



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 364, 1 November 2022

Events

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

Black Lives Matter

“More black books please”

<https://www.voice-online.co.uk/news/features-news/2022/10/11/more-black-books-please/>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 23 Oct 2022)

Article from *The Voice*:

“Black parents call on libraries to better reflect the diversity of the community and to add black bookstores to their suppliers”

“*Brick Wall After Brick Wall*”: the lived realities and concerns of Black communities in the UK

<https://blackequityorg.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Brick-Wall-After-Brick-Wall-V2.pdf>

(Source: Migrants’ Rights Network *Newsletter*, Oct 2022)

Important new research report which highlights the impacts of racism (including institutional racism), the lack of “authentic and multidimensional representations of Black people and Black culture in the media” [p7], and the effects of micro-aggressions.

“Libraries Celebrating Black History Month”

<https://dcmslibraries.blog.gov.uk/2022/10/31/libraries-celebrating-black-history-month/>

The latest DCMS Libraries blogpost highlights three library services’ celebrations of BHM.

Climate emergency/the environment – Other Agencies

“An Open Access reading list on climate change”

https://www.transformingsociety.co.uk/2022/10/24/an-open-access-reading-list-on-climate-change/?utm_source=Bristol+University+Press%2FPolicy+Press+sign+up+list&utm_campaign=10ea6f04a5-OA+Week+Oct+22&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f395de8081-10ea6f04a5-129850705

(Source: email from Bristol University Press, 24 Oct 2022)

“To tie in with the theme of this year’s Open Access week, we have curated the following reading list of Open Access books and journal articles on climate change which we hope will contribute to debates in academia and beyond.”

Cost of living crisis – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Martin Lewis backs guide for libraries wanting to become winter ‘warm banks”

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/oct/12/martin-lewis-libraries-winter-warm-banks>

Just in case you haven’t seen this article:

“The money saving expert has teamed up with the UK’s library and information association to offer tips and guidance”

There is a round-up of the latest news about this initiative on the *Public Libraries News* website, <https://www.publiclibrariesnews.com/2022/10/its-getting-warm-in-here.html>.

Supporting communities & vulnerable people this winter

[https://mcusercontent.com/ae0fa745c57dddc307c13fa7/files/9085bdb7-ec02-ce2a-bb0e-](https://mcusercontent.com/ae0fa745c57dddc307c13fa7/files/9085bdb7-ec02-ce2a-bb0e-81a500f776cb/Supporting_communities_vulnerable_people_this_winter.pdf)

[81a500f776cb/Supporting_communities_vulnerable_people_this_winter.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/ae0fa745c57dddc307c13fa7/files/9085bdb7-ec02-ce2a-bb0e-81a500f776cb/Supporting_communities_vulnerable_people_this_winter.pdf)

(Source: Community Libraries Network *Newsletter*, Oct 2022)

Round-up of provision by the Community Managed Libraries National Peer Network.

Cost of living crisis – Other Agencies

Falling faster amidst a cost-of-living crisis: poverty, inequality and ethnicity in the UK

[https://assets.website-](https://assets.website-files.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/633d8007a3bfa49bd4cd0fa8_Runnymede%20Briefing%20Cost%20of%20Living%20FINAL.pdf)

[files.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/633d8007a3bfa49bd4cd0fa8_Runnymede%20Briefing%20Cost%20of%20Living%20FINAL.pdf](https://assets.website-files.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/633d8007a3bfa49bd4cd0fa8_Runnymede%20Briefing%20Cost%20of%20Living%20FINAL.pdf)

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 20 Oct 2022)

New briefing from Runnymede Trust, which highlights that:

“Against the backdrop of the current cost-of-living crisis, new analysis finds that Black and minority ethnic people are 2.5 times more likely to be in poverty than white people, with racial inequalities most pronounced in Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Yorkshire and the Humber.” [p2]

The briefing includes immediate and longer-term recommendations.

“Making and saving money online”

https://www.digitalunite.com/technology-guides/making-and-saving-money-online?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=more_free_how_to_guides_than_you_can_shake_a_stick_at&utm_term=2022-10-24

(Source: *News from Digital Unite*, Oct 2022)

New from Digital Unite:

“[...] we’ve pulled together all of our best guides on making and saving money online and added in some new ones too [...]”

“London, the North of England, and Scotland hit hardest by the crisis of spiralling prices”

https://www.jrf.org.uk/blog/london-north-england-and-scotland-hit-hardest-crisis-spiralling-prices?utm_campaign=511980_October%20Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Joseph%20Rowntree%20Foundation&dm_i=7ADY,AZ1O,1R494R,1BQGA,1

(Source: JRF *Newsletter*, 31 Oct 2022)

New blogpost from JRF, which:

“[...] explores the geographic story and drivers behind the differences in outcomes for low-income households across UK nations and regions.

Our analysis finds low-income Londoners are faring worst in the cost of living crisis, followed by people in Scotland, the North and Midlands of England and Northern Ireland. Geographic differences are explained by the proportions of people in different areas on inadequate incomes, with a lack of savings, paying high housing costs (relative to incomes) and living in energy inefficient homes in colder parts of the country. What is clear from our analysis is that some groups are disproportionately exposed to spiralling energy prices, household bills and grocery receipts, but that across the whole country huge numbers of people are experiencing unprecedented levels of hardship.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Children in Need statistics

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need>

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Update*, 31 Oct 2022)

The Government has just published the latest Children in Need statistics. The headline stat is:

“Children in need: 404,310, up 4.1% from 2021 and up 3.9% from 2020. Highest number since 2018.”

“Children in Need are a legally defined group of children (under the Children Act 1989), assessed as needing help and protection as a result of risks to their development or health. This group includes children on child in need plans, children on child protection plans, children looked after by local authorities, care leavers and disabled children. Children in need include young people aged 18 or over who continue to receive care, accommodation or support from children’s services and unborn children.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Austerity led to twice as many excess UK deaths as previously thought – here’s what that means for future cuts”

https://theconversation.com/austerity-led-to-twice-as-many-excess-uk-deaths-as-previously-thought-heres-what-that-means-for-future-cuts-192033?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%207%202022%20-%20202423124218&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%207%202022%20-%20202423124218+CID_3ba9ecef5405b5e160145e7212d39915&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Austerity%20led%20to%20twice%20as%20many%20excess%20UK%20deaths%20as%20previously%20thought%20%20heres%20what%20that%20means%20for%20future%20cuts

(Source: *The Conversation*, 7 Oct 2022)

Summary by Danny Dorling of recent research. The conclusion is grim:

“The situation we face now is more akin the 1930s. Then, we were as unequal as today. Mortality rates were very high in poorer areas. Most people were poor. There were few average areas. And the very wealthy were protected by their wealth.”

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Reading Well for teens

<https://reading-well.org.uk/books/books-on-prescription/teens#body-image>

New from The Reading Agency:

“Developed as a refresh to our 2016 Reading Well for young people ‘Shelf Help’ scheme and to support young people in a post-pandemic context, the new scheme launches across England and Wales on **World Mental Health Day 2022** (10 October).”

And:

“**Reading Well for teens** suggests recommended reading and digital resources to help you understand your feelings and boost your confidence. Teens and health and wellbeing experts have chosen the books to help you manage your emotions and cope with difficult times.”
[emphasis theirs]

“Reading Friends 2021-22: Reach and Impact”

<https://readingagency.org.uk/news/blog/reading-friends-2021-22-reach-and-impact.html>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 23 Oct 2022)

Latest summary of the impact that Reading Friends has made:

“Reading Friends uses reading as a platform to generate conversation, share stories, life experiences and perspectives, in a fun and welcoming environment. This approach ensures that Reading Friends participants and befrienders can not only meet new people, but also create long-lasting connections and, in many cases, friendships.

In 2021 to 2022, Reading Friends made a positive difference to people's lives using the power of reading – supporting people with their wellbeing, creating meaningful connections, reducing loneliness and engaging more people in reading together for pleasure.

Working together with public libraries, the programme had a strong impact on communities. As a result of taking part in Reading Friends 87% of participants felt more connected to other people [...]"

“Social prescribing needs more evidence to support its benefits before widespread rollout – new study”

https://theconversation.com/social-prescribing-needs-more-evidence-to-support-its-benefits-before-widespread-rollout-new-study-192778?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%202024%202022%20-%202439624410&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20October%2024%202022%20-%202439624410+CID_652fc228b8507ab87a46e2cde3e15ab5&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Social%20prescribing%20needs%20more%20evidence%20to%20support%20its%20benefits%20before%20widespread%20rollout%20%20new%20study

(Source: *The Conversation*, 25 Oct 2022)

Interesting article, looking primarily at the lack of research so far into the effectiveness of social prescribing – but also emphasising the key role of the link worker.

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

Heritage access 2022

<https://vocaley.es.co.uk/research/heritage-access-2022/>

Available to download as Clear Print, large print (text only), and audio

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 21 Oct 2022)

“Made possible by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, *Heritage Access 2022* brings together a partnership of sector support organisations, sector leaders in access and inclusion, and a team of 61 volunteer researchers, to explore the state of access at UK museums and cultural heritage sites through a survey of the online access information that they provide.

This report presents the findings of this research, identifies best practice and, for those working at museums and heritage sites, helps you identify, detail and create online information about access barriers, aids, facilities, resources, and events at your venue [...]" [p6]

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

Disability issues – Other Agencies

Disability and social mobility: a neglected relationship

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/impact/policybriefings/disability_and_social_mobility_policy_briefing_final.pdf?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=343113fdc4-Newsletter+October+2+2022&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-343113fdc4-120687778

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 20 Oct 2022)

New 'Policy Briefing' (based on recent research) on the impact of disability (and other factors, such as class) on social mobility:

“This research reveals stark overlooked inequalities in early occupational outcomes of disabled and nondisabled young people. Social class is particularly influential: disabled young people from low social class backgrounds have worse occupational outcomes than those from middle and high social class backgrounds.” [p3]

UK Disability History Month 2022: 16 Nov - 16 Dec

https://ukdhm.org/?utm_campaign=515993_HLG%20News%20-%20October%202022&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Chartered%20Institute%20of%20Library%20and%20%20Information%20Professionals&dm_i=6WFS%2CB255%2C9VBO9%2C1C975%2C1

(Source: CILIP Health Libraries Group *News*, Oct 2022)

This year's theme is “Disability, Health and Well Being”.

“The online launch will be evening of Thursday 17th November 2022. To join the online launch, email your interest to callumrussell@crconsultancy.org and you will be sent the zoom link 24 hours before the event. Please include name, telephone number and any relevant organisation you are from.”

Learning Disability issues – Other Agencies

“Helping people with learning disabilities to use technology: guides for supporters”

https://www.digitalunite.com/easy-read-technology-guides/helping-people-learning-disabilities-use-technology-guides-supporters?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=more_free_how_to_guides_than_you_can_shake_a_stick_at&utm_term=2022-10-25

(Source: *News from Digital Unite*, Oct 2022)

“As part of a Knowledge Transfer Project funded by the Open University, Digital Unite have collaborated with Professor Jane Seale to create a set of five short, practical guides aimed at helping supporters or Digital Champions to get people with learning disabilities to understand whether they would like to use technology, advocate their technology needs and choose the right technology for them. The guides are complemented by two session plans, that contain two suggested activities to get people with learning disabilities thinking about technology and how they could use it.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Government by finger-pointing”

<https://socialeurope.eu/government-by-finger-pointing>

(Source: Social Europe Newsletter, 24 Oct 2022)

Article about the new Swedish government which, according to the author, “[...] is obsessed with stigmatising immigrants and refugees.”

“Beyond the politics of ‘us’ and ‘them’”

<https://socialeurope.eu/beyond-the-politics-of-us-and-them>

(Source: Social Europe Newsletter, 26 Oct 2022)

Interesting article that argues that we should not take dividing lines between us for granted – and also questions some commonly-held views:

“Take the claim that migrants ‘take jobs’ from citizens and that ‘fair’ immigration controls are needed to protect national workers from unfair competition. This rests on the ‘lump-of-labour fallacy’, which imagines there is a fixed number of jobs in a national economy and that migrants (or women, or young people or whatever group is the object of concern) simply substitute for citizens (or men or older workers) and vice versa.

Neither of these assumptions is correct. An economy is never a fixed size. And workers, whatever their skills, are not interchangeable [...]”

At risk: exploitation and the UK asylum system

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/we-speak-up-for-change/at-risk-exploitation-and-the-uk-asylum-system>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW Bi-Monthly Newsflash, Aug/Sep 2022)

Report of research carried out by UNHCR and the British Red Cross last year; key findings include:

“The research finds that people going through the asylum process remain at risk of exploitation and that particular UK government policies and practices can contribute to risks of exploitation for asylum-seekers. The primary finding of the research is that an over-reliance on people self-identifying as victims of modern slavery and a lack of effective vulnerability screening at all stages of the asylum process means opportunities to identify and address risks and onward support needs are frequently missed.” [p7]

Wherever we go, someone does us harm: violence against refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe through the Balkans

<https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/Wherever-we-go-someone-does-us-harm-WEB.pdf>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW Bi-Monthly Newsflash, Aug/Sep 2022)

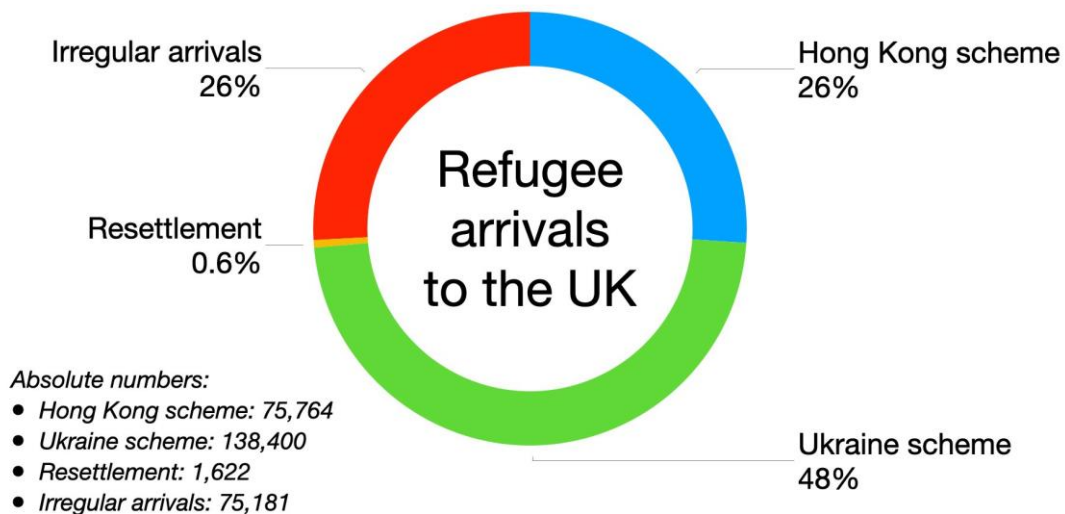
“In this report, Save the Children and the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Sarajevo present in-depth research into the level and types of violence that children experience while attempting to reach Western Europe via the Balkans route, the circumstances of that violence, and the policies and practices that exist to support children.

They also make recommendations for governments, NGOs and other stakeholders, to strengthen the protection and support available to these children.” [p11]

“Putting small boat crossings in perspective”

https://freemovement.org.uk/putting-small-boat-crossings-in-perspective/?utm_source=Free+Movement&utm_campaign=94d561698d-Asylum+updates&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_792133aa40-94d561698d-116428530&mc_cid=94d561698d&mc_eid=7d8713d645

Very important setting-straight of the record, which includes this useful set of stats:



Source: Home Office, immigration statistics year ending June 2022 for Hong Kong, Resettlement and Irregular. To 17 Oct 2022 for Ukraine. Includes dependents. freemovement

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See also: “What is going on with small boat crossings and the new refugee camps?”

https://freemovement.org.uk/what-is-going-on-with-small-boat-crossings-and-the-new-refugee-camps/?utm_source=Free+Movement&utm_campaign=a809c2269e-Asylum+updates&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_792133aa40-a809c2269e-116428530&mc_cid=a809c2269e&mc_eid=7d8713d645.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

Early Years & the arts: why an arts-rich early years matters

<https://www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CLA-Early-Years-Briefing.pdf>

(Source: Cultural Learning Alliance *Newsletter*, Oct 2022)

New short briefing paper from the Cultural Learning Alliance (with the Centre for Research in Early Childhood), which sets out why an arts-rich early years matters for children.