



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 367, 6 January 2023

Events

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

Black Lives Matter

The Diverse Educators' *Supporting Black and Global Majority Female Educators Toolkit*

<https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/supporting-black-and-global-majority-female-educators-toolkit/>

(Source: Diverse Educators *Update*, Dec 2022)

“We are collating a growing bank of resources to help you to understand the experiences of Black and global majority female educators and how you can support them. Here are some questions to reflect on:

- What are the experiences of Black and global majority educators in my setting? How do I know?
- How do we tackle the intersection between race and gender?
- How do we create space for Black and global majority educators to show up as themselves?
- How do we ensure proportional retention of Black and global majority women in education?
- What are the consequences of not addressing any inequity Black and global majority women might face at our school?
- How do we demonstrate allyship and advocacy for Black and global majority women?”

Funding & Opportunities

“£4.5m for anti-racist actions in culture, heritage and sport across Wales”

https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/2022/12/4-5m-for-anti-racist-actions-in-culture-heritage-and-sport-across-wales/#msdyntrid=eFgSHscv1WAQI9Ly3gFfC0_UKD3hsEG5bJ-lpfq34_Q

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 2 Dec 2022)

“Dawn Bowden, Wales’s deputy minister for arts and sport, has announced £4.5m over the next three years to support the delivery of actions across culture, heritage and sport in the Welsh government’s Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan.”

Cost of living crisis – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Rising cost of living in the UK

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9428/CBP-9428.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 773, 23 Dec 2022)
New HOC Library “Research Briefing”.

“The cost of living has been increasing across the UK since early 2021. The annual rate of inflation reached 11.1% in October 2022, a 41-year high, before easing to 10.7% in November 2022. High inflation affects the affordability of goods and services for households.

This briefing gives an overview of rising prices, particularly food, energy and fuel prices, including the effect of the conflict in Ukraine. It outlines Government support as well as how rising prices, interest rates and other policies are affecting household budgets.” [p4]

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

“London Libraries trains staff to tackle homelessness challenges”

<https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/news/london-libraries-trains-staff-tackle-homelessness-challenges>

(Source: *Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance Bulletin*, Dec 2022)

“People experiencing homelessness could soon be meeting a warmer welcome from the capital’s libraries thanks to an innovative training programme for London library workers.”

“Why our libraries need to be open to all”

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/23156737.sean-mcnamara-libraries-need-open/>

Excellent “Opinion” article by Sean McNamara (Head of CILIP Scotland) stressing the importance of reading, literacy and libraries:

“Whilst some will use libraries for simple warmth, they are not just essential spaces for this. Libraries are vital social infrastructure and we have witnessed libraries across Scotland doing innovative things for the increasing numbers of people who are coming into the building as well as accessing the core services like books, information and IT.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Human Rights Day 2022: a moment of peril and opportunity”

https://justfair.org.uk/human-rights-day-2022-a-moment-of-peril-and-opportunity/?mc_cid=93cb757f70&mc_eid=17c19d737e

(Source: email from Just Fair, 9 Dec 2022)

Interesting blogpost to mark HRD (10 Dec).

The Diverse Educators’ *Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Inclusion Toolkit*

<https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/gypsy-roma-and-traveller-inclusion-toolkit/>

(Source: Diverse Educators *Update*, Dec 2022)

“We are collating a growing bank of resources to support you in reflecting on the following questions:

- How do I know if someone is from a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller community?
- How do I better understand who Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities are?
- How do I challenge the misrepresentation and misunderstanding of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities?
- How do I understand the issues Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and young people face in accessing good quality education?
- How do I adapt my practices to make me and my colleagues more inclusive educators for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and young people?"

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people
Reflecting realities: survey of ethnic representation within UK children's literature 2017–2021

https://clpe.org.uk/system/files/2022-11/CLPE%20Reflecting%20Reality%202022%20WEB_0.pdf

(Source: CILIP School Libraries Group *Newsletter*, 19 Dec 2022)

The latest "Reflecting Realities" report has just been published. The main findings include:

- "Annual reporting shows an increase in the number of children's books published featuring a minority ethnic character from 4% in 2017 to 20% in 2021.
- The percentage of books published with a main character from a racially minoritised background has risen year on year but remains extremely low at 9% in 2021.
- Representation in Fiction remains low and lags significantly behind increases in Picturebooks and Non-Fiction."

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

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

"Disability History Month 2022"

https://padlet.com/h_dawson/6yvyc2h3fasmdgkm

Just in case you haven't seen this useful growing resource, coordinated by Heather Dawson on behalf of ALISS (a grass-roots social science librarian and information professionals group, <https://alissnet.com>)

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

UK immigration routes for Afghan nationals

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9307/CBP-9307.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 770, 5 Dec 2022)

HOC Library 'Briefing' which usefully summarises the different schemes.

“Refugees and asylum-seekers: UK policy”

<https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/refugees-and-asylum-seekers-uk-policy/#heading-1>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 770, 5 Dec 2022)

HOL Library “In Focus” briefing which covers key definitions.

“Statistics on Ukrainians in the UK”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-september-2022/statistics-on-ukrainians-in-the-uk>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 769, 28 Nov 2022)

Updated data from ONS for the year ending Sept 2022.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“‘Diversity is a beautiful thing’: the view from Leicester and Birmingham”

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/nov/29/leicester-birmingham-first-super-diverse-uk-cities-census>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 770, 5 Dec 2022)

Just in case you haven't seen this positive story about migration.

“Modern slavery: UK’s focus on ‘genuine’ victims has failed survivors since the 1800s”

https://theconversation.com/modern-slavery-uks-focus-on-genuine-victims-has-failed-survivors-since-the-1800s-192528?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20December%2021%202022%20-%202499525048&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20December%2021%202022%20-%202499525048+CID_855af234b3df086d2354e1b93bb26b6e&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Modern%20slavery%20UKs%20focus%20on%20genuine%20victims%20has%20failed%20survivors%20since%20the%201800s

(Source: *The Conversation*, 21 Dec 2022)

Important article:

“In recent remarks, Home Secretary Suella Braverman said the government’s priority is helping ‘genuine victims’ over those who supposedly lie about being modern slavery victims to gain entry to the UK. This is not new. A focus on finding ‘genuine’ victims has been a central message in anti-trafficking policy for well over 150 years – and it has serious implications.

Many survivors of trafficking and enslavement are forced into criminal activity or enter the UK without documentation as part of their exploitation. Rather than receiving support, they are treated as criminals first and victims second because they do not fit the image of an innocent, ‘genuine’ victim.”

“Updown girl: DNA research shows ancient Britain was more diverse than we imagined”

https://theconversation.com/updown-girl-dna-research-shows-ancient-britain-was-more-diverse-than-we-imagined-192142?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Science%20newsletter%20for%20December%2029%202022%20-%202497025025&utm_content=Science%20newsletter%20for%20December%2029%202022%20-%202497025025+CID_370863ad677ecee83ac1afbe0cf28fb1&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Updown%20girl%20DNA%20research%20shows%20ancient%20Britain%20was%20more%20diverse%20than%20we%20imagined

(Source: *The Conversation*, 29 Dec 2022)

An interesting – and timely – reminder that people have migrated for hundreds of years:

“One of the most surprising discoveries was the skeleton of a young girl who died at about ten or 11 years of age, found in Updown near Eastry in Kent. She was buried in typical early seventh-century style with a finely made pot, knife, spoon and bone comb. Her DNA, however, tells a more complex story. As well as 67% CNE [continental northern European] ancestry, she also had 33% West African ancestry. Her African ancestor was most closely related to the modern day Esan and Yoruba population in southern Nigeria.”

“Many Turkish people who migrated to European countries are worse off than those who stayed at home”

https://theconversation.com/many-turkish-people-who-migrated-to-european-countries-are-worse-off-than-those-who-stayed-at-home-194004?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20January%204%202023%20-%202507125151&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20January%204%202023%20-%202507125151+CID_55d809a9aa293ab17979969a1b15f1ca&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Many%20Turkish%20people%20who%20migrated%20to%20European%20countries%20are%20worse%20off%20than%20those%20who%20stayed%20at%20home

(Source: *The Conversation*, 4 Jan 2023)

Article by Sebnem Eroglu, Senior Lecturer in Social Policy, University of Bristol:

“Many people migrate to another country to earn a decent income and to attain a better standard of living. But my recent research shows that across all destinations and generations studied, many migrants from Turkey to European countries are financially worse off than those who stayed at home.”

“LGBTQ+ Afghans still terrified Taliban militants will murder them – and desperate to escape”

https://www.thepinknews.com/2022/12/19/afghanistan-taliban-lgbtq-refugees-welcome-shah-non-binary/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&utm_id=Holiday%20Campaign&pnespid=rulqWHpJJK4cgqDKpG2_H52D4QL.DlKpKO2s2vA0qxpM_wQQVmXSiF9ae3TEnye2ld7A9R5UiQ

Grim news update:

“Ever since the Taliban took control over Kabul in August 2021, reports have emerged of LGBTQ+ people being beaten, brutalised, raped and even murdered by the extremist group. Any kind of deviation from the norm is not accepted. Many have fled the country, but safety isn’t always easy to find.”

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

Libraries Connected strategic plan 2023-2027

<https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/news/libraries-connected-publishes-new-strategic-plan>

(Source: email from Libraries Connected, 10 Nov 2022)

“The plan presents a set of key projects and priorities for the next five years, with a focus on creating a more diverse library workforce, building a robust evidence base on the impact of libraries and developing a stronger voice for the sector as it works with local and national government.

The plan is structured around four core areas of action: **drive, grow, connect and engage**. These are underpinned by principles of sustainability, diversity, collaboration and financial stability with a commitment to working both nationally and regionally.” {Taken from website, emphasis theirs]

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