# The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 189, 1 September 2015

## Events

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

## Funding & Opportunities

### Age Friendly Museums Day, 4 October 2015

(Source: email from Jane Turner, Community Partnerships Co-ordinator: Age Friendly Museums Network, 11 Aug 2015)

> "This year, the Age Friendly Museums Network is working with Silver Sunday (http://silversunday.org.uk/) to promote Age Friendly Museums Day on the 4th October. The Network invites museums and the heritage sector to promote themselves as Age Friendly by putting on free activities for older adults. This will tie in with fun and free activities for older people happening across the UK as part of Silver Sunday. Simply complete the application form (http://silversunday.org.uk/submit-an-event/) and make sure you put 'Age Friendly Museums Day' in the Event Name.
>
> Not a museum professional?
>
> If you are working with older people in the community then why not find out what is going on in your local museum and encourage them to sign up to Age Friendly Museums Day and the Age Friendly Museums Network"
>
> http://ageofcreativity.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=61730f027ffe22e0f30aa95a5&id=a2ed4d6b84

### Libraries Digital Inclusion Application

https://www.ukonlinecentres.com/funding/current-funding/libraries-digital-inclusion

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 19 Aug 2015)

Just in case you haven't yet seen this:

> "Tinder Foundation, in partnership with the Leadership for Libraries Taskforce, is pleased to announce the launch of the Library Digital Inclusion Fund. We are looking to fund between 10-15 library services to participate in an action research pilot from 1 October 2015 to 31 March 2016.
>
> The pilot will see participating library services deliver basic digital skills support to those in their communities without these skills. Participating services will also feed back on the level of success delivered by particular approaches to engaging with new people and teaching basic digital skills.
>
> This fund is only available to library services that already have WiFi installed in their premises."

The deadline for completed applications is **Thursday 10 September 2015**. Results of the funding round will be communicated to applicants on Monday 21 September 2015.

**PHF Ideas and Pioneers Fund**
http://www.phf.org.uk/funds/ideas-and-pioneers-fund/
(Source: NCVO Funding Central *Newsletter*, 19 Aug 2015)

"Our Ideas and Pioneers Fund supports people who have an idea with unusual promise to improve the life chances and opportunities of individuals and communities in the UK. We are looking for ideas which relate closely to our own charitable mission – we aim to help people overcome disadvantage and lack of opportunity, so that they can realise their potential and enjoy fulfilling and creative lives [...]

We want to work with people whose ideas are in the early stages of development. You will be committed to making your idea happen, and will have done some initial work to develop it, but it will still be at an early stage. We are ready to be the first funder to support an idea, and welcome applications from people who have not received grant funding before.

We can provide funding totalling up to £30,000 over up to 18 months to help you get started, and introduce you to a group of peers for mutual support. We will consider funding work to enable you to develop the idea from concept to set-up, including problem definition and analysis, scoping, exploratory work, and prototyping."

**Equality Act 2010**
*Race discrimination: key points for the workplace*
http://www.acas.org.uk/media/pdf/h/l/Race-discrimination-key-points-for-the-workplace.pdf
(Source: email via LinkedIn from the Institute of Equality and Diversity Practitioners, 25 Aug 2015)
Important new guidance from ACAS.

"This guide offers employers, senior managers, line managers, HR personnel, employees and employee/trade union representatives an insight into how race discrimination can occur in the workplace, how it can be dealt with and how to reduce the chance of future discrimination." [p4]

**Tackling social and digital exclusion – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations**
**"Community-Led Work in Practice: Experiences from Canadian libraries"**
https://clacommunityled.wordpress.com/resources/
(Source: email from John Pateman, 24 Aug 2015)
A series of papers written by the Canadian Library Association Community-Led Library Service Network members exploring aspects of community-led work:

- Cecchetto, Andrea <u>and</u> Leah Rucchetto (2015). *Let the Community Lead: MPL's Community-Led Strategic Planning Process* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Fullerton, Amanda <u>and</u> Sara Gillis (2015). *Strength in Partnerships: Rejuvenating library service in a rural community* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Pateman, John (2015). *Developing a Community-Led Strategy* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Pateman, John (2015). *Creating a Community-Led Staff Structure* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Pateman, John (2015). *Developing a Community-Led Service Structure* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Pateman, John (2015). *Developing Community-Led Systems* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Pateman, John (2015). *Developing a Community-Led Service Culture* (PDF). Blog post available here

- Young, Laura (2015). *Connecting Communities: Edmonton Public Libraries' epl2go mobile service* (PDF). Blog post available here

**"Pilot schemes to give all children automatic library membership"**
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-34048868
Just in case you missed the promotion of the launch of the pilot schemes.

**Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government**
**Child literacy campaign**
https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nicky-morgan-and-david-walliams-launch-child-literacy-campaign
(Source: *Weekly News from CILIP*, 20 Aug 2015)
Just in case you haven't seen this, Nicky Morgan and David Walliams have launched a campaign to make improving literacy a "national mission".

> "The government is therefore funding The Reading Agency to extend their popular Chatterbooks scheme and set up new book clubs in 200 more primary schools all over the country.
>
> Alongside this, the government will also support The Reading Agency to work with schools and get more year-3 pupils enrolled at their local library - helping more children get into the library habit early and address findings that show that 1 in 7 children aged 8 to 16 rarely or never read outside of school."

Further info on the NLT website, see: http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/news/6760_nicky_morgan_and_david_walliams_launch_literacy_campaign, and (in a more critical vein) *The Bookseller*: http://www.thebookseller.com/news/Campaigners-welcome-literacy-drive-but-condemn-government-hypocrisy-309716.

## Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies
**"Literacy for Life"**
http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/literacy_for_life
(Source: National Literacy Trust *Newsletter*, Aug 2015)
The NLT has just launched this new programme which:

> "[…] is designed to reduce the attainment gap between free school meals (FSM) students and non-FSM students by addressing the key language and literacy deficit that many disadvantaged students bring to secondary school.
>
> Centred on the student, Literacy for Life develops academic language whilst building enjoyment of reading to ensure that students gain the necessary skills for future personal and national prosperity."

**"Premier League Reading Stars ignites interest in reading and drives library sign ups in Gateshead"**
http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/about/successes/6749_premier_league_reading_stars_ignites_interest_in_reading_and_drives_library_sign_ups_in_gateshead
(Source: National Literacy Trust *Newsletter*, Aug 2015)
Case study of successful libraries/literacy/football work in Gateshead.

*Universal Skills*
(Source: email from John Snowden, 220 Soft Ltd, 25 Aug 2015)
Please see Appendix for further info about 220 Soft Ltd's *Universal Skills* software.

## Health & Wellbeing issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government
***The impact of adverse experiences in the home on the health of children and young people, and inequalities in prevalence and effects***
https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/Content/FileManager/adverse-experiences-book_final.pdf
(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 17 Aug 2015)
Report by the UCL Institute of Health Equity for the DOH, which looks at adverse childhood experiences (situations which lead to an elevated risk of children and young people experiencing damaging impacts on health, or other social outcomes, across the life course), particularly in relation to young people under the age of 18 who are abused or neglected; live in households where domestic violence, drug and alcohol misuse, mental ill health, criminality, or separation are present; or who live in care.

### Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

**"Active Minds"**

http://www.active-minds.co.uk/

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 13 Aug 2015)

> "Since 2010 Active Minds has been researching, designing and developing activity products to assist people with dementia in leading active, engaging and fulfilling lives – enjoying activities that are meaningful to them."

Range of products available, eg jigsaws, activity packs.

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

**"Multi-sensory storytelling: telling a story with emotions not words"**

http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/blog/multi-sensory-storytelling-telling-story-emotions-not-words?utm_source=Communicator_membership_list&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Untitled43&utm_campaign=Weekly+News+from+CILIP%2c+20+August+2015

(Source: *Weekly News from CILIP*, 20 Aug 2015)

Blogpost on using Bag Books in storytelling.

Further info on Bag Books at: http://www.bagbooks.org/.

### Disability issues – Other Agencies

***Living with sight loss: updating the national picture***

http://www.rnib.org.uk/sites/default/files/Living%20with%20Sight%20Loss.pdf

(Source: *STV Bulletin* 191, 25 Aug 2015)

This report updates the findings of the report first published in 2012 concerning the inequalities faced by people with sight loss compared with those without impairment between 2010 and 2013. The report covers wellbeing; health; learning; work; finance; benefits and social services; participation in society; accessibility; discrimination and hate crime; and relationships.

### SEN issues – Other Agencies

***SEN and disability in the early years: a toolkit***

http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/966790/early-years-toolkit-merged.pdf

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

> "This toolkit supports early years providers in implementing the SEN and disability reforms. The toolkit is based on the statutory requirements and the guidance from the EYFS and the SEN and the disability frameworks; draws on a range of practice guidance; and includes useful tools and reflective tasks for early years practitioners.
>
> Each section of the toolkit focuses on a different aspect of SEN and disability in the early years. There are 10 sections covering: FAQs; statutory requirements; universal inclusive practice; first concerns and early identification; SEN Support in the Early Years; the role of the early years SENCO; how to involve parents and carers; working with other professionals; EHC needs assessments and plans; and transitions for

children with SEN and disabilities" [Taken from:
http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/resources/sen-and-
disability-in-the-early-years-toolkit]

## Migration issues – News
**"ESOL Classes for 16,000 to be cut – Statement by Action for ESOL and Migrants Rights Network"**
http://actionforesol.org/
(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Update*, 17 Aug 2015)

"On 21st July the Skills Funding Agency announced that ESOL courses which have been provided for students receiving Job Seeker's Allowance will be cut with immediate effect.

This latest cut is on top of a 24% reduction to funding for Further Education this year, which has meant extensive losses to ESOL provision nationally. In addition, it has been announced that adult courses will be cut by a further 3.9%, which will be applied retrospectively to adult budgets set in March."

Further info on above weblink and at:
http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/news/2015/new-esol-funding-reductions-will-
see-16000-places-
cut?utm_source=Migrants+Rights+News&utm_campaign=943efad094-
MRN_News_17-07-2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1084a7080c-
943efad094-197822741.

**"All public sector employees who work directly with the public to have fluent English"**
https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-public-sector-employees-who-work-
directly-with-the-public-to-have-fluent-english
(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Aug 2015)
Just in case you haven't seen this news:

- "new legislation to make fluent English a requirement for all public sector staff working in customer-facing roles
- public sector organisations will be required to ensure staff can speak at least school leaver levels of English
- the requirement will be brought in as part of the new Immigration Bill" [Taken from Government press release]

## Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government
**"Language Referring to Migrants and Refugees"**
http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchTy
pe=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-13888&ResultsPerPage=10
(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 447, 10 Aug 2015)
Welcome new Motion (Motion S4M-13888: Christian Allard, North East Scotland, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged: 05/08/2015) put before The Scottish Parliament:

"That the Parliament believes that there is a need for a carefully considered vocabulary when referring to desperate people in need of refuge from abroad; considers that the inappropriate language used by some media broadcasters and politicians is offensive, unhelpful and has failed to understand and address the issue in Calais; understands the difference between migrants and refugees as well as the importance of using the correct term in the correct context, and calls on all politicians and commentators to watch their language on what it considers this complex and sensitive subject."

## Migration issues – Other Agencies

### *The truth about asylum*
(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 11 Aug 2015)
The Refugee Council has produced a revised version of its important "facts and figures". These are available as:

- Individual webpages, with links from
  http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/policy_research/the_truth_about_asylum
- A whole document, available to read online at:
  http://issuu.com/refugeecouncil0/docs/ref_c_tilii_june_2015.

**"Is Britain really full up? Are migrants taking our jobs? Leading academic answers the most common anti-immigration claims"**
http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/is-britain-really-full-up-we-put-the-most-common-assumptions-about-immigration-to-an-expert-10427400.html
(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 447, 10 Aug 2015)
Also, *The Independent* has published this rebuttal of immigration myths.

**"Employment statistics and the need to understand what is going on in labour markets on a local level"**
http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2015/08/employment-statistics-and-need-understand-what-going-labour-markets-local-level?utm_source=Migrants+Rights+News&utm_campaign=943efad094-MRN_News_17-07-2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1084a7080c-943efad094-197822741
(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly Update*, 17 Aug 2015)
"This week's employment statistics showed that the UK economy is continuing to generate jobs at a high rate. Although the numbers are beginning to show signs of weakening, the UK is still ahead in comparison to the rest of Europe which remains stuck in the economic doldrums. Unsurprisingly, given that the country is part of a single market for goods, services, capital and labour, job growth has continued to attract inward migration of workers from other parts of the European Union.

The number of EU nationals employed in the UK now stands at a shade under 2 million people with 85,000 workers added to the total in the three months up to June 2015. A further 30,000 people from non-EU countries

got jobs during this period. In the meantime the numbers of British nationals in employment shrunk by 170,000.

So, are migrants displacing Brits and pushing them onto the dole queue? Funnily enough evidence that this might be happening doesn't exactly leap out of the statistics. A separate tranche of employment figures released on the same day told us that there are 221,000 fewer unemployed but available to work than there were a year ago.

Answers to the conundrum of what is really going on in the UK jobs market are likely to require the unpicking of a lot of subsidiary data with regard to divergences between growth rates in enterprises which utilise skilled workers against those wanting people for unskilled, casual positions as well as the substantial differences in economic performance between the UK regions [...]"

***Moving up and getting on: migration, integration and social cohesion in the UK***
http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781447314622&
(Source: Policy Press *Newsletter*, 24 Aug 2015)
New title by Jill Rutter:

"In most developed countries immigration policy is high on the political agenda. But what happens to migrants after their arrival – integration and social cohesion – has received less attention, yet these conditions matter to migrants and to wider society. Drawing on fieldwork in London and eastern England, Moving up and getting on is the first accessible, yet comprehensive, text to critique the effectiveness of recent integration and social cohesion policies and calls for a stronger political leadership. Written for those interested in public policy, the book argues that if the UK is to be successful in managing migration, there needs to be greater emphasis on the social aspects of integration and opportunities for meaningful social contact between migrants and longer-settled residents, particularly in the workplace."

NB: Charged-for publication, published price £24.99.

**LGBTQ issues – Other Agencies**
**"Trans Children and their Books"**
http://awfullybigblogadventure.blogspot.co.uk/2015/08/trans-children-and-their-books-cathy.html?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter
(Source: email from Anne Harding, 11 Aug 2015)
New blogpost about books featuring trans young people.

**Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations**
***Evidence on the use of volunteers in libraries and on volunteer-run libraries***
http://scottishlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Evidence-on-the-use-of-volunteers-in-libraries-and-on-volunteer-run-libraries-.pdf
(Source: *Weekly News from CILIP*, 20 Aug 2015)

"A review commissioned by the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) has concluded that volunteer-run libraries without professional and local authority input are not a preferred option for library services in Scotland." [Taken from: http://scottishlibraries.org/review-explores-the-role-of-volunteers-in-libraries/]

"[American Library Association] Ethnic Affiliates Form Joint Council of Librarians of Color"
http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2015/08/advocacy/ala-ethnic-affiliates-form-joint-council-of-librarians-of-color/
(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 18 Aug 2015)

"Five ethnic affiliates of the American Library Association (ALA) have joined together to form the Joint Council of Librarians of Color, Inc. (JCLC), a nonprofit organization that will work for the common needs of its members. JCLC is comprised of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), the American Indian Library Association (AILA), the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA,) and REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking. While each of the affiliates will continue as separate entities, advocating for library and literacy issues within their individual constituencies, JCLC will 'promote librarianship within communities of color, support literacy and the preservation of history and cultural heritage, collaborate on common issues, and…host the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color,' according to a statement issued June 8."

## Broader issues – Other Agencies
### *What is aspiration? How progressives should respond*
http://classonline.org.uk/docs/What_is_aspiration.pdf
(Source: email from Class, 25 Aug 2015)
Interesting "Think piece" from Class, which looks at the use of the term "aspiration" and how it's taken on political nuances.

# Universal Skills

## Second to None for 'personal resilience' and digital literacy

**It is a sobering thought that if one person is unable to find employment for forty years between the ages of twenty to sixty, then it will cost the state over £400,000 which includes: rent, council tax, jobseekers allowance etc.**

*220 Soft Ltd* has released *"Universal Skills"* which is now being used by twenty eight services throughout England.

One of the most important features for users is, besides being able to be accessed remotely via their library card number, that at the end of each session they are able to print out their own report. This can be shown to their Jobcentre Plus advisors to demonstrate their commitment to their Claimant Pledge.

*"Universal Skills"* is an online resource providing over 30 guided learning hours of content for people who need assistance with *"Digital Literacy"*, help and advice for jobseekers and anyone who receives benefits -including those following the Universal Credit process. The latest rates of benefits, eligibility, process and Claimant's Commitment are all thoroughly covered.

More importantly, the suite of software provides information that assists *"Digital Champions"* to help members of the public to achieve their own *"Personal Resilience"*. For example, the step-by-step guides on IT Life Skills and the *"Universal Jobmatch"* processes are by far the most comprehensive online resources available with at least six hours of learning on *"Universal Jobmatch" alone*. There are also twenty five *"self help" topics* covering EmployAbility skills.

*Carolyn Waite of Lancashire County Council Libraries service said:*

"Lancashire's library and adult learning services are supporting people needing to learn or update their online jobseeking skills and find out key information about Universal Credit. Branded in Lancashire as *"Jobseeker Skills"*, Universal Skills covers three key topics with clear, easy to understand information and practical advice on using Universal Jobmatch, employment skills and Universal Credit. Free access to Jobseeker Skills is offered to all Lancashire library members in every library branch or at home. The currency of the topics and the speed of information updates is an important feature. Additionally it has full content speech options that allow users to listen to the topics as well as reading them."

The program now includes touch screen tutorials as well and there is full human English speech to help users with Literacy and ESOL requirements. CV creation, interview advice, job skills, set up an email account as well as benefits replaced by Universal Credit and suggestions for monthly budgeting are just a few of the topics that are covered.

Each month every screenshot and information for "Universal Credit" and "Jobmatch" is thoroughly checked to make sure the program is kept up to date.

For the quick video "teaser" visit: www.220soft.co.uk/downloads.html

The services that have already purchased the licence will also be passing the video onto their partners and Benefits Offices:

Barnet, Brent, Bury, Cornwall, Coventry, Croydon, Darlington, Derby Adult Learning, Ealing, Enfield, Hackney, Harrow, Hounslow, Lambeth, Lancashire, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newham, Northamptonshire, North Tyneside, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Solihull, South Tyneside, Tower Hamlets and Wirral...with more to follow shortly.

For an information pack and link to a full demo, contact: sales@220soft.co.uk

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