



## The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 289, 9 November 2019

### Events

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

### Funding & Opportunities

#### “2020 Windrush Day Grant”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2020-windrush-day-grant>

(Source: *Devon Funding News*, updates 21 Oct 2019)

“Information on how local authorities, charities and community groups can submit bids for funding from the Windrush Day Grant scheme.”

In the current climate, you may think this is a bit hypocritical, but the info is here if you'd like to apply. Deadline: **8 Dec 2019**.

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

#### “Archives and diversity are cancelled. We need archival intersectionality”

<https://aranewprofessionals.wordpress.com/2019/10/25/archives-and-diversity-are-cancelled-we-need-archival-intersectionality-jasspreet-thethi/>

(Source: email from *Off the Record*, 25 Oct 2019)

Important and challenging blog post by Jasspreet Thethi (Reader Services Assistant, John Rylands Library) who argues in relation to the terms ‘diversity’ and ‘inclusion’ that:

“People dissect these words at conferences and managers meetings and weave them into strategic plans. However, the definition of the word is merely: ‘a range of different things.’ Therefore it can be utilised in ways which are not inclusive of under-served communities, while still meeting the ‘diversity aims’ of the institution.”

She wants us to use ‘intersectionality’ instead:

“The GLAM [Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums] sector can use intersectionality to ensure that all people are included in the conversation and represented, to expand the narrow visitor base in an ethical and sensitive way.”

## **“Public Library Champion of the Year 2019: Remarkable Community Support at Carrickfergus Library”**

<http://www.lorensbergs.co.uk/blog/posts/2019/october/public-library-champion-of-the-year-2019-remarkable-community-support-at-carrickfergus-library/>

(Source: email from the CILIP Public and Mobile Libraries Group, 25 Oct 2019)

Blogpost on the Lorensbergs site, celebrating the work of the winner, Jillian McFrederick, (Branch Manager of Carrickfergus Library, Libraries NI).

## **“Reading Rooms”**

<https://slgtalkingbooks.com/2019/11/06/reading-rooms-karen-usher/>

Brief piece about Reading Rooms:

“In 2017 Hull was UK City of Culture and thousands of wonderful events took place. The programme sought to involving the whole city in multifarious events – both as spectators and as participants.

Reading Rooms was a legacy project started by DerryLondonDerry – the previous UK City of Culture [...] The premise is that we read a story or extract to a group of people. We break the stories into chunks and invite the participants to talk about the stories and incidents in their lives that the stories remind them of. So, its Talking Rooms too! We finish each session with a short poem that matches the theme of the story in some way. We ask the group if any of them would like to read the poem after we have discussed it [...]

Reading Rooms is supported by [Hull Libraries and The James Reckitt Fund](#). Reading Rooms takes place in Care Homes, Independent Living Facilities, Schools, with Home Educated groups, Hospices and in a variety of departments of The Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.”

## **Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies**

***Structurally unsound – exploring inequalities: igniting research to better inform UK policy***

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/grand-challenges/sites/grand-challenges/files/structurally-unsound-report.pdf>

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 24 Oct 2019)

New report from UCL and the Resolution Foundation.

“Choose any year at random over the past fifty years and you’d be almost certain to find at least one piece of equalities-focused legislation enacted in that year [...]

And there is much to show for this effort [...]

Yet large inequalities remain. At 67.6 per cent, the proportion of BAME adults in work has increased significantly from the rate of 61.7 per cent recorded just a decade ago. But it still lags behind the rate recorded for the white population by 10.6 percentage points. And it is a similar picture

on pay. In raw terms, the average hourly pay of black male graduates is 24 per cent lower than that recorded among white male graduates [...] And even when we control for the characteristics of the two populations and the jobs they do – the gap remains in place. That is, where we compare workers and jobs that differ only in terms of the colour of their skin, a pay gap of 17 per cent is still recorded.” [p5]

In order to try to break through this barrier, “[...] UCL and the Resolution Foundation have convened a series of roundtables and undertaken interviews with research and policy experts from a range of disciplines, policy areas, sectors and locations.” [p6]

From this work, they identified five themes:

- Language
- Opportunity
- Understanding evidence
- Voice
- Place.

This led to the creation of a “technocratic list of lessons” to identify and pass on good practice. These can be grouped as:

- Recognise that language matters
- Shift the focus onto equity
- Ensure diversity of evidence in decision making
- Change the structure of society by changing who designs it
- Adopt a place-based approach.

***Words matter: the role of literacy in combatting social exclusion***

[https://literacytrust.org.uk/blog/words-matter-role-literacy-combatting-social-exclusion/?utm\\_source=National+Literacy+Trust&utm\\_campaign=32b6c1cc74-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2019\\_05\\_02\\_09\\_22\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_2ac9ac18ec-32b6c1cc74-27737195&mc\\_cid=32b6c1cc74&mc\\_eid=a2d98ab814](https://literacytrust.org.uk/blog/words-matter-role-literacy-combatting-social-exclusion/?utm_source=National+Literacy+Trust&utm_campaign=32b6c1cc74-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_05_02_09_22_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2ac9ac18ec-32b6c1cc74-27737195&mc_cid=32b6c1cc74&mc_eid=a2d98ab814)

(Source: email from National Literacy Trust, 15 Oct 2019)

Blogpost by NLT Director, Jonathan Douglas, looking at the importance of literacy skills.

“Children who start school without the literacy, language and communication skills they need to learn and flourish will have their futures cut short before they’ve even started. As children they won’t be able to succeed at school, as young adults they will be locked out of the job market, and as parents they won’t be able to support their own child’s learning – putting social inclusion, and the chance to live in a fairer society, out of reach for generations of children.”

As well as setting out the key issues arising from low literacy levels, this blogpost outlines the NLT's approach:

"[...] we must target our work in the places where we can make the biggest difference to children's lives.

Working with Experian, we've been able to pinpoint the nation's literacy cold spots – communities where as many as a third of the adult population is functionally illiterate, child poverty is rife, social mobility has stagnated and life expectancy hasn't improved.

Using this analysis, we have established 12 Literacy Hubs and campaigns in towns, cities and regions where low levels of literacy and poverty are seriously impacting people's lives, including Middlesbrough, Bradford, Stoke-on-Trent and the North East."

### **Words for the silenced**

<https://www.exiledwriters.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Issue-3.pdf>

Write-up of the Exiled Writers Ink Agit Lit Café poetry evening, in partnership with Amnesty International. The evening focused on the work of:

"Ahmed Mansoor (UAE), Ashraf Fayadh (Saudi Arabia), Galal El-Behairy (Egypt) and Nedim Türfent (Turkey). Ashraf and Galal are both in prison for their poetry. Ahmed and Nedim both write poetry, but Ahmed Mansoor is being punished for his human rights activism and Nedim Türfent for being a journalist." [p2]

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

#### **"National Trust unveils dementia-friendly campaign"**

[https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/21102019-national-trust-unveils-dementia-friendly-campaign?utm\\_campaign=1604236\\_24102019&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Museums%20Association&dm\\_i=2VBX,YDU4,3D6PTN,3LTYJ,1](https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/21102019-national-trust-unveils-dementia-friendly-campaign?utm_campaign=1604236_24102019&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Museums%20Association&dm_i=2VBX,YDU4,3D6PTN,3LTYJ,1)

(Source: email from Nicky Boyd to [gem@jiscmail.ac.uk](mailto:gem@jiscmail.ac.uk), 24 Oct 2019)

News item from the MA:

"The National Trust has announced an initiative to work with Alzheimer's Society to make its 500 historic and countryside sites dementia-friendly.

The plan will give the trust's 9,000 staff and 65,000 volunteers the chance to be involved in the Alzheimer Society's Dementia Friends programme to change people's perceptions of the condition.

The partnership will focus on upskilling the 74,000 people who work and volunteer for the National Trust; improving the accessibility of trust sites for visitors; and improving internal policies and processes to support members of staff and volunteers who may be affected by the condition."

### **“National Gallery debuts mental health awareness audio tour”**

<https://advisor.museumsandheritage.com/news/national-gallery-debuts-mental-health-awareness-audio-tour/>

(Source: email from Nicky Boyd to [gem@jiscmail.ac.uk](mailto:gem@jiscmail.ac.uk), 17 Oct 2019)

Announcement of the launch of a new audio tour:

“The audio tour, which draws on young people’s real life experiences of mental health issues, has been created with the aims of improving the understanding of mental health among visitors to the gallery and providing an opportunity for people to engage with the National Gallery collections in an alternative way.”

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

#### **“Damning survey shows heritage sites must do more to be inclusive”**

[https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/30102019-damning-survey-shows-heritage-sites-must-do-more-to-be-inclusive?utm\\_campaign=1610793\\_31102019&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Museums%20Association&dm\\_i=2VBX,YIW9,27LU0M,3MEJA,1](https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/30102019-damning-survey-shows-heritage-sites-must-do-more-to-be-inclusive?utm_campaign=1610793_31102019&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Museums%20Association&dm_i=2VBX,YIW9,27LU0M,3MEJA,1)

(Source: Museum Association update, 31 Oct 2019)

News report from the MA about the just-published results from a recent survey:

“More than 40% of parents of children with special needs reported that staff or other visitors had been unfriendly or made them feel uncomfortable while visiting museums, art galleries, theatres, stately homes or castles with their children.

Only 22% of parents whose children do not have special needs reported the same [...]

The survey also included recommendations on how to improve support for people with additional needs. Almost half (46%) of parents called for specific quiet or loud times and designated areas to cater to children with special needs. More than a third (36%) believed the ability to queue jump would improve their experience, while 33% said accessible toilets and quality changing facilities would better support their children’s needs.”

More info about the survey results at: <https://www.ecclesiastical.com/media-centre/inclusive-heritage/>.

### **Disability issues – Other Agencies**

#### **“Exeter City Football Club launch Autism packs”**

<https://news.exeter.gov.uk/exeter-city-football-club-launch-autism-packs/>

(Source: Exeter City Council News, 25 Oct 2019)

Just included as a good example of a venue taking on autism awareness.

## Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

**“Language courses more beneficial for integration of migrants than tests, suggests new Council of Europe survey”**

[https://search.coe.int/directorate\\_of\\_communications/Pages/result\\_details.aspx?ObjectId=0900001680982bdd](https://search.coe.int/directorate_of_communications/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=0900001680982bdd)

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 631, 24 Oct 2019)

Press release announcing the publication of a new report from the Council of Europe. The recommendations are:

- Since courses are likely to be more beneficial to integration than tests, learning opportunities should be affordable and accessible to all.
- If tests are used for migration purposes, they should meet the highest standards of quality and fairness. Specifically, language requirements should be set at a level that is realistic for most adult learners.
- When designing migration and integration policies, particular attention should be devoted to vulnerable groups.
- Due to human rights concerns, the use of pre-entry requirements for family reunification is strongly discouraged.”

The full report is also available:

*Linguistic integration of adult migrants: requirements and learning opportunities for migrants*, <https://rm.coe.int/prems-112819-gbr-2518-liam-report-2019-couv-texte-16x24-provisoire-web/16809838b3>

## Migration statistics

<https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/SN06077#fullreport>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 631, 24 Oct 2019)

New House of Commons Library Briefing Paper.

“This briefing paper explains the concepts and methods used in measuring migration. It contains current and historical data on immigration, emigration and net migration in the UK. It sets out the most recent estimates of the UK’s foreign national and foreign-born populations and includes international comparisons of migration and migrant populations in European Union countries.” [p3]

## Migration issues – Other Agencies

**“Refugees and migrants know the risks of stowing away on a lorry – but feel they must take them”**

[https://theconversation.com/refugees-and-migrants-know-the-risks-of-stowing-away-on-a-lorry-but-feel-they-must-take-them-125862?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%20202019%20-%201447213709&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%20202019%20-%201447213709+CID\\_6c2fa8cfaafbcf52222919af790f6e05&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Refugees%20and%20migrants%20know%20the%20](https://theconversation.com/refugees-and-migrants-know-the-risks-of-stowing-away-on-a-lorry-but-feel-they-must-take-them-125862?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%20202019%20-%201447213709&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%20202019%20-%201447213709+CID_6c2fa8cfaafbcf52222919af790f6e05&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Refugees%20and%20migrants%20know%20the%20)

[20risks%20of%20stowing%20away%20on%20a%20lorry%20%20but%20feel%20they%20must%20take%20them](#)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 29 Oct 2019)

Following the tragic death of 39 people on their journey to the UK, this valuable article asks the question: “And why would migrants, refugees or other stowaways make the decision to travel like freight, and do they know the risks?”

### **Looked-after children & young people issues – Other Agencies**

#### ***Digital resilience, inclusion & wellbeing for looked after children & young people***

<https://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/publications/digital-resilience-inclusion-wellbeing-for-looked-after-children-young-people/>

This new research:

“[...] led by Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, undertaken by Snook and supported by the Carnegie UK Trust, explores the digital experiences of looked after and accommodated young people in Glasgow, to understand how they are accessing the internet, what they are currently using the internet for and what their needs are from the internet in the place where they live.

Based on qualitative research with a group of young people, the report presents a snapshot of experiences and range of findings relating to digital skills, access, inequality, online safety and digital ethics. The report also provides a framework of recommendations and next steps for each of the themes explored.”

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

### **LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies**

#### ***The hate crime report 2019: attitudes to LGBT+ people in the UK***

<http://www.galop.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Hate-Crime-Report-2019.pdf>

(Source: Peter Tatchell Foundation *Weekly*, #67, 24 Oct 2019)

Results of a survey by GALOP (the UK’s LGBT+ anti-violence charity) in which “[...] a representative sample of 1,617 people from across the UK answered questions on their beliefs about LGBT+ people.” [p3]

The findings are significant:

“The results of this study show that anti-LGBT+ prejudice is still widespread in the United Kingdom. Most striking is the apparent gap between the freedom that people theoretically think LGBT+ people should have, and their actual beliefs and feelings about LGBT+ people in practice. Only 1 in 20 people said that LGBT+ people should not be free to live as they wish, but 1 in 5 would be uncomfortable with an LGBT+ neighbour, 1 in 4 with a trans neighbour, 1 in 5 said that being LGBT+ was against their morals or beliefs, 1 in 10 that being LGBT+ could be cured, and 1 in 10 thought that LGBT+ people were dangerous. Potentially, some people holding these negative views do not recognise

them as homophobic, biphobic or transphobic and contrary to LGBT+ rights.

The views of young people were more divided than their older counterparts. 18-24 year olds were less likely to give answers in the middle ground (e.g. neither agree nor disagree) on the majority of questions. These opposing viewpoints were most notable for the statement, "Being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender is immoral or against my beliefs": 60% disagreed or strongly disagreed, but 27% agreed or strongly agreed, higher than any other age group.

This contrasts with high levels of agreement among the 18-24 year old respondents that different LGBT+ groups should be able to live as they wish; 91% agreed re gay men and lesbians, 94% re bisexual people, and 87% re trans people, higher than for all other age groups.

It appears that a subsection of young people have negative internal views about LGBT+ people, but are less likely to think that their views should warrant intervention in the lives of LGBT+ people than older age groups. This perhaps reflects a combination of the influence of the rise of anti-LGBT+ rhetoric globally, combined with the influence of neoliberal ideology, which promotes individualism. It may also be connected to the influence of a growing number of siloed online communities of hate, which exist with different social norms to mainstream society, running counter to inclusion and tolerance." [p18]

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

### **Broader issues – Other Agencies**

#### ***Financing gender inequality: why public-private partnerships leave women worse off***

[https://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/sites/default/files/FinancingGenderEquality\\_PolicyBriefing\\_October2019\\_Web.pdf](https://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/sites/default/files/FinancingGenderEquality_PolicyBriefing_October2019_Web.pdf)

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 24 Oct 2019)

New briefing from the Equality Trust, which:

"[...] offers a simple introduction to the issue of public-private partnerships through a gender lens, outlining why strong public services are essential for achieving gender equality, how the rise of public-private partnerships risks undermining this, and offering policy recommendations that seek to meet the needs of women around the world." [p1]