



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 384, 10 October 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

Our priorities for racial justice in Britain

[https://assets.website-](https://assets.website-files.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/65159b55f1b3b4f4146422d0_Runnymede%20Manifesto%202023%20v7.pdf)

[files.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/65159b55f1b3b4f4146422d0_Runnymede%20Manifesto%202023%20v7.pdf](https://assets.website-files.com/61488f992b58e687f1108c7c/65159b55f1b3b4f4146422d0_Runnymede%20Manifesto%202023%20v7.pdf)

In this document, Runnymede Trust:

“[...] put forward an agenda for transformative policy making which challenges the embedded nature of structural inequalities in areas such as housing, education, policing and the environment. Central to these policy priorities is our assertion that issues of racial justice can no longer be siloed or used as political tools for division, and that any meaningful efforts to tackle disparities must take a whole systems approach.

Policies that promote racial justice are policies that create a fairer society for all [...]” [p2]

Their policy recommendations cover:

- Tackling the cost of living crisis
- Building a fairer labour market
- Decent housing for everyone
- Addressing healthcare inequalities
- Tackling injustices in policing
- Education free from discrimination
- Protecting our political rights
- Protecting our civil rights
- Climate justice.

“Black History Month x Stonewall”

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/our-work/campaigns/black-history-month-x-stonewall?utm_source=Supporter+Comms&utm_campaign=e88daaa26e-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_09_27_02_09_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5e84b28897-e88daaa26e-213466874

(Source: *Stonewall Newsletter*, 1 Oct 2023)

“Black people have always been at the centre of the LGBTQ+ liberation movement [...]

This year’s theme for Black History Month is ‘Saluting Our Sisters’, honouring the vital roles Black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities.”

The website also has links to:

- “What does it mean to be Black and queer?”, <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/what-does-it-mean-be-black-and-queer>
- “Lil Nas X and the reemerging diversity of Blackness”, <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/lil-nas-x-and-reemerging-diversity-blackness>
- “10 ways to be an ally to Black LGBT people”, <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/10-ways-be-ally-black-lgbt-people>
- “Black LGBTQ+ organisations you should know about”, <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/blog/communities/black-lgbtq-organisations-you-should-know-about>
- “Black History Month: the charity sector has a long way to go when it comes to racial equality”, <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/black-history-month-charity-sector-has-long-way-go-when-it-comes-racial-equality>.

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

“Cost-of-living crisis is hitting museums hard, report shows”

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/2023/10/report-shows-cost-of-living-crisis-is-hitting-museums-hard/#>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 3 Oct 2023)

Intro to the Annual Museum Survey 2023, which “[...] shows that the cost-of-living crisis is affecting museums in many different ways, and the expectation is that things will get worse before they get better.”

The Annual Museum Survey 2023 for England – and regional versions – is at: <https://southwestmuseums.org.uk/museum-development-england-annual-museum-survey-2023-reporting/>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

‘There is only so much we can do’: school staff in England on the impact of poverty on children and school life

Full report: https://cpag.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/policypost/Education_Anti-Poverty_Coalition_Report_2023.pdf

Web summary:

https://cpag.org.uk/schoolsurvey?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=4f99a0b795-Newsletter+October+1+2023&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-4f99a0b795-120687778

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 5 Oct 2023)

“To understand exactly how child poverty affects the whole school system in England, the Education Anti-Poverty Coalition, convened by Child Poverty Action Group, has conducted a first-of-its-kind survey of professionals working in every role in schools in England [...]

The results show that child poverty in schools is getting worse and increasingly stealing children’s learning, with school staff reporting that pupils are frequently tired and hungry, worried, unable to concentrate, and without the equipment they need to engage with the curriculum. School staff are also being heavily diverted from other parts of their roles as they seek to address the poverty-related needs of their school community.” [p2]

Equality, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Arts council staff report challenges around race, disability and personal belief”

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/2023/10/arts-council-staff-report-challenges-around-race-disability-and-personal-belief/#msdyntrid=90lf48VazJmYS7X0BQEzNWbWzqA9TvWD6CzAkcOQRIM>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 3 Oct 2023)

“Staff at Arts Council England have faced negative experiences due to race, disability and personal beliefs, according to an independent assessment of workforce inclusion conducted earlier this year.

A review by Nous consultancy, published last week, praised the high bar that the arts council has set itself in relation to workforce inclusion and recognised its leadership in the sector across comparable organisations.

However it found that Black, Asian and ethnically diverse staff at the arts council had faced microaggressions, racial stereotyping, bias and discriminatory behaviours, and that these had not been dealt with consistently within the organisation.”

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

“Beamish Museum 1950s homes helping people with dementia”

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-67017892>

(Source: *Later Life AGE*nda, 9 Oct 2023)

BBC News article:

“People living with dementia are being supported through the opening of new replica-1950s homes at Beamish Museum.

The aged mineworkers' cottages are based on properties in South Shields.

Two homes are open to the public while another has been converted into a space for those with long-term conditions, who lived through the period.”

Disability issues – Other Agencies

UK Disability History Month 2023 – 16 Nov-16 Dec 2023

https://ukdhm.org/?utm_campaign=891319_HLG%20News%20-%20September%202023&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Chartered%20Institute%20of%20Library%20and%20%20Information%20Professionals&utm_i=6WFS%2CJ3QV%2C9VBO9%2C2FN6X%2C1

(Source: CILIP Health Libraries Group News, Sep 2023)

The theme for this year is “Disability, Children and Youth”.

“This Autumn 2023 UKDHM focusses on the Experience of Disablement amongst children and young people in the past, now and what is needed for the future.”

Migration issues – News

“Charities warn of refugee homelessness crisis in England this winter”

https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/oct/03/charities-refugee-homelessness-crisis-england-winter-right-remain-home-office-evictions-rough-sleeping?mc_cid=991a1a8afa&mc_eid=e91604b40f

(Source: *Left Foot Forward*, 3 Oct 2023)

Just in case you didn't see this news story:

“Makeshift refugee ‘camps’ are likely to spring up across England this winter as an unprecedented number of those newly granted the right to remain are sleeping rough after speeded-up Home Office evictions, charities have warned.

In July, newly recognised refugees and survivors of trafficking had the number of days they had to find a new place to live after receiving a ‘notice to quit’ before being evicted from Home Office accommodation cut from 28 days to seven after their claim was approved.”

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“APPG Inquiry Call for Written Evidence: The Effects of UK Immigration, Asylum and Refugee Policy on Poverty”

https://appgmigration.org.uk/appg-inquiry-call-for-written-evidence-the-effects-of-uk-immigration-asylum-and-refugee-policy-on-poverty/?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=4f99a0b795-Newsletter+October+1+2023&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-4f99a0b795-120687778

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 5 Oct 2023)

“The call for written evidence consists of two questionnaires which seek to explore the ways in which UK immigration policies contribute to poverty amongst migrant communities.

Completing a questionnaire will take around 15 minutes. The call for written evidence will **close on the 25th of October**. If you know others who may be willing and able to respond, please feel free to share this with them as we are keen to get as many responses as possible.

[Lived experience questionnaire](#) – We ask those with current lived experience of the UK immigration system to complete this questionnaire. **Your answers to this questionnaire will be anonymous and completing this questionnaire will in no way impact your current immigration status.**

[Professional experience questionnaire](#) – We ask those who have professional experience of the UK immigration system or UK poverty to complete this questionnaire. This includes, but is not limited to, professions such as academia, non-for profit, government etc in the asylum, migrant, refugee and poverty sectors.” [emphases theirs]

“Migration Advisory Committee recommends shortage occupation list is abolished”

https://freemovement.org.uk/migration-advisory-committee-recommends-shortage-occupation-list-is-abolished/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=migration-advisory-committee-recommends-shortage-occupation-list-is-abolished&mc_cid=927fe298ac&mc_eid=7d8713d645

(Source: *Free Movement Weekly Newsletter*, 9 Oct 2023)

“The Migration Advisory Committee has recommended that the shortage occupation list is abolished and that people in the asylum system with permission to work are allowed to work in any role. These are some of the recommendations in the full review of the shortage occupation list [...]”

The Review (and associated papers) are at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-shortage-occupation-list-2023>.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Incoherence and inconsistency’: the inside story of the Rwanda deportation plan”

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/oct/05/incoherence-and-inconsistency-the-inside-story-of-the-rwanda-deportation-plan?mc_cid=927fe298ac&mc_eid=7d8713d645

Just in case you didn’t see this important *Guardian* “Long Read” article.

Broader issues – Other Agencies

“Five things you need to know about the Online Safety Bill”

<https://bigbrotherwatch.org.uk/2023/10/five-things-you-need-to-know-about-the-online-safety-bill/>

(Source: email from Big Brother Watch, 5 Oct 2023)

Important briefing:

“A debate which began focused squarely on the protection of children online morphed into something much broader, culminating in a piece of legislation that would ultimately regulate the speech of everyone online [...]

This blog signposts the key areas of the Bill that threaten our rights and liberties. Despite the best efforts of campaigners across a multitude of groups, who were able to scale back the ill-informed concept of ‘harmful’ speech to adults, the civil liberties red flags are many and must be monitored closely when the regulatory framework formally kicks in the coming months.”

Turning Right: the dangerous transformation of the Conservative Party

https://hopenothate.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/HnH_turning-right_2023-10-v4.pdf

Useful long article from HOPE not hate, which places recent speeches etc in context.