



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 328, 13 May 2021

Events

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

Black Lives Matter

Creatively minded and ethnically diverse: increasing creative opportunities for people with mental health problems from ethnically diverse backgrounds

https://cdn.baringfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/BF_Creatively-minded-ethnically-diverse_WEB_LR.pdf

(Source: MARCH Mental Health Network *Newsletter*, Mar 2021)

New report commissioned by the Baring Foundation:

“This report brings together a number of opinion pieces from individuals and organisations reflecting on best practices in ethnic and cultural diversity related to arts and mental health projects.” [p3]

The report highlights key themes identified within best practice, including:

- Co-production and participant led
- Cultural sensitivities
- Locality
- Employing artists with lived experience
- Safe spaces
- Working with refugees
- Challenges to hierarchies
- Intersectionality
- The language we use.

Coronavirus/COVID-19

Work in 2021: a tale of two economies

<http://classonline.org.uk/docs/Work-in-2021-CLASS-v7.pdf>

(Source: email from CLASS, 5 May 2021)

“This annual report considers who has been impacted most by the economic fallout of COVID-19, and looks at the wave of organising activity that has come in its wake.

The report contains original analysis of ONS data, interviews with trade union representatives from across the economy, and results from a survey of over 2000 workers, commissioned by CLASS.” [Taken from:

<http://classonline.org.uk/pubs/item/work-in-2021-a-tale-of-two-economies>]

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

Cultural Heritage Terminology Network

Link to join: https://culturalherit-pjg3186.slack.com/join/shared_invite/zt-p77f9ket-1kfK97y_syz0_lj0x9tBxw#/

(Source: email from Carissa Chew to lis-decolonise@jiscmail.ac.uk, 7 May 2021)

“I’m the Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion intern at the National Library of Scotland. Over the past 6 months, I’ve been researching the ways in which heritage institutions can meet modern standards of description for protected characteristics and other areas of cultural sensitivity. In response to the interest that other cultural heritage professionals have expressed in this area of work, I thought I would take the initiative to establish a Cultural Heritage Terminology Network (via Slack).

I would like to use this Network to share an extensive Terminology Guide & Glossary I have produced, which explains the historical context of discriminatory/preferred terminology relating to Race, Gender and Sexuality, Disability, Religion, and Class. This Network would be a great place to discuss the future development of this Terminology Glossary as a resource that would be of use to the entire cultural heritage sector.

The Slack network consists of a variety of ‘channels’ that members can opt to join, and the other channels will offer members a space to converse and exchange knowledge about specific descriptive issues that we have been working on. I encourage members who have any expertise in these particular areas to help answer the terminology queries of other members, who should feel comfortable asking about the use of any words.”

Museums Change Lives: Wales

English: <https://ma-production.ams3.digitaloceanspaces.com/app/uploads/2021/04/13104842/MCL-Wales-English.pdf>

Welsh: <https://ma-production.ams3.digitaloceanspaces.com/app/uploads/2021/04/13104845/MCL-Wales-Welsh-Cymraeg.pdf>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 16 Apr 2021)

The MA has just launched its case studies from Wales:

“Day in, day out, often with no great fanfare, Welsh museums support their communities, and help deliver key social and government agendas in areas like community cohesion, the economy, health and wellbeing, learning, and skills development.” [p3]

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

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Dying behind bars ...

https://www.hospiceuk.org/docs/default-source/Policy-and-Campaigns/huk_dying_behind_bars.pdf?sfvrsn=0

(Source: Clinks *Light Lunch*, 681, 30 Apr 2021)

“It is a critical time to focus on imprisoned people. The number of over-60s in the prison population has more than tripled in the past two decades, and in the past ten years alone, deaths in prison due to natural causes have increased by 77%, with older people accounting for over half of all deaths in custody. 90% of the older prison population have at least one moderate or severe health condition.

This significant rise in deaths, together with an increasingly sick and older prison population, has led to a corresponding rise in need for end of life care, a need that this report demonstrates is not being adequately met.” [p6]

“Toxic positivity’: it’s on the rise – and it’s dangerous”

https://www.managers.org.uk/knowledge-and-insights/article/toxic-positivity-its-on-the-rise-and-its-dangerous/?utm_source=BM12MAY&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=BetterManagers&utm_content=TOXICPOSITIVITY&dm_i=SYT,7CXJ5,4H1XSR,TV7M2,1

(Source: Chartered Management Institute *Better Managers*, 12 May 2021)

Just occasionally, I’ll include an article which has meant a lot to me – and this one has ...

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

“New report reveals huge knowledge gaps on disability across Europe’s cultural sector”

<https://disabilityarts.online/magazine/news/new-report-reveals-huge-knowledge-gaps-on-disability-across-europes-cultural-sector/>

(Source: *Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance Bulletin*, May 2021)

Coverage by Disability Arts Online of the new report, *Time to act: how lack of knowledge in the cultural sector creates barriers for disabled artists and audiences*.

The report looks at:

- The depth of knowledge around the creative work and practices of professional disabled artists.
- How to make cultural programmes accessible to disabled artists.
- How to make cultural programmes accessible to disabled audiences.

and there is a very useful summary in this article (on a personal note, I found the report itself almost impossible to access!).

Disability issues – Other Agencies

Deaf Advance: deaf people, employment and career progression

<https://www.royaldeaf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/DeafAdvance-Report.pdf>

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 6 May 2021)

The summary includes:

- “Only a quarter (24%) of respondents said they had received careers advice in sign language.
- Several factors continue to hinder deaf people’s ability to access employment, such as a lack of deaf awareness amongst employers, communication issues and barriers to voluntary work.
- 6 in 10 said they had not been given progression opportunities during their career.
- One of the most commonly cited barriers to career progression was a lack of deaf role models within work.
- Accessibility and inclusivity of workplace environments remains a significant problem e.g.:
 - 83% of respondents said they had been excluded from conversations with colleagues
 - 69% reported feeling lonely at work
 - 59% had been left out of social events
 - 34% had experienced bullying or acts of unkindness at work
- Amongst our suggestions are the need for more accessible careers advice in BSL; greater deaf awareness training for employers and Jobcentre Plus staff; and tailored guidance and support for employers.”
[p4]

Autism issues – Other Agencies

“Why I’m proud to be autistic”

<https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/why-i-m-proud-to-be-autistic/>

(Source: email from YoungMinds, May 2021)

“Hannah, 20, shares how autism affects her, what real acceptance of autistic people looks like, and why she's proud to be autistic.”

“Beyond the White Male Pale: Why our conversations around Autism and disability need to be intersectional”

<https://cherwell.org/2021/04/30/beyond-the-white-male-pale-why-our-conversations-around-autism-and-disability-need-to-be-intersectional/>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, 7 May 2021)

Important article which looks at how, currently, discussion about autism are very narrow.

Migration issues – News

“Europe set for African migration spike as thousands flee jihadists”

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1853031/world>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, 7 May 2021)

“Thousands of migrants have set sail from Libya for Europe in recent days, as intensifying conflicts in parts of Africa have forced more people to flee their countries, the UN has said.

Hundreds of people that were crammed into overcrowded boats were rescued by the Italian coastguard, navy and NGO vessels over the weekend.

Carlotta Sami, a spokesperson for the UN’s refugee agency, said: ‘About 2,000 people set sail from North Africa in recent days, and thanks to jihadist activity in Mali, Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso and northern Nigeria, we can expect sailings to increase.’

Conflict in the Sahel region – a vast expanse of land from Chad to Mauritania on Africa’s western coast – between Islamists and regional governments has intensified in recent years.”

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

'It's more than just Black people on a stage': the barriers and opportunities to meaningful collaboration across the arts, migration and racial justice sector

<https://counterpointsarts.org.uk/the-barriers-and-opportunities-to-meaningful-collaboration/>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, 7 May 2021)

Important new report from Counterpoints Arts:

“While analysis of the cultural, migration and racial justice sectors is emerging, there is little reflection to date on how these three sectors intersect and collaborate with one another. To begin to address this gap, this research was developed as an independent commission by poet and researcher Selina Nwulu. It explores how these sectors navigate barriers and institutional power dynamics, with a view to recommending how intersectional and cross-sector collaboration might come about in our current climate.” [p3]

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

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Thinking fast and slow: how will recovery affect attitudes to immigration?”

<https://www.britishfuture.org/thinking-fast-and-slow-how-will-recovery-affect-attitudes-to-immigration/>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, 7 May 2021)

Interesting article from British Future, reflecting on whether there may be changes to attitudes to migration post-pandemic.

The Right to Remain toolkit: a guide to the UK immigration and asylum system

<https://righttoremain.org.uk/toolkit/>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, 7 May 2021)

“The Right to Remain Toolkit is our step-by-step guide to the UK immigration and asylum system. It’s free to use, and it’s for people who want to learn more about the legal process, or a particular part of the legal process. You might be making an application or are thinking about it; you might be helping someone else to do so.

The information in this guide comes from experts – from people who are going through the legal process or have done in the past, from those helping them, from lawyers, from community groups. It covers different stages of the legal system and procedures, with detailed information on rights and options at each stage, and advice about actions you can take to be in a better situation, or to help someone else.” [Taken from: <https://righttoremain.org.uk/toolkit/about/>]

LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies

“Open letter says 'transphobia acceptable in British book industry'”

https://www.thebookseller.com/news/open-letter-says-transphobia-acceptable-british-book-industry-1257896?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_term=&utm_content=Open%20letter%20says%20%27transphobia%20acceptable%20in%20British%20book%20industry%27&utm_campaign=Top%2010%20most%20read%20-%20100521

(Source: *The Bookseller* “The most read stories of the week”, 10 May 2021)

News-story about a letter to *The Bookseller*:

“A group of individuals from across the books industry has written an open letter to *The Bookseller* which has warned ‘transphobia is still perfectly acceptable in the British book industry’, arguing that what is needed is ‘quiet statements of acceptance from companies and organisations within our industry’.”