



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 344, 25 November 2021

Events

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

Climate emergency – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“COP26: what comes after the blah?”

<https://climatemuseumuk.org/2021/11/15/cop26-what-comes-after-the-blah/?fbclid=IwAR0tzuA6e5aZVpyBMpY5tdafvSaUtqcWA-4-SCOPReHRioq9BmUFQqgGXPk>

Important and useful blogpost from the Climate Museum which:

“[...] offers some pathways for ramping up your own action.”

“Public libraries and climate change”

https://dcmslibraries.blog.gov.uk/2021/11/12/public-libraries-and-climate-change/?utm_campaign=94563_Fortnightly%20newsletter%2017%20November%20-%20MEMBERS&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Chartered%20Institute%20of%20Library%20and%20%20Information%20Professionals&dm_i=6WFS,20YR,9VBO9,7LIU,1

DCMS Libraries blogpost which reports briefly on a workshop with 100 national and public libraries looking at how libraries can work together to increase the impact of the library sector in bringing about a better climate future.

Climate emergency – Other Agencies

“Where social justice and environmental justice meet”

<https://www.thinknpc.org/blog/where-social-justice-and-environmental-justice-meet/>

(Source: New Philanthropy Capital *Weekly Update*, 15 Nov 2021)

“[...] The Climate Crew, a group of leaders from across the social sector explain the links between the work of the social sector, the environmental crisis, and their work on how we can all take action.” [Taken from email]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Diverse Educators Toolkits

<https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/our-toolkits/>

(Source: Diverse Educators *Update*, Nov 2021)

“We are building a series of toolkits to collate resources on key themes affecting our diverse educators’ network and the schools we serve.”

Current toolkits include:

- Anti-racism toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/anti-racism-toolkit/>
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leader's toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/dei-leaders-toolkit/>
- Disability Awareness toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/disability-awareness-toolkit/>
- Flexible Working toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/flexible-working-toolkit/>
- Gender Equality toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/gender-equality-toolkit/>
- Inclusive Allyship toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/inclusive-allyship-toolkit/>
- Pregnancy and Maternity toolkit, <https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/inclusive-allyship-toolkit/>.

They add:

“We have toolkits being curated for LGBT Inclusion, Trans Rights, Diversifying the Curriculum and Global Citizenship to be released later this term.”

“Improving support for young adult carers in further education: the Driving Change project”

https://learningandwork.org.uk/news-and-policy/improving-support-for-young-adult-carers-in-further-education/?vgo_ee=QPKkT1SxgsiUdFucpWmZgU5Xw8lcJbZJCEP4X9vwpSQ%3D

(Source: Learning and Work Institute *Supporter Newsletter*, Nov 2021)

Blogpost from the Learning and Work Institute, looking at progress on their “Driving Change” project.

There is more about the project at:

<https://learningandwork.org.uk/resources/research-and-reports/driving-change-supporting-young-adult-carers-in-further-education/>:

“Learning and Work Institute is working in partnership with The Carers Federation to improve the support that young adult carers receive in further education.

Starting in late 2019, this three-year project, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, involves L&W working with 60 further education colleges, across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Colleges will receive tailored one-to-one support to review their provision for young adult carers and implement actions that will enable them to achieve better outcomes.”

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

Creatively minded and heritage: creativity & mental health activity in heritage settings

https://cdn.baringfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/BF_Creatively-minded-Heritage_WEB-Ir.pdf

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

“Sometimes it is best to begin with what something is not. This report is not about museums or nature – they are well addressed elsewhere, so we are focussing on archives, archaeology and historic landscapes. It’s not about wellbeing – mental health is wellbeing’s subset. It’s not about art – except where it is inspired by heritage. Things are messy in multi-layered cross-sectoral collaborations, so wellbeing is also about mental health, heritage is also about museums and nature, and creativity won’t be told what it is about [...]

These case studies are inspiring examples of best practice, as people form new communities in real and virtual places, connected by meaningful shared experiences.” [p4]

This is a really interesting and important collection of case studies.

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

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

“Nothing About Us Without Us – Disabled People’s Activism: Past, Present and Future”

<https://phm.org.uk/blogposts/nothing-about-us-without-us/>

New blogpost from the PHM, which introduces their new programme:

“Across 2022 and throughout 2023 People’s History Museum (PHM) will focus on exploring the history of disabled people’s rights, activism and fight for inclusion. This programme will include themed exhibitions, events and activity developed in collaboration with disabled people.

A Steering Group of disabled people, who have been working with the museum on various projects since 2017, are guiding the way forward in all areas of the programme.”

Neurodiversity issues – Other Agencies

Supporting your neurodiverse child

<https://savs-southend.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/ECC-Supporting-Your-Neurodiverse-Child-V5-Accessible-Low-Res.pdf>

(Source: *SAVS Weekly Email* – 19 Nov 2021)

“When you first realise that your child experiences the world in a different way it can feel overwhelming, but once you begin to understand their way of thinking it can be rewarding and you can learn so much from your child.

We are a group of parents, at various stages on this same journey. We were desperate for guidance and didn’t know where to look to find what we needed. A few years on, our knowledge has grown. We now know there is a lot of information available, but it can be hard to find the bits that are factually correct and relevant to your own situation.

So, we wanted to share not only our own experiences, tips, and best practices, but also those of other families and children from across Essex, Southend and Thurrock, who have been where you are now.

We have provided an overview of what we have found to be the most relevant information from sources such as the NHS website, national charities and IPSEA but we aren’t trying to recreate textbooks that are already available. There are links included that you could follow to find out more on specific topics. We have also recommended some books, videos and blogs, which are all resources that we have used ourselves.”
[p4]

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Sanctuary, safety, solidarity: a guide for service providers working with LGBT asylum seekers and refugees

<https://www.equality-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Sanctuary-Safety-Solidarity-2021.pdf>

(Source: email from Equality Network, 2 Nov 2021)

“The Equality Network’s groundbreaking guides for service providers on how to better support LGBT asylum seekers and refugees have been updated and rereleased in one volume.” [Taken from email]

An analysis of Channel crossings & asylum outcomes

<https://media.refugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/16095953/Channel-crossings-and-asylum-outcomes-November-2021.pdf>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, 19 Nov 2021)

A Refugee Council “Briefing” paper which investigates some of the current claims, eg:

“The government has repeatedly referred to people crossing the Channel in small boats as ‘economic migrants’ rather than people ‘in genuine need of protection’ and have created a narrative suggesting that these

people are somehow ‘jumping the queue’ in front of others in need of protection.” [p1]

The research showed that:

“The findings of this report show that people who cross the Channel and enter into the asylum system are likely to be recognised as being in need of protection. Examination of the nationalities of people who arrive via small boats shows that over 91% of people come from just 10 countries of origin. Of these, eight of the countries have a higher grant rate (i.e. are granted asylum) than the overall grant rate for all nationalities, a clear indicator that the majority of people crossing the Channel are likely to be recognised as being in need of protection at initial decision making stage. Furthermore, nine of the countries in the top 10 have a higher success rate at appeal than the overall success rate, a clear indicator that the majority of people crossing the Channel who lodge an appeal after having their case refused by the Home Office, are likely to have the refusal overturned by the court.

The fact that people crossing the Channel who make a claim for asylum are likely to be recognised as being in need of protection calls into question the government and Home Office’s narrative that the majority of people crossing the Channel are not in genuine need of protection.” [p10]

“Nine problems with the asylum system that Priti Patel can’t blame on anyone else”

https://www.freemovement.org.uk/nine-problems-with-the-asylum-system-that-priti-patel-cant-blame-on-anyone-else/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=nine-problems-with-the-asylum-system-that-priti-patel-cant-blame-on-anyone-else&utm_source=Free+Movement&utm_campaign=816c76bdf6-Asylum+updates&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_792133aa40-816c76bdf6-116428530&mc_cid=816c76bdf6&mc_eid=7d8713d645

(Source: *Free Movement Refugee and Asylum Update*, 22 Nov 2021)

Very useful summary and analysis of the recent Government Inspection report*, which outlines key areas (eg “Chronic delays”, “Lack of training”) that have led to the current ‘creaking’ asylum system.

**An inspection of asylum casework (August 2020 – May 2021)*

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1034012/An_inspection_of_asylum_casework_August_2020_to_May_2021.pdf

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

“Children will be forced to do homework in cafes and libraries due to rising energy bills at home, experts fear”

<https://inews.co.uk/news/uk/energy-prices-soaring-force-children-search-warm-place-homework-winter-1273648>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 31 Oct 2021)

Article (quoting Ian Anstice and Isobel Hunter) on the important role that libraries play in supporting young people.

“Forces of Good: The Gearhead Librarian Who Revived a Town”

https://www.outsideonline.com/podcast/librarian-millinocket-maine-gear/?fbclid=IwAR1EsCc1qkEf5U5Oi0nqkRZdBCbKBEs-xpvzCy_UqrwHzxypXC3nkd2gU8g

Link to a podcast:

“When you think of heroes in American culture, you probably conjure images of astronauts and Olympians, scientists and social activists, soldiers and ... well, maybe the occasional politician. What you don’t picture are a group of dedicated, ingenious innovators who almost never get the credit they deserve: small-town librarians.”

“The Primary School Library Alliance”

https://literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/libraryalliance/?mc_cid=161136ce36&mc_eid=a2d98ab814

(Source: National Literacy Trust *Literacy News*, 18 Nov 2021)

“The National Literacy Trust together with publisher Penguin Random House have launched a national alliance to help address the chronic lack of investment in primary school libraries in the UK. The alliance aims to transform 1,000 primary school libraries by 2025, to create a new generation of readers who are better equipped to fulfil their potential.”

To back up this campaign, NLT have produced a new report which:

“[...] draws together evidence from across the sector and submissions from teachers to give an idea of the current situation in primary school libraries; the benefits they bring to pupils and the challenges that they are facing.”

The report, *The future of primary school libraries*, is at:

https://cdn.literacytrust.org.uk/media/documents/Future_of_Primary_School_Libraries_report.pdf.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

“Learning to read starts earlier than you might think: five tips from an expert”

https://theconversation.com/learning-to-read-starts-earlier-than-you-might-think-five-tips-from-an-expert-171561?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20November%2023%202021%20-202123721023&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20November%2023%202021%20-202123721023+CID_2795682b40910c3da04d10865f88d7de&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Learnin

[g%20to%20read%20starts%20earlier%20than%20you%20might%20think%20five%20tips%20from%20an%20expert](https://theconversation.com/learning-to-read-starts-earlier-than-you-might-think-five-tips-from-an-expert-171561?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20November%2023%202021%20-202123721023&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20November%2023%202021%20-202123721023+CID_2795682b40910c3da04d10865f88d7de&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Learnin)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 23 Nov 2021)

Timely round-up of what we know about creating a ‘reading environment’.