

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 285, 9 September 2019

Events

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

Funding & Opportunities

"100 places to benefit from new Towns Fund" https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-places-to-benefit-from-new-townsfund?utm_source=94d6c35c-8981-4fa8-98b7-46b93d187667&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuknotifications&utm_content=daily Press release announcing "The 100 places invited to develop proposals for a new generation of multi-million-pound Town Deals [...]

The list of places is at: <u>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5d722667e5274a09881c0c58/list</u>-of-100-places.pdf.

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

Books beyond bars: the transformative potential of prison libraries <u>https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000369835/PDF/369835eng.pdf.multi</u> (Source: National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance Newsletter, Aug 2019)

Important look at the role and importance of prison libraries in different parts of the world. It begins by summarising – as far as it is able – the current position across the world ("Today, some 11 million individuals are thought to be held in penal institutions worldwide" [p9]); and then goes on to look at: lifelong learning in prison; the contribution of prison libraries; the policy environment and prison library guidelines; experiences from prison libraries around the world; and ends with conclusions and policy directions.

NB Fuller assessment to appear in The Network Newsletter.

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

ALISS Summer Conference 2019: "Promoting Well-being in Libraries: Practical Advice on Planning and Marketing Events for our Staff and User Communities"

(Source: email from Heather Dawson, Secretary of the Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences, 30 Aug 2019)

The papers from this conference are now available and look really interesting and useful:

- "Mental Health and Wellbeing: The Role of Libraries", see: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/heatherdawson/mental-health-and-wellbeing-the-role-of-libraries</u>
- "The Hive Mind: Supporting Community Wellbeing in an Integrated Public and University Library", see: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/heatherdawson/the-hive-mind-supporting-</u> <u>community-wellbeing-in-an-integrated-public-and-university-library</u>
- "Pills, Skills and Toothaches: Planning a Library Walking Tour for Staff and Members of the Public", see: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/heatherdawson/pills-skills-and-toothaches-planning-a-library-walking-tour</u>
- "Organising a Reading Group for Students and Staff to Promote Wellbeing", see: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/heatherdawson/the-</u> <u>reading-group-at-teeside-university-organising-a-reading-group-for-</u> <u>students-and-staff-to-promote-wellbeing</u>

Discussion from the day has also been preserved on their padlet link, see: <u>https://padlet.com/h_dawson/m2x9u5txyklg</u>.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Charities, young people and digital mental health services <u>https://www.thinknpc.org/resource-hub/charities-young-people-and-digital-</u> mental-health-

services/?utm_source=New%20Philanthropy%20Capital&utm_medium=email& utm_campaign=10809627_NPC%20newsletter%20-%20August%202019 (Source: New Philanthropy Capital *Newsletter*, 30 Aug 2019) Newish (it was published in Apr) from New Philanthropy Capital and Nominet:

"This discovery paper looks at the landscape of the charity sector and others working on digital services that support children and young people with mental health issues [...]

In the paper we present:

- Key contextual information on children and young people's mental health.
- An overview of the types of digital mental health services available for young people.
- Challenges facing charities wishing to do more in this space, and the key barriers preventing
- development of services.
- Opportunities to support youth charities with their digital mental health services.
- Opportunities for funders." [pp6-7]

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

"A Million Stories – how libraries can foster integration of refugees through culture and storytelling"

https://christianlauersen.net/2019/08/07/a-million-stories-how-libraries-fosterintegration-of-refugees-through-culture-and-storytelling/

(Source: Weekly update from the CILIP CEO, w/c 12 Aug 2019)

Blogpost by Danish public library director, Christian Lauerson, about the power and importance of stories:

"In order to welcome refugees and migrants and treat them with human decency, helping them to the best life possible and giving them a sustainable path for the future it is utterly important that we – both as individuals and as communities – try to understand, that behind all the refugee statistics, behind all the headlines there are real fellow human beings with stories, needs and hopes for the future."

and the role that libraries can play in this.

"How can libraries support children and immigrant families? By doing what we do best"

https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=how-can-libraries-support-children-andimmigrant-families-by-doing-what-we-do-

<u>best&utm_source=Marketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=july9LJXpre</u> ss

(Source: LJXpress – Library Journal, 9 Jul 2019)

Useful US round-up of practical ideas, including provision of library materials and outreach.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Welcome: a guide for new refugees

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welcome-a-guide-for-new-refugees (Source: West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership *e-Bulletin*, 8, Aug 2019) Published in Aug by the Home Office & UK Visas and Immigration:

"This is a guide book for adults who have been granted asylum in England to access public services and make the most of the opportunities in the UK.

Contents:

Chapter 1: Introduction to the UK Chapter 2: Once you've been recognised as a refugee Chapter 3: The first month Chapter 4: Employment and Benefits Chapter 5: Housing and Services Chapter 6: Education Chapter 7: Legal Rights and Responsibilities Chapter 8: Healthcare Chapter 9: Useful Phrases, Contacts and Further Information"

Available in English and Albanian; Amharic; Arabic; Kurdish Sorani; Farsi; Pashto; Punjabi; Tigrinya; Urdu; Vietnamese; Chinese.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

"How EU families in Britain are coping with Brexit uncertainty"

https://theconversation.com/how-eu-families-in-britain-are-coping-with-brexituncertainty-

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<u>%201399413184+CID_b9b15712620ffe4793c48d7d7c05dcf1&utm_source=ca</u> mpaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=How%20EU%20families%20in%20Britain%20a re%20coping%20with%20Brexit%20uncertainty

(Source: The Conversation, 2 Sep 2019)

Important article that sets out some of the uncertainties facing EU families.

It draws on a research study, "EU families & Eurochildren in Brexiting Britain" – see: <u>https://eurochildren.info/</u>.

This opinion piece by Marley Morris (Associate Director for Immigration, Trade and EU affairs at the IPPR thinktank) is also of interest:

"How will Britain treat EU citizens after Brexit? They need to know – and so does business",

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/22/britain-eucitizens-brexit-business-immigration-policies

"How immigration can make some UK-born residents feel worse off even if they aren't – new research"

https://theconversation.com/how-immigration-can-make-some-uk-bornresidents-feel-worse-off-even-if-they-arent-new-research-

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<u>%201404913238+CID_997319dccab233c5500733f9d4cbb0f0&utm_source=ca</u> mpaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=How%20immigration%20can%20make%20som <u>e%20UK-</u>

born%20residents%20feel%20worse%20off%20even%20if%20they%20arent% 20%20new%20research

(Source: The Conversation, 9 Sep 2019)

Very interesting article, looking at some new research which explores possible reasons for negativity towards migration despite evidence that migration brings benefits. "So the question arises: why in the face of overwhelmingly positive economic effects, would the subjective well-being of some people in the UK be negatively impacted by immigration? In our study, we put forward two potential explanations that we feel are important, but there are likely to be many more.

The first we suggest is due to flawed reasoning. In effect, a rise in immigration could cause psychological distress for UK-born residents based on their belief or perception that it lowers their economic opportunities – even if it doesn't actually have a negative impact [...]

A psychological framework called social identity theory offers another potential explanation for our findings. This relates to the idea that people are naturally inclined to self-categorise into an 'in-group' (us) versus an 'out-group' (them). In turn, people belonging to the in-group are less likely to be trusting of out-group members.

It is not hard to see that UK-born residents, especially those with relatively strong attachments to their own ethnic identity, may perceive themselves as part of an in-group and immigrants as part of an outgroup. Social identity theory therefore suggests that even if effects on economic outcomes are positive, migrants may be perceived by UK-born residents as belonging to a competing out-group, and in turn a cultural threat irrespective of whether this is actually true or not."

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

"London book chain sets up libraries for retirement homes"

https://bookstr.com/article/london-book-chain-sets-up-libraries-for-retirementhomes/

(Source: message from Simon Wallace, 14 Aug 2019)

Foyles have agreed a deal "[...] with Elysian Residences to install highend libraries in its homes. Residents will be allowed to purchase books, DVDs and other content from Foyles through Elysian. There are currently plans to install bookstores in Elysian's two retirement homes."

Broader issues – Other Agencies

"Why don't local people have a greater say in their neighbourhoods?"

https://theconversation.com/why-dont-local-people-have-a-greater-say-in-theirneighbourhoods-

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<u>%201404913238+CID_997319dccab233c5500733f9d4cbb0f0&utm_source=ca</u> mpaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Why%20dont%20local%20people%20have%2 0a%20greater%20say%20in%20their%20neighbourhoods

(Source: The Conversation, 9 Sep 2019)

Interesting article exploring the background to local decision-making – and the enormous effort involved in steering through any form of local plan.

Brexit

Briefing: post-Brexit priorities for low-income voters in deprived areas https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/post-brexit-priorities-low-income-voters-deprivedareas?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20roundup%20wc%2029%20July%202019&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20roundup%20wc%2029%20July%202019+Version+A+CID_d35b52d71e8fd68f834eeb 9e9fd722cf&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%2 Othe%20briefing (Source: JRF Weekly Round-up, 2 Aug 2019) New briefing from JRF:

"This briefing sets out what low-income voters, in parts of the country that have been locked out of opportunity, want to see after Brexit: their hopes, fears and aspirations for their families and local economies." [p1]

The 'headlines' are:

- 1. "The people we spoke to feel disillusioned and distrust politicians. Three years after the Brexit vote, they are frustrated at the lack of progress on the domestic issues that matter to them.
- 2. People on low incomes are demanding change from political leaders after Brexit, regardless of their political preferences. They expect more spending on domestic priorities, want to see their areas receive their 'fair share' of investment from government and business, so they have the opportunity to thrive.
- 3. An ambitious policy offer could deliver electoral dividends. People's economic priorities were for more vibrant local economies and high streets; better paid and more secure work that boosts their living standards; and opportunities to improve their skills and find good apprenticeships." [p1]

There are further ideas that could be developed from the Briefing in co-author Mike Hawking's blogpost, "How to unlock the potential of low-income voters in left-behind places", <u>https://www.jrf.org.uk/blog/how-unlock-potential-low-income-voters-left-behind-</u>

places?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20roundup%20wc%2029%20July%202019&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20roundup%20wc%2029%20July%202019+Version+A+CID_d35b52d71e8fd68f834eeb 9e9fd722cf&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%2 0Mikes%20blog.