The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 275, 29 March 2019

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

Coastal Revival Fund

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/james-brokenshire-announces-over-36-million-for-the-great-british-coast?utm_source=72a715fd-5ed7-44f2-bbb7-f1a917a5c8b6&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

> "Seventy projects up and down the Great British Coast have been awarded a total of over £36 million from a UK government fund to help develop and improve tourist attractions, create jobs and promote socio-economic growth."

The list of successful bids is at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/788778/coastal_revival_fund_projects.pdf.

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

"Exclusive: 4,000 Public Computers Slashed From Libraries And Jobcentres Under 'Austerity Cuts'"

https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/public-computers-cut-from-libraries-jobcentres_uk_5c8a9e0ce4b0d7f6b0f0da14

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 17 Mar 2019)

Just in case you haven't seen this important news story which shows not only the depth of cuts of computers from public libraries and Jobcentres, but also the lack of understanding that not everyone is online at home or digitally literate:

> "A Freedom of Information request by HuffPost UK revealed 462,000 people required help from friends, family, the jobcentre or a charity to apply for Universal Credit online."

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Early school exposure, test scores, and noncognitive outcomes

Research report: http://www.cream-migration.org/publ_uploads/CDP_03_19.pdf
Press release: http://www.cream-migration.org/files/Disadvantaged_boys_benefit_most_from_early_school_years_UCL_Press_Release_FINAL.pdf

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Early Years and Education Bulletin*, 5 Mar 2019)

New research from the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, reported in the latest paper in their Discussion Paper series, shows that:

> "Boys from disadvantaged backgrounds benefit most from early schooling, helping to narrow the skills gap (60-80%) with boys from high socio-economic backgrounds." [Press release, p1]

"Knife crime: causes and solutions – editors' guide to what our academic experts say"
https://theconversation.com/knife-crime-causes-and-solutions-editors-guide-to-what-our-academic-experts-say-113318
(Source: *The Conversation*, 11 Mar 2019)
Important and useful 'special' from *The Conversation*:

> "There has been a torrent of media coverage about violent crime among children and young people in the UK. But it seems to offer little consensus on what's causing this crisis, what the impact of measures taken by government and police are and what should be done to curb the violence.
>
> In a debate often dominated by politicians, celebrities and media commentators, the voices of academics who have spent years researching this issue have not been heard enough.
>
> That's why we're bringing you a round up of evidence-based views on the knife crime epidemic – including what action is really needed to prevent more young lives being lost.
>
> Many of the academics featured have worked directly with young people and communities affected by knife crime, or with authorities and organisations working to manage it."

Online title: "It's not just you who does the jail sentence, it's the whole family"/ Print-version title: "Prisons: the books rebuilding family ties inside and outside jail"
https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/mar/19/prisoners-stories-reconnect-children
Interesting article about the growth of the "Bedtime Stories" programme which supports prisoners to write a story for children in their family.

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people
Breaking new ground: celebrating British writers & illustrators of colour
https://www.booktrust.org.uk/globalassets/resources/represents/breaking-ground-brochure.pdf
(Source: CILIP School Libraries Group *eNewsletter*, Mar 2019)
This important new publication is:

> "[…] a resource which highlights the depth and breadth of talent of British writers and illustrators of colour creating work for young people. Yes,

they do exist, even if they may be flying under the mainstream radar – for now. Read them, book them, buy their books, tell your schools about them, look them up … and give these authors an equal chance to tell the story of a proudly diverse, twenty-first century UK to our new generations." [p5]

Children's books on migration, refugees/migrants and multicultural living
https://teenlibrarianblog.files.wordpress.com/2019/02/bibliography.pdf
(Source: *Teen Librarian Monthly*, Mar 2019)
As Matt Imrie says:

> "In 2017 I attended a one-day interdisciplinary workshop about Refugee Narratives in Children's Literature at Birkbeck College organised by The Reluctant Internationalists."

Matt has now published this really useful bibliography of children's books on migration, refugees/migrants and multicultural living, produced for the workshop.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

"Not Just Deodorant: Teen Hygiene Health Center at the Rockwood Makerspace"
https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/teen-hygiene-health-center.html?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=March+6+2019+Crossroads&utm_term=WebJunctionCrossroads_COMM
(Source: WebJunction *Crossroads*, 6 Mar 2019)
Interesting intervention by a US library service:

> "Judith Guzman-Montes, Bilingual Makerspace Library Assistant, at the Multnomah County Library in Portland, Oregon, created a Teen Hygiene Health Center in the restroom of the Rockwood makerspace to serve the needs of teens visiting the library. Judith shares how they are using a simple shoe or pocket organizer in the restroom to provide health and hygiene items, and provide pamphlets with information on related services."

Calm and collected – museums and galleries: the UK's untapped wellbeing resource?
https://www.artfund.org/assets/national-art-pass/artfund_calm-and-collected-wellbeing-report.pdf
(Source: MARCH Mental Health Network *Newsletter*, Mar 2019)
New report from the Art Fund:

> "The results of two stages of research – a UK-wide representative survey, and a qualitative social study in which participants were encouraged to visit museums and galleries once a week with a National Art Pass and keep a diary of their activities – suggest that engaging with the nation's art collections more frequently can help improve our

wellbeing. It is an activity that can bring people together, and over time it can become part of an approach to life that people may find healthier and more balanced." [p7]

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

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies
10 tips to help your project reduce loneliness
https://whatworkswellbeing.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/10-tips-to-help-your-project-reduce-loneliness_NPC.pdf
(Source: New Philanthropy Capital *Weekly Update*, 6 Mar 2019)
Drawn from advice for Building Connections Fund grant-holders, this paper:

> "[…] brings together emerging findings to help grant-holders plan and implement their projects, so that they work more effectively to reduce loneliness. We hope this review is also of use more broadly to organisations working to combat loneliness.
>
> This guide does not contain original research or a comprehensive review of the evidence base. Rather, it tries to share insights from the existing evidence base with grant holders and other organisations working on combatting loneliness. There is currently a lack of solid evidence about individual activities or interventions. But here we draw out promising factors, mechanisms and approaches that make existing interventions more likely to be effective […]
>
> These tips do not focus on what is delivered but on how services are delivered […]" [p2]

Disability issues – Other Agencies
"Sight loss charity launches online film"
https://www.charitydigitalnews.co.uk/2019/02/25/sight-loss-charity-launches-online-film/
(Source: *STV Bulletin* 263, Mar 2019)
> "The charity Blind Veterans UK [see: https://www.blindveterans.org.uk/] has launched an online video campaign to raise awareness of the isolation faced by elderly people with sight loss.
>
> The film is available on YouTube [see link in the news release] as well the charity's website and features the story of Ken, a blind ex-service man who has been supported by Blind Veterans UK since 2015."

Migration issues – Other Agencies
"The benefits of 'Gardens of Sanctuary' for asylum seekers"
https://www.sustainweb.org/news/jan19_gardens_sanctuary/
(Source: MARCH Mental Health Network *Newsletter*, Mar 2019)
> "Social Farms and Gardens and the Permaculture Association are working with City of Sanctuary to support and inspire some of the

thousands of community growing spaces in the UK to become places of sanctuary for people forced to flee from persecution."

A new home at work: an employer's guidebook to fostering inclusion for refugee employees
https://www.tent.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Deloitte-Tent-A-new-home-at-work.pdf
(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 78, Mar 2019)
New guidance from Deloitte and Tent*:

> "[…] draws on extensive primary, ethnographic research and established leading practices across diversity and inclusion (D&I) and employee experience. It offers an approach to support employers in fostering inclusion for refugee employees and is composed of inclusion initiatives in six key areas:
>
> - Preboarding and onboarding [ie before they join the organisation, and then after they have joined];
> - Employee and team readiness;
> - Language translation and development;
> - Learning and growth;
> - Community-building; and
> - Flexibility and well-being." [p3]

Interesting, and possibly useful, but very business organisation-orientated.

* "Tent works closely with businesses to help them identify and understand opportunities to help refugees. When companies are ready to take concrete actions, Tent works closely with them to develop and implement tangible commitments to support refugees. We believe that companies have the greatest impact when they treat refugees not as victims, but as economically-productive workers, suppliers, entrepreneurs, and customers – and when they leverage their core business operations to hire refugees, integrate them into supply chains, invest in refugees, and deliver services to them." [Taken from: https://www.tent.org/about/]

Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations
Unlimited value: leading practice in unlimited value creation
https://librariesunlimitedsw.sharepoint.com/orgdocs/Marketing%20and%20Communications/Public%20Documents/Reports/Libraries%20Unlimited%20Unlimited%20Value%20Report.pdf
New research report from the University of Exeter Business School in conjunction with Libraries Unlimited:

> "The research, carried out by the University of Exeter Business School, Libraries Unlimited, the Real Ideas Organisation (RIO) and Open Date Institute (ODI) Devon, has led to the creation of the 'Unlimited Value'

model, which identifies three tools that library leaders can harness to maximise the difference their work has on local communities:

- Giving staff more opportunities to be enterprising and innovative
- A clearly defined set of values and mission
- Using data to make better decisions, and clearly demonstrate to communities just what value their library brings them."

Broader issues – Other Agencies

This is a crisis: facing up to the age of environmental breakdown – initial report
Full report: https://www.ippr.org/files/2019-02/this-is-a-crisis-feb19.pdf
Summary: https://www.ippr.org/files/2019-02/risk-and-environment-feb19-summary.pdf
(Source: *IPPR Newsletter*, Feb 2019)

"Mainstream political and policy debates have failed to recognise that human impacts on the environment have reached a critical stage, potentially eroding the conditions upon which socioeconomic stability is possible. Human-induced environmental change is occurring at an unprecedented scale and pace and the window of opportunity to avoid catastrophic outcomes in societies around the world is rapidly closing. These outcomes include economic instability, large-scale involuntary migration, conflict, famine and the potential collapse of social and economic systems. The historical disregard of environmental considerations in most areas of policy has been a catastrophic mistake.

In response, this paper argues that three shifts in understanding across political and policy communities are required: of the scale and pace of environmental breakdown, the implications for societies, and the subsequent need for transformative change […]

IPPR is undertaking a programme of work to better understand and develop solutions to these problems. Over the next year, we will assess what progress has been made toward responding to environmental breakdown, using the UK as a case study within the global context. We will then develop policies that can realise a sustainable, just and prepared world and seek to understand how political and policy communities can develop the sense of agency needed to overcome environmental breakdown." [Summary, pp1-2]