

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 249, 29 January 2018

Events

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

Consultations/Inquiries

The social impact of participation in culture and sport inquiry

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/digital-culture-media-and-sport-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/socialimpact/>

(Source: *Heritage Update*, 362, 25 Jan 2018)

DCMS have launched an Inquiry which “will investigate ways in which taking part in the arts, cultural activities and sport can have a positive impact on health, community and education.”

Further info in the press release at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/digital-culture-media-and-sport-committee/news/social-impact-inquiry-launch/>.

The deadline for written submissions is **Thursday 22 February 2018**.

Funding & Opportunities

Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/how-well-invest-2018-22/about-grants-arts-and-culture-2018-22>

(Source: Museum Association update, 25 Jan 2018)

“Arts Council England (ACE) has announced that £97.3m a year from 2018-22 will be available to museums, libraries, artists and arts organisations for individual projects from its Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants (ACNLPG), the new name for Grants for the Arts.” [Taken from: https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/24012018-museums-eligible-for-revamped-grants-for-the-arts-funding-for-first-time?dm_i=2VBX,MRER,27LU0M,2CZL7,1]

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

“Beyond Boxes”

<http://www.massobs.org.uk/beyond-boxes>

(Source: *ARC Magazine*, Feb 2018)

“The Mass Observation Archive (MOA), which records the lives of ordinary people, is working in partnership with Blind Veterans UK, the Brighton Housing Trust and Lewes Prison to open up access to the collection.

The two-year Beyond Boxes project began in September 2016 and is supported by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £51,300. The

project aims to break down the barriers many people face in trying to use archives, be these physical, attitudinal or educational, to ensure that heritage is open to all.”

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

Rough sleeping statistics: Autumn 2017, England

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/676097/Rough_Sleeping_Autumn_2017_Statistical_Release.pdf

Just in case you haven't seen the actual stats – had lots of media coverage recently. The headlines are:

- “The autumn 2017 total number of rough sleepers counted and estimated was 4,751.
- That was up 617, or 15% from the autumn 2016 total of 4,134.
- The number of rough sleepers increased by 173, or 18% in London and 444 or 14% in the rest of England since autumn 2016.
- London represented 24% of the England total rough sleepers in autumn 2017. This is up from 23% of the England total in autumn 2016.
- 14% of rough sleepers were women, 20% were non-UK nationals and 8% were under 25 years old.” [p1]

Coverage includes: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/jan/25/rise-in-rough-sleeping-is-no-surprise-its-now-a-routine-sight>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Book ownership and reading outcomes: findings from our Annual Literacy Survey 2016

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/research-services/research-reports/book-ownership-and-reading-outcomes/>

New research results published by the NLT:

“Given that book gifting is a central element of some of our programmes, we felt it would be timely to reinvestigate this area. We therefore asked about book ownership in our latest annual literacy survey that we conducted in November/December 2016, in which 42,406 children and young people aged 8 to 18 participated. Of the 39,097 children and young people who answered the question of whether or not they have a book of their own at home, 90.6% [...] said that they have a book of their own at home. This is a massive increase since 2010, when only 66.8% said they have a book of their own at home.

While this is clearly something to celebrate, we should not overlook the fact that in 2016, 1 child and young person in 11 [...] said that they don't have a book of their own. That percentage rises to 1 child and young person in 8 (13.1%) who receive free school meals: our proxy of socioeconomic background.

Indeed, our data also shows that, compared with those who have books of their own, children who don't have books of their own:

- Do significantly less well on a reading test
- Are nearly four times more likely to read below the average expected for their age
- Enjoy reading less
- Are less likely to read daily
- Are less confident readers.”

Learning & Work Institute labour market analysis

<https://www2.learningandwork.org.uk/statistics/labour/january-2018>

(Source: L&WI *Labour Market LIVE Update*, Jan 2018)

Just in case you haven't seen these useful monthly analyses. The latest, for example, shows that:

- “Unemployment is 1,439,000, up by 10,000 from last month's published figure (quarterly headline is down by 3,000) and the unemployment rate is 4.3%, no change on last month and no change on last quarter [...]
- The number of workless young people (not in employment, full-time education or training) is 986,000, up 22,000 on the quarter, representing 13.9% of the youth population (up 0.4 percentage points).
- Youth unemployment (including students) is 538,000, up 14,000 on the quarter.”

End Child Poverty

<http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/poverty-in-your-area-2018/>

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Daily*, 24 Jan 2018)

“End Child Poverty has published new figures (January 2018) on the level of child poverty in each constituency, local authority and ward in the UK.”

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

Inequality in Europe: Social Europe dossier

<https://www.socialeurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Inequality-in-Europe-final.pdf>

(Source: email from Social Europe, 10 Jan 2018)

Social Europe has teamed up with the Europe Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Institute of Economic and Social Research of the Hans Böckler Stiftung in a project investigating various aspects of inequality in Europe.

Their dossier begins with a general section on understanding inequality and related issues such as globalisation, migration and populism; followed by chapters on inequality in Europe; and an investigation of the inequality dimension in specific policy areas.

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people

Books for Keeps: “Beyond the Secret Garden”

<http://content.yudu.com/web/1mjdV/0A1mjdx/BFK228Jan2018/html/index.html?page=14&origin=reader>

First article in a new series looks at how BAME voices have been represented in children’s literature – and how we might bring about change.

Disability issues – Other Agencies

Guidelines for making your conference presentation accessible to blind and partially sighted people

<http://vocaley.es.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/VocalEyes-guidelines-for-conference-speakers.pdf>

(Source: Matthew Cock, VocalEyes, via LinkedIn, 25 Jan 2018)

Very useful step-by-step guide from VocalEyes.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“Support for asylum seekers and trafficking victims still leaves them destitute”

(Source: *MRN Weekly News*, 23 Jan 2018)

News item from MRN, which reports on the increase in:

“the weekly amount received by asylum seekers to support their living costs while being denied the right to work. The increase of 80 pence per week – to a total of £37.75 per adult, and £28.94 for a baby or child [...]”

The news item also reports that:

“Meanwhile, Focus on Labour Exploitation (FLEX) picked up that victims of human trafficking have had their support allowance slashed. It used to be £65 per week, and has now been brought down to equal the allowance provided to asylum seekers.”

“Municipal research highlights needs and aspirations of migrant communities”

https://migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2018/01/23/municipal-research-highlights-needs-aspirations-migrant-communities/?mc_cid=a081e9e6c2&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3

(Source: *MRN Weekly News*, 23 Jan 2018)

Brief note that “Brighton and Hove city council have commissioned original research to map out migrant communities’ needs, challenges and aspirations.”

There is a link to a local newspaper article which includes a bit more detail:

Brighton & Hove Independent,

<https://www.brightonandhoveindependent.co.uk/news/report-highlights-needs-of-city-s-migrant-communities-1-8332922>

National Conversation on Immigration: an interim report to the Home Affairs Committee

<http://www.britishfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/national-conversation-interim-report.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 554, 22 Jan 2018)

“[...] British Future and HOPE not hate have come together, to involve the public in this debate through the National Conversation on Immigration. In doing this, we aim to:

- Create a robust evidence base of public views on immigration.
- Examine if it is possible to build a consensus on immigration policy and, if so, what steps are needed to do so.
- Engage those with less voice in policy decisions: for example young people and those who live outside big cities.
- Advocate for deeper, on-going public engagement from the Government by demonstrating the value of such work when done well.” [p3]

This is their interim report, written at the half-way stage of the process. It concludes that:

“Specifically, the Government needs to consider three issues if it is to build a consensus:

1. Deal effectively, and be seen to deal effectively, with the local impacts of immigration on public services, housing, neighbourhoods and residents’ quality of life.
2. Encourage social integration between newcomers and longer settled residents through social contact, as this helps build trust and understanding between different groups of people.
3. Look at how Government might institutionalise further public engagement and dialogue, as face-to-face debate enables people to air their concerns and listen to different opinions.” [p5]

LGBTQ issues – Other Agencies

“OUT: LGBTQ Poland by Maciek Nabrdalik review – Poles apart”

https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/jan/15/out-lgbtq-poland-by-maciek-nabrdalik-review-poles-apart?CMP=fb_a-culture_b-gdnculture

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 23 Jan 2018)

Review from *The Observer* of a new book:

“A book of portraits and testimonies from Poland’s LGBTQ community speaks volumes about entrenched rightwing zealotry and intolerance”

The book reviewed is: Maciek Nabrdalik. *OUT: LGBTQ Poland*. The New Press, 2017. See: <https://thenewpress.com/books/out>.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

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