The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 274, 4 March 2019

Events

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

Consultations/Inquiries

"Mental health of men and boys: inquiry launched"
https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/women-and-equalities-committee/news-parliament-2017/mental-health-men-boys-launch-17-19/
(Source: Clinks *Health and Justice Bulletin*, Feb 2019)
As the launch announcement states:

> "Awareness of the mental health problems affecting men and boys has increased in recent years, and it is recognised as a serious issue:
>
> - According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), three out of four people who take their own lives are men (75%); this is the biggest cause of death for men under 50 in England and Wales
> - 12.5% of men in England are suffering from one of the common mental health disorders (NHS Digital)
> - Men are three times more likely than women to become alcohol dependent (Health and Social Care Information Centre)
> - In a survey conducted for the Men's Health Forum, 12% of men said that the last time they took time off work to see a GP was because they were 'constantly feeling stressed or under pressure' and 11% because of 'prolonged feelings of sadness.'"

The Committee is inviting written submissions to the inquiry by **Monday 18 March 2019**.

Funding & Opportunities

"Baring Foundation call for case studies, arts and mental health – deadline 1 April 2019"
http://www.lahf.org.uk/baring-foundation-call-case-studies-arts-and-mental-health-%E2%80%93-deadline-1-april-2019
(Source: *Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance Bulletin*, Feb 2019)
> "From 2020, the Baring Foundation will change the theme for its arts funding from arts and older people to arts and mental health. This year the Foundation wants to explore the state of the field throughout the UK, and next January will publish a scoping / mapping study to launch its new programme (drawing on the model of 2009's *Ageing Artfully*). Central to

this report will be identifying work by arts organisations that engages people with a mental health condition in creative activity. Please send references to relevant work to david.cutler@uk.ing.com by Monday 1 April. These do not have to be specifically written case studies – feel free to send links to existing descriptions."

The Allen Lane Foundation Social Cohesion Programme
http://allenlane.org.uk/social-cohesion-programme/
(Source: *Funding Central Newsletter*, 27 Feb 2019)

"This is a new funding programme, which has been established to provide support to local communities.

It will focus on funding projects that aim to proactively break down barriers and tensions between different groups of people, and build a more cohesive and inclusive community for all […]

The Foundation is seeking applications from community-led grassroots groups and organisations which have a focus of work being at a very local/community level, which could be a housing estate or distinct community.

Applications will be particularly encouraged from areas of high deprivation but not exclusively.

The Foundation is keen to support communities come up with their own solutions to local issues of division.

We are open to supporting actions which are new or may have been tried before or are on-going, however, the work must have lasting benefits for those people the projects are aimed at.

Please contact Tim Cutts – tim@allenlane.org.uk – for any queries about this new Programme, or for further clarification."

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government
Antisemitism in modern society
https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CDP-2019-0042#fullreport
(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 28 Feb 2019)
Useful House of Commons Library debate pack, produced for the debate on 20 Feb.

"This Debate Pack contains information on antisemitism, including: definitions of antisemitism, statutory provisions relevant to antisemitism, antisemitism and election campaigns, and statistics on antisemitism in the UK."

"Government announces up to £26 million for vulnerable rough sleepers"
https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-up-to-26-million-for-vulnerable-rough-sleepers?utm_source=dd735b45-a0b6-4d06-8fd1-894f371831c0&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily
Announced on 1 Mar 2019:

> "Vulnerable people sleeping rough will receive specialist tailored support they need to recover from life on the streets and find accommodation."

This funding is primarily for providing housing and shelter, but there could well be a strong information role that we can play.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies
Prison-University partnerships: a toolkit
https://www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/data/Resources/Prison-University%20Partnerships%20-%20A%20Toolkit.pdf
(Source: National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance *News*, Feb 2019)
Produced by Prisoners' Education Trust, as part of the work of PUPiL (Prison University Partnerships in Learning):

> "This toolkit is designed to support educators and prison staff in setting up and delivering a prison-university partnership. In this toolkit you will find information and guidance on:
>
> - The benefits of prison-university partnerships – to the prison as an institution, to the prison learners, to the university participants, and to the university as a whole.
> - Some types of learning models.
> - Things to consider when you are planning your partnership such as recruitment of participants, accreditation, ways to measure outcomes, and project funding.
> - Tips on delivering a partnership.
> - Evaluation.
> - Ways to signpost the next steps for participants eager to continue engaging with education." [p2]

The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report: 20 years on
https://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/StephenLawrence20briefing.pdf
(Source: email from the Runnymede Trust, 25 Feb 2019)
Important reassessment of what has happened in the last 20 years – with a particular look at the down-playing of the Public Sector Equality Duty and the shift from institutional racism to unconscious bias as the underlying cause of continuing problems.

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

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Nation of sanctuary – refugee and asylum seeker plan

https://gov.wales/docs/dsjlg/publications/equality/190128-refugee-and-asylum-seeker-plan-en.pdf

(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 598, 4 Feb 2019)

Published in Jan 2019, this plan commits the Welsh Government to supporting refugees and asylum-seekers as follows:

- "Refugees and asylum seekers can access health services (including mental health services) which they require throughout the 'asylum journey'. This includes health assessments on arrival and during the dispersal and post-trauma phases.
- Refugees and asylum seekers are provided with the information and advice they need to begin to integrate into Welsh society from day one.
- Asylum seekers are not prevented from accessing appropriate Welsh Government schemes which would support their integration.
- New refugees and asylum seekers are less likely to fall into destitution.
- All refugees and asylum seekers (particularly unaccompanied asylum seeking children) are properly safeguarded and can access advocacy support.
- Refugees and asylum seekers can access educational opportunities, including language skills, to help them rebuild their lives and fulfil their potential." [pp2-3]

Migration issues – Other Agencies

"For Surrey's Koreans, simmering tensions reflect the north-south divide at home"

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/feb/09/notebook-new-malden-korea-north-south-tension

(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 599, 11 Feb 2019)

Just in case you missed this interesting news-story:

> "New Malden's South Koreans are now being joined by increasing numbers from the north, but a shared language is no guarantee of harmony"

New Scots Connect

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3396_launch_new_scots_connect

(Source: *MEMO* [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 598, 4 Feb 2019)

On 29 Jan, the Scottish Refugee Council launched:

> "[…] a new Scotland-wide network of local communities, groups, and organisations to enhance the welcoming environment for refugees.
>
> Called New Scots Connect, the network will provide a range of tools, information, and opportunities that will connect groups and organisations

and help build their capacity to support and welcome refugees into communities across the country.

A key feature of New Scots Connect will be an online, interactive map of the many different community groups and organisations across Scotland who are supporting refugees and asylum seekers, in an attempt to bring together like-minded people and communities. The map itself will be available for everyone to use - from local groups and third sector organisations to people rebuilding their lives in Scotland to find out what is happening in their area."

"Brexit and migration: our new research highlights fact-free news coverage"
https://theconversation.com/brexit-and-migration-our-new-research-highlights-fact-free-news-coverage-109309?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%204%202019%20-%201248911550&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%204%202019%20-%201248911550+CID_f156d919d4ef5937326c0c550d4d2c65&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Brexit%20and%20migration%20our%20new%20research%20highlights%20fact-free%20news%20coverage
(Source: *The Conversation*, 4 Mar 2019)
Very useful – if depressing – report:

> "Immigration anxieties played a significant role in British people's decision in June 2016 to vote to leave the EU. This has fuelled a debate over the quality of media reporting on migration issues.
>
> In order to get a better idea of the role the media played, we examined nearly 1,000 news items, feature articles and editorials from six UK newspapers: the Daily Mail, Daily Mirror, the Sun, the Times, the Daily Telegraph and the Guardian, published in 2006 and in 2013.
>
> These were politically important years: 2006 was the year before Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU and the time when it was becoming clear that migration forecasts for the countries that joined the EU in 2004 had been way off. In 2013 David Cameron, delivered his Bloomberg speech in which he promised the EU referendum.
>
> One thing that quickly became apparent was that media coverage contained a selective mixture of statistics, reported comments from politicians and other public figures, academic studies, think-tank reports, and emotive polemics backed with no evidence at all. The practice of mentioning evidence in passing and then dismissing or overriding it was also present."

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

"Kansas Library Defending LGBTQ Stories from Challengers - UPDATE: VICTORY!"

https://ncac.org/news/blog/kansas-library-defending-lgbtq-stories-from-challengers

A positive ending to an attempt to make Andover Library, Kansas, take three trans YA books off their shelves.

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

"St. Paul Citywide Read Brave Takes on Tough Topics"

https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=St-Paul-Citywide-Read-Brave-Takes-on-Tough-Topics

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 19 Feb 2019)

Great that some US libraries continue to do this:

> "How can a community have brave, challenging conversations? That was the question St. Paul, MN Mayor Melvin Carter III posed to Catherine Penkert, director of the St. Paul Public Library (SPPL). Her response was to launch the citywide reading initiative, Read Brave St. Paul, in January and February.
>
> 'Through focused conversations, Read Brave helps us better understand the challenges our children and families face so that we can address those challenges together,' said Carter. 'Because no institution embodies the free exchange of ideas and information more so than public libraries, our library is the natural convener of these discussions.'"

The cultural learning evidence champion's handbook

https://www.thersa.org/globalassets/pdfs/reports/rsa-cultural-learning-evidence-champions-handbook.pdf

(Source: National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance *News*, Feb 2019)

> "This handbook is a guide to getting to grips with what we call the 'evidence agenda' in arts and cultural learning. Evidencing the difference your work makes to the people who take part and learning from how others have evaluated their work can help all of us improve and make arts and cultural learning stronger and more sustainable. The trouble is that it is hard and no one ever tells you what you need to be good at, to be good at using evidence.
>
> This handbook is designed to make it easier not only to 'do' evidence and evaluation, but to love them, to become a champion for them and spread the good word throughout arts and cultural education." [p3]

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