



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 341, 21 October 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

“Celebrate Black history all year round”

https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/celebrate-black-history/?mc_cid=3c5905ca1a&mc_eid=a2d98ab814

(Source: National Literacy Trust *Training & Resources*, 14 Oct 2021)

New from the NLT:

“Black History Month falls in October each year, and is a great time to learn about and celebrate Black heritage. However, Black history can, and should, be recognised all year round.

We've developed this calendar [available to download from webpage] to highlight key dates that you can mark in school to honour Black heroes throughout the year, and learn more about our journey towards equality [...]

We have also created book lists to highlight and uplift Black and Black British authors and illustrators and their work. These books are equal parts entertaining, inspiring and educational – explore the lists here, where you'll also find more recommendations on our interactive Black British Book Map.”

See: <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/black-british-book-map/>

“Uncovering Black histories at the Bank of England Museum”

https://museumcrush.org/uncovering-black-histories-at-the-bank-of-england-museum/?utm_source=Culture24+Company+Newsletter&utm_campaign=4149d10a69-mc-digest-168&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_622aef899d-4149d10a69-34063877

(Source: *Museum Crush*, 15 Oct 2021)

“This Black History Month, we've highlighted some objects in our collection related to Black history starting in the early 18th century and going through to the late 20th century. Our collection's links to Black history are just beginning to be explored and the work remains ongoing.”

“London's Black History”

https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london/london-black-history?utm_source=Culture24+Company+Newsletter&utm_campaign=4149d10a69-mc-digest-168&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_622aef899d-4149d10a69-34063877

(Source: *Museum Crush*, 15 Oct 2021)

The Museum of London has drawn together material on its website:

“Explore Black Londoners' stories in our collection through articles, videos and photography.”

“Black History Month in Libraries”

<https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/page/black-history-month-libraries>

Libraries Connected gives a taste of some of the events organised by libraries.

“‘Racist And Condescending’ – MP slams refusal to return Benin Bronzes”

https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/bell-ribeiro-addy-interview-benin-bronzes_uk_616e9e4ce4b065735732ad1f?mc_cid=65cb8f133c&mc_eid=e91604b40f

(Source: *Left Foot Forward*, 20 Oct 2021)

As part of an interview to mark Black History Month:

“[...] Bell Ribeiro-Addy called on the British Museum and UK government to help repatriate the historic sculptures to Nigeria.”

The experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system: a thematic inspection by HM Inspectorate of Probation

<https://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/10/The-experiences-of-black-and-mixed-heritage-boys-in-the-youth-justice-system-thematic-report-v1.0.pdf>

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Update*, 21 Oct 2021)

Just published, this report highlights major issues within the youth justice system and also in wider society:

“[...] many of these boys face multiple disadvantages in their life, at school and with their mental health.

Inspectors found that 60 per cent of black and mixed heritage boys, who had received a court sentence, had previously been excluded from school and half had faced racial discrimination in their life.

Meanwhile, a third had been the victim of criminal exploitation and a quarter have a disability.

But despite these needs they are less likely than their white peers to be referred to early help services, inspectors found.” [Taken from:

<https://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/article/youth-offending-services-failing-black-and-mixed-heritage-boys-inspectors-warn>]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Getting the basics right: the case for action on adult basic skills

<https://learningandwork.org.uk/resources/research-and-reports/getting-the-basics-right-the-case-for-action-on-adult-basic-skills/>

(Source: email from the Learning and Work Institute, 15 Oct 2021)

New report from the Learning and Work Institute, which found that:

“Despite the importance of basic skills and the evidence available on its positive impacts, there are high levels of basic skills needs across literacy, numeracy, ESOL and digital skills in England. An estimated 9 million working-age adults in England have low basic skills in literacy or numeracy, of which 5 million have low skills in both. These are skills as fundamental as understanding the dosage instructions on an aspirin packet. An estimated 11.7 million people lack digital ‘life’ skills. England is 15th out of 31 OECD countries in literacy skills and 19th in numeracy skills.” [p4]

The recommendations include – as well as additional funding:

“There are key measures which can drive up adults’ participation in basic skills learning. These approaches focus on recruitment and engagement, motivation and retention, individual needs and workplace basic skills provision.” [p32]

Ethnicity, poverty and the data in Scotland

https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/ethnicity-poverty-and-data-scotland?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%2011%20October%202021&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%2011%20October%202021+CID_a98f36e4b9e5e10de94b22f4c16d2906&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20the%20briefing

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 15 Oct 2021)

“Poverty levels for people in minority ethnic communities in Scotland are double the national average, and rising. Analysis in this briefing highlights several areas that are contributing to this worrying trend. However, a lack of robust data on ethnicity and poverty makes it hard to understand the interaction and scale of the drivers of poverty for people from minority ethnic backgrounds.” [p1]

Recommendations include:

- “Scottish Government must collect appropriate and robust ethnicity data to allow a full understanding of the structural inequalities faced by minority ethnic communities in Scotland.
- The UK and Scottish Governments along with employers and trade unions, must bring far greater urgency to creating a labour market that offers equal opportunities for minority ethnic workers, and offers a route out of poverty.

- Scottish Government must work towards reversing the increasing levels of child poverty amongst people from minority ethnic backgrounds.”
[Taken from above webpage]

Migration issues – News

“Neighbours for Newcomers Launch”

<https://resetuk.org/news-and-campaigns/news/neighbours-for-newcomers-launch>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Aug-Sep 2021)

“Neighbours for Newcomers - N4N, provides a new way for people seeking sanctuary to arrive in the UK. The newcomers are nurses who have fled their home countries and are coming to the UK on Skilled Worker visas to work in NHS Trusts. They will be working at hospitals in Dewsbury, Great Yarmouth, Hillingdon, North London, Norwich, Oldham and Portsmouth.”

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

“Hope for Justice: Working to end modern slavery”

<https://phm.org.uk/blogposts/hope-for-justice-working-to-end-modern-slavery/>

New blogpost from the PHM (written by Adam Hewitt from Hope for Justice), which outlines what modern slavery is and how we can all become more aware of it.

Hope for Justice:

“We exist to bring an end to modern slavery by preventing exploitation, rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society.” [Taken from: <https://hopeforjustice.org/aboutus/>]

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Afghan refugees

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Aug-Sep 2021)

Just in case you haven't seen these, the Government issued updated guidance in Sep 2021:

“Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy: further information on eligibility criteria, offer details and how to apply”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy-information-and-guidance>

“The ARAP scheme launched on 1 April 2021 and will continue to remain open and operate indefinitely.

Under the ARAP scheme, any current or former Locally Employed Staff directly employed by HMG assessed to be at serious risk of threat to life will be eligible to apply for ARAP regardless of their employment status, rank or role, or length of time served.”

“Afghan citizens resettlement scheme”

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=7e8f5921-b248-4498-aae1-87b59a737854&utm_content=daily

“The Afghan citizens resettlement scheme (ACRS) will provide protection for people at risk identified as in need.

The scheme will prioritise:

- those who have assisted the UK efforts in Afghanistan and stood up for values such as democracy, women’s rights, freedom of speech, and rule of law
- vulnerable people, including women and girls at risk, and members of minority groups at risk (including ethnic and religious minorities and LGBT+)”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Underground lives: forgotten children – the intergenerational impact of modern slavery

<https://www.hestia.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=9e80d4ef-5910-470d-b46a-968facba852d>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Aug-Sep 2021)

New report from Hestia:

“This report summarises the key findings from research by Jackie Gallagher and Janet Clark during summer 2021 into the needs and experiences of mothers who are survivors of modern slavery and the potential impact of their trafficking experiences for their children.

There is little previous policy research evidence on the specific needs of this group of mothers and their children.” [p5]

Hestia:

“Since [1970], Hestia has grown to support more than 15,000 adults and children in crisis across London every year. We provide support for those experiencing domestic abuse, modern slavery and mental health needs.

Hestia is one of the largest providers of domestic abuse refuges in London and South East and the main organisation supporting victims of modern slavery in the capital.” [Taken from:

<https://www.hestia.org/ourjourney>]

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

“10 famous protests the Policing Bill would've threatened”

<https://phm.org.uk/blogposts/10-famous-protests-the-policing-bill-wouldve-threatened/>

New blogpost from the PHM:

“People’s History Museum has joined hundreds of other organisations to urge the government to reconsider its approach to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill (Policing Bill), which is likely to silence marginalised voices fighting for change. For this blog we’re sharing a list of famous UK protests, prepared by a team of academics for Amnesty International, that would’ve been impossible under this would-be new law. From children protesting for Fridays for Future, to protests for Black Lives Matter and ending apartheid in South Africa, discover how our proud history of protest has shaped a better world today.”