

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 371, 13 March 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/Anti-racism

"Unconscious bias training is 'nonsense', says outgoing race relations chair"

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/feb/18/unconscious-bias-training-is-nonsense-says-outgoing-race-relations-chair

(Source: Diverse Educators *Update*, Mar 2023) Forthright piece from the former IRR Chair.

The ethnicity of missing people: findings from police and local authority data, 2021-22

https://www.missingpeople.org.uk/wp-

content/uploads/2023/03/Missing_Ethnicity-report.pdf

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 782, 13 Mar 2023)

"Based on data from police forces and local authorities, the research found that people from minority ethnic groups were missing for longer, less likely to be found by the police, and less likely to be recorded as being at risk, than white people. This is the first time that data of this nature has been collected and published."

Key findings include:

- "Black children are more likely to be missing for over 48 hours and for over a week than White adults and children. Asian children are more likely to be missing for over a week than White children [...]
- A lower proportion of missing incidents related to Black and Asian people going missing were resolved by the person being found by the police [...]
- Missing people from Black or Asian communities are less likely to be recorded as being at risk by the police due to their mental health or being at risk of exploitation (children) than other people." [all quotes taken from: https://www.missingpeople.org.uk/new-research-ethnicity-report]

"Race and Poverty - Minority Ethnic Children Still on the Margins" https://www.crer.org.uk/blog/race-and-poverty

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 782, 13 Mar 2023)

Blogpost which introduces key findings from a report by the Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights who assessed local authority action plans and found that "[...] across the board, very little is being done to tackle the disproportionately high rate of child poverty amongst BME families." [Taken from: https://www.crer.org.uk/blog/race-and-poverty]

The full report is at:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/615c1bee105b4f55a98326d0/t/63402dd9c5d4a10c2e7d6134/1665150614233/LCPARs+Report+2020-21.pdf.

Climate emergency/the environment – Other Agencies

1.5°C – dead or alive? The risks to transformational change from reaching and breaching the Paris Agreement goal

https://www.ippr.org/files/2023-02/1676546139_1.5c-dead-or-alive-feb23.pdf (Source: IPPR Newsletter, 28 Feb 2023)

New report from IPPR and Chatham House, which argues that:

"A systematic effort is needed to tackle threats and grasp opportunities for rapid environmental action thrown up by the deepening consequences of the crisis: to make the green transition itself more resilient. Otherwise, the world could head further into a spiral of accelerating environmental shocks and counterproductive, defensive reactions." [Taken from: https://www.ippr.org/research/publications/1-5c-dead-or-alive?mc_cid=b88ce5465e&mc_eid=fbc917e5f6]

The paper proposes the following responses:

- "Politics: Better anticipating and responding to narratives that favour delaying or blocking transformational change as temperatures approach 1.5°C, as part of a wider process of developing environmental narratives befitting the deepening challenges of the crisis.
- Policy: Decisively shifting beyond an incrementalist policymaking mindset and placing policies that can realise a system-wide transformation at the heart of advocacy.
- Analysis: Improving policy-relevant analyses and accessible communication of the complex risks resulting from the deepening climate and ecological crisis." [p6]

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

"Prince George's County Hosts Successful Social Justice Camp for Teens"

https://www.libraryjournal.com/story/news/prince-georges-county-hosts-successful-social-justice-camp-for-teens-liblearnx-

2023?utm_campaign=LJXpress&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=249199378&_hse nc=p2ANgtz-9WbQVNU347v0lfYNcA5eHkD -

ROD6eexis7ewKLkG5l5Qkw7WrgmHJ-

4s Uh9LxiV00QSwO7AStOnHf6hKmN9lwAhP7g&utm_content=249199378&ut m source=hs email

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 7 Mar 2023 – NB you need to register on the *LJ* website to access this article)

Very interesting article:

"During five full days at five separate branches, groups of teens learned about the history of social justice movements along with project management skills to help effect change in their own communities."

Supporting people experiencing or threatened by homelessness: library toolkit

https://tra-

resources.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/entries/document/6532/Supporting_peo_ple_experiencing_homelessness_-_library_toolkit.pdf

(Source: The Reading Agency Adult Reading News, 7 Mar 2023)

Important guidance from Libraries Connected and The Reading Agency to help support public libraries engaging with the new framework for provision. It includes useful information, case studies and tools for libraries to use, as well as suggestions for national and local contacts, funding etc.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

"Scanners are complicated': why Gen Z faces workplace 'tech shame'" https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/feb/27/gen-z-tech-shame-office-technology-

printers?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=come_to_a_drop_in_get_good_broadband_with_bad_credit_and_help_gen_z_use_a_pr_inter&utm_term=2023-03-08

(Source: Digital Unite Newsletter, Mar 2023)

Just in case you missed this interesting article:

"They may be digital natives, but young workers were raised on userfriendly apps – and office devices are far less intuitive"

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people

"From Roald Dahl to Goosebumps, revisions to children's classics are really about copyright – a legal expert explains"

https://theconversation.com/from-roald-dahl-to-goosebumps-revisions-to-childrens-classics-are-really-about-copyright-a-legal-expert-explains-

201246?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%208%202023%20-

<u>%202563725770&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%208%202023%20-</u>

%202563725770+CID 09ce99136b77820cd711485098583d20&utm_source=c ampaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=From%20Roald%20Dahl%20to%20Goosebu mps%20revisions%20to%20childrens%20classics%20are%20really%20about% 20copyright%20%20a%20legal%20expert%20explains

(Source: The Conversation, 8 Mar 2023)

A sensible article (in my opinion!) which argues (in relation to the debate about updating Roald Dahl texts) that:

"At its core, however, updating Roald Dahl's children's books is really about the rights and control copyright grants to authors and copyright holders. Those rights are exercised to update children's books more frequently than many of these critics may realise."

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

"Migration Museum secures permanent home in City of London" https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-
iournal/news/2023/02/migration-museum-secures-permanent-home-in-

<u>journal/news/2023/02/migration-museum-secures-permanent-home-in-city-of-london/#msdynttrid=SYz3WVpQ3qfKDbbYq8QzbLirNVOKOCCiQ2DVDMrXnyM</u> (Source: Museums Association email updates, 24 Feb 2023)

"The Migration Museum is to get a permanent home in a new apartment complex for students being built in central London.

The City of London's planning sub-committee has approved plans for a purpose-built space on the first three floors of a student accommodation development, not far from Aldgate underground station and the Tower of London."

"Students lead reading project to help asylum-seeker children enjoy books"

https://www.port.ac.uk/news-events-and-blogs/news/students-lead-reading-project-to-help-asylum-seeker-children-enjoy-books

(Source: *The University of Portsmouth Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Newsletter*, 24 Feb 2023) At the University of Portsmouth:

"BA (Hons) Illustration staff and students developed a reading and drawing project to invite families from the local asylum seeker community into the University Library."

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Human Rights Watch. World report 2023: events of 2022

Web version: https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023

pdf available at:

https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2023/01/World_Report_2023_WEBSPREADS_0.pdf

(Source: Free Movement Weekly Newsletter, 6 Feb 2023)

"This 33rd annual World Report summarizes human rights conditions in over 100 countries and territories worldwide in 2022." [inside front cover]

The latest report looks very critically at actions taken by the UK Government:

"The UK government in 2022 adopted laws that violate rights and proposed significantly weakening human rights protections in domestic law. The government signed an agreement to transfer asylum seekers who arrived irregularly in the United Kingdom to Rwanda, putting them at risk. Rising food, rents, and energy prices, and inadequate social

protections threatened the rights of people on the lowest incomes, including to food and housing. The government failed to take meaningful steps to address institutional racism including in policing. Although the UK government worked with partners to press other states failing to uphold their human rights obligations, it did not consistently prioritize human rights in its foreign policy agenda and undermined international standards." [p651]

"LGBTQ+ migrants forced to share locked rooms with violent homophobes in UK detention centres"

https://www.thepinknews.com/2023/02/08/lgbtq-migrants-immigration-detention-centres/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=t6k4VSgfLfNCwuvfrz3pFljV7x_wDZUvMvG_2vdw8EBmbD1HzQOjWmN4nMCrOsrsDZx9dUTQ9A

(Source: PinkNews, 8 Feb 2023)

"LGBTQ+ people are experiencing homophobic abuse and violence in the UK's immigration detention system, new research has uncovered.

The pilot study, conducted by University of Brighton academic Dr Laura Harvey for asylum advocacy group Rainbow Migration, details instances of abuse on UK soil since 2016."

"Why thousands of people who thought they were British could lose their citizenship"

https://theconversation.com/why-thousands-of-people-who-thought-they-were-british-could-lose-their-citizenship-

<u>199634?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20February%2028%202023%20-</u>

%202556125693&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20February%2028%202023%20-

%202556125693+CID_e6014a6dba611b8f5e68ad33171ca680&utm_source=ca mpaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Why%20thousands%20of%20people%20who %20thought%20they%20were%20British%20could%20lose%20their%20citizen ship

(Source: The Conversation, 28 Feb 2023)

Very important article about the change in legal status of people settled in the UK – the issue is neatly summed up here:

"Before 1983, anyone born in the UK automatically acquired British citizenship. After that, when the British Nationality Act 1981 came into force, those born in the UK would only be considered British citizens if at least one of their parents were either a British citizen themselves or "settled" in the UK at the time of the child's birth.

For 17 years, the Home Office deemed EU nationals exercising free movement rights in the UK to be settled and their UK-born children, thus, British. But on October 2 2000, the Home Office changed the rules. In order to be deemed "settled", EU nationals now had to apply for and be granted indefinite leave to remain.

The problem is that many EU nationals did not apply for indefinite leave to remain, simply because they did not need it to enter and reside in the UK. Why apply for something you apparently don't need?"

"Half of people trying to get permanent UK residency by 10-year route struggle to afford food"

https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2023/mar/02/uk-residency-10-year-route-home-office?mc cid=107e79d480&mc eid=7d8713d645

(Source: Free Movement Weekly Newsletter, 6 Mar 2023)

"More than half the people trying to secure permanent residency in the UK through the Home Office's 'devastating and punishing' 10-year route struggle to afford food and pay bills, a survey has indicated.

The 10-year route to settling permanently in the UK was one of a series of deliberately tough measures introduced in 2012 by Theresa May when she was home secretary, as part of drive to cut net migration. Researchers say the full effects of the policy are only now starting to be felt.

A survey of more than 300 people currently or recently making this application process found that 62% struggled to meet the cost of electricity, heating, water and internet, and 57% struggled to buy food, according to the Institute for Public Policy Research study."

"Safe passage for refugees"

https://care4calais.org/safepassage/

(Source: email from Care4Calais, 6 Mar 2023)

Without entering into a political debate here, it seems timely to draw attention to Care4Calais's webpage:

"There are lots of myths about people seeking safety on our shores, and none of them get us any closer to a solution. Want the truth about how to stop dangerous small boat crossings? Read on..."

Broader issues – Other Agencies

"Impartiality and public-service media"

https://www.socialeurope.eu/impartiality-and-public-service-media

(Source: Social Europe Newsletter, 13 Mar 2023)

Interesting opinion-piece:

"The media storm in Britain around a television personality speaks volumes about why the United Kingdom has become a dysfunctional state."