create more social action, to empower communities and to open up public services, with some positive exceptions, have not worked. The Big Society has not reached those who need it most. We are more divided than before." [p4]

*"Civil Exchange is a think tank that seeks to strengthen civil society's connection to government. It links up with other organisations on particular projects to bring together existing expertise and knowledge. It aims to be a catalyst to help civil society and government work together in new ways and a resource for research, policy development, capacity building, awareness-raising and exchange." [p2] See: www.civilexchange.org.uk.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

Involving children and young people in policy, practice and research

http://www.ncb.org.uk/media/1176052/participation_essays_final.pdf

(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 26 Jan 2015)

Interesting set of papers that explore why it is important to include young people's voices in consultation and research. Also includes some good practical examples.