



> Welcome to our e-bulletin - 3 July 2007

Welcome to the Southeast Cultural Observatory's e-bulletin. Our aim is to bring you a brief update on cultural news, research, events, funding and publications. We aim to produce this each month. We hope you find it useful. If you like it, please pass it on!

If you have events, initiatives, research or publications that aim to show how culture has a positive impact on health, communities, regeneration, learning or economic development, please let us know before the 23th of this month and we'd be happy to include them in our next e-bulletin.

We welcome feedback on louiseetheridge@seeda.co.uk

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News



New culture Minister

Gordon Brown has brought sweeping changes to his Cabinet which include James Purnell taking over from Tessa Jowell as Culture Secretary. James Purnell has previously held Ministerial responsibilities at DCMS when he was appointed as Minister for Media & Tourism in May 2005.

Tessa Jowell retains Ministerial responsibility for overseeing the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games as Minister for the Olympics. Former DCMS Minister for Creative Industries & Tourism, Shaun Woodward, has been promoted to Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

London 2012 Summer Roadshow

London 2012 kicked off its annual summer Roadshow on 15th June in Greenwich, London. A special branded Roadshow bus will visit Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and each of the nine regions within England, ending its journey in Stoke Mandeville

on 29th August, marking five years to go to the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

In the South East, as well as Stoke Mandeville, the tour will be hitting the Kent Show on 13th and 14th July

SEEDA launches data hub

SEEDA, working in partnership with consultants Experian and ACTIVE Solutions, and with support from the European Social Fund, embarked on an exciting project to develop a new data interrogation tool for the South East of England Intelligence Network (SEE-IN) website.

The product of this work is the new **SEE-IN Data Hub**, a fully interactive tool providing access to a wide range of data about the South East, covering many topics and geographies. The Data Hub provides simple to use analysis tools, giving you the ability to interrogate data, chart it, map it, tabulate and download it as either an excel file or a pdf report.

The data hub launches on Tuesday 3rd July. For more details contact Phil Eadie, manager of SEE-IN at philpeadie@seeda.co.uk

Local Area Agreement Cultural Toolkit

A multi-agency team are working together to create a Local Area Agreement Cultural Toolkit which aims to help people embed culture across the new generation local area agreements. The toolkit is aimed at local government officers and members who understand how culture contributes to a wide range of social, economic and environmental objectives and need support. The toolkit is being developed over the summer but the first modules will be available from SECO towards the end of July. For more information please [click here](#) or contact Nikki.smart@gose-gsi.gov.uk.

Creating Cultural Champions

Cultural agencies in the South East are collaborating on a pilot project to strengthen the voice of culture on Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs).

The project will begin by identifying existing and potential 'cultural champions' represented on LSPs, recognising their position as key influencers and decision-makers in local government. It will then offer customised training to address specific capacity building needs, as initially identified through research conducted by Sport England and MLA South East in 2006, and since reinforced as part of our ongoing dialogue with local authorities. The project is backed by Communities and Local Government (CLG) with additional funding provided by Arts Council England, Museums, Libraries and Archives and Sport England.

It is hoped that the long-term impact of the project will include

better representation for culture in LSPs, Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements, unlocking additional funds for the sector at the same time as maximising its contribution to cross-cutting priorities. The organisation South East Employers have been appointed to carry out the training and will be using the Thames Valley area as a test bed over the summer. For more information about the pilot, please contact Sophie.jeffrey@artscouncil.org.uk

Source: Arts Council, South East.

SEEDA-supported Clore Leadership Fellow Announced

The Clore Leadership Programme, an initiative of the Clore Duffield Foundation to strengthen leadership across the arts, announced in June the Clore Leadership Fellows for 2007/8. The Clore Fellow supported by the South East England Development Agency is Mary-Venetia Genis. Mary is Founder and Artistic Director of CultureMix Arts, a steel pan music education and carnival arts organisation. She is also Chair of Reading Refocus Mentoring Charity and Board member of South Hill Park Arts Centre and Jelly Art Gallery. Previously Mary was Arts Development Officer (Cultural Diversity) for Arts Council England, Arts Development Officer for Reading Borough Council and Theatre and Carnival Costume and Fashion Designer based at South Hill Park Arts Centre.

Publications & Resources



> Promoting Sport Toolkit

Sport England has produced the [Promoting Sport toolkit](#), giving communities a range of simple-to-use tools to help promote sport and active recreation to the public.

It includes a library of community sport photos free for you to use in your posters, leaflets, websites and adverts.

More info [here](#)

> A strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests

DEFRA has published its strategy for woodlands which covers its aims for creating, managing and protecting woodland. Click [here](#) for the report.

> Arts at the Strategic Centre

The self-assessment and benchmarking for Arts at the Strategic Centre is now available. Arts at the Strategic Centre was developed by Arts Council England and the Improvement and Development Agency (I&DeA) to help Local Authorities position

arts at the centre of corporate policy making. Several authorities piloted the self-assessment version of the tool. More details of the benchmarking and evaluation can be found here [Arts at the strategic centre](#)

> Promoting sustainable communities through the planning process

IDEA has published a series of case studies of Beacon councils successful in the above theme. Three of the case studies are based in the South East. The studies are intended to share best practice with other councils that are working to create sustainable communities.

[Click here](#) for further information.

> Commission on Integration and Cohesion reports

The final report from the Commission on Integration and Cohesion was published on 14 June. Our Shared Future puts forward a set of recommendations for practical action to address cohesion and integration issues at a local level, along with suggestions for a national framework to support these. The report underlines the need to move away from a single approach towards more sophisticated analysis and tailored local solutions in order to make communities more resilient and united in dealing with the present and future challenges. It stresses the need for a more local approach in each area. A full press release and the report are available from the DCLG website [here](#)

A useful summary is provided by IDeA [here](#)

> Demos ask: ' So, What Do You Do?'

A report published by Demos on 19 June provides a perspective on creative practice and the current disconnect, particularly at national, sectoral and regional level, between the rhetoric of support for the creative and cultural industries and the reality on the ground. The authors, Charlie Tims and Shelagh Wright, call for a major rethink on how we support creative practitioners and businesses in an environment that makes it impossible to simply pigeon hole them.

You can contact the authors and download a full copy of the report by visiting the [Demos website here](#)

> CABE – Paved with gold?

A report published by CABE on 25 June has connected economic benefits directly with the quality of street design, management and maintenance. It shows that investment in design quality brings quantifiable financial returns, and that people value improvements to their streets. The report urges regional development agencies and government offices for the regions to use their influence to drive forward a design-led improvement agenda.

Paved with gold is part of a wider CABE programme that provides research, guidance and case studies aimed at promoting high-quality street design. For more information please [click here](#)

> Demos – Logging On

DEMOS recently launched its report "Logging On: Culture, Participation and the Web", providing a positive overview of lessons learned from the 'Culture Online' programme and looking at how web technology can increase public participation in culture. The report proposes answers to the question: What will be the role, opportunities and limitations of online culture in a rapidly changing world? To download the report [click here](#)

> Work Foundation: Staying Ahead

As part of the Creative Economy Programme the Department for Culture Media and Sport commissioned Will Hutton and the Work Foundation to produce an economic analysis of the Creative Economy in the UK.

The resulting paper, "Staying Ahead: the economic performance of the UK's creative industries" was published on 25th June and is [available here](#)

> Mental Health in the South East

A new report outlining the state of adult mental health in the South East shows that around one in eight people in the region have a mental health problem.

The report, "Indications of Public Health in the English Regions 7: Mental Health" by the Association of Public Health Observatories presents data on mental health in England and examines a set of indicators relating to deprivation and lifestyle which have been shown to impact on mental health. For more information, [click here](#)

Research Update



> A framework for evaluating cultural policy investment

The Department of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) has commissioned Frontier Economics to examine the economic impact of public investment and intervention in culture. The research has developed a framework for assessing the impact of cultural interventions.

For more information please [click here](#)

> Culture and Wellbeing – any reports out there?

DEFRA is undertaking work on pulling together indicators that relate to Wellbeing, and so far little evidence has been found to link cultural participation to wellbeing. SECO is looking to collate research that suggests cultural activity and wellbeing are interlinked in order to inform DEFRA's work. If you know of any research that has taken place recently please contact Louise at L.etheridge@culturesoutheast.org.uk.

> Volunteering in Sport – why people do it

Research from New Zealand suggests there are nine mindsets for why people volunteer within sport. From these mindsets, Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC), developed different approaches to attracting and retaining volunteers taking account of these mindsets. For more information, [click here](#)

Consultations



UKHLS is a major new household panel study commissioned by the Economic and Social Research Council. (ESRC). It is based at, and will be led by the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex, along with colleagues from the University of Warwick and the Institute of Education. It will be the largest study of its type in the world.

Consultation has started aimed at establishing the priorities for the content of the core questionnaire and the content and sequencing of the rotating modules. If you'd like to contribute your thoughts please [click here](#)

> Shaping the Future of Community Sport:

Sport England is running an online consultation to seek views on its plan for Community Sport. To take the survey, please [click here](#)

> The Future of the Third Sector

The Government defines the third sector as non-governmental organisations that are value driven and which principally reinvest their surpluses to further social, environmental or cultural objectives. It includes voluntary and community organisations, charities, social enterprises, cooperatives and mutuals.

The Office of the Third Sector and HM Treasury are currently undertaking a joint review of "The future role of the third sector in social and economic regeneration". This will set out the Government priorities for enabling an independent and thriving sector over the next three years.

A discussion paper setting out Communities and Local Government's proposals for improving its engagement with the third sector is available for consultation [here](#)

> Coastal access for all - Natural England

Natural England's proposals to open up the length of the English coastline for public access went out to public consultation on 19 June.

Defra is seeking views on a range of possible approaches to improving coastal access, and should it decide, following consultation, to proceed with the recommended way forward, Natural England envisages a ten-year implementation programme that would fully involve local authorities, farmers and landowners and other key local interests.

Natural England has advised Government to introduce new legislation to provide the public with continuous access, so far as practicable, around England's 4500km coastline. Natural England's full advice to Government on improving public access to the English coast can be found [here](#)

> Portsmouth City Council Cultural Strategy Assessment

Portsmouth City Council are undertaking an assessment of its current cultural strategy as part of its plan to create a new "Cultural Blueprint" by the end of 2007.

The Cultural Blueprint will act as a framework for the development of the Culture Group services – representing Arts and Cultural Development, Museums and Records, Libraries and Tourism, Visitor Services and Events - over the five years, 2008 - 2013. In order to build on the successes and failures of the previous Strategy, the Council considers it vital to undertake a review process with residents, stakeholders and partner agencies to ascertain what they feel worked best, or didn't.

In the next couple of weeks, the Council will be releasing an electronic survey to assess perceptions across the city - and, as relevant, beyond - of the progress of the current Cultural Strategy. To view a copy of the current strategy please see, <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/3915.html>).

For more information, please contact Sarah Cheverton, Policy Assistant in the Culture Group on (023) 9283 4086 or sarah.cheverton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Funding



Fellowships in the Creative and Performing Arts Deadline 27 Sept 07.

The Fellowships in the Creative and Performing Arts scheme aims to support artists* as research fellows within a research environment. It provides for the salary of the fellow and associated costs. Fellowships can be held for either 2 or 3 years full time, or for five years at either 0.4 or 0.6 FTE. For more details see the Arts and Humanities Research Council's [website here](#)

> UK Film Council 2007 Film Publications Fund launched

The 2007/08 UK Film Council Film Publications Fund is inviting applications from print and on-line film-related publications predominantly aimed at the film industry. The Fund aims to encourage debate about issues which challenge the perception of film and the film industry by broadening readership, increasing editorial range and developing the sustainability of film-related publications.

Deadline for applications: 3rd August.

Visit www.ukfilmcouncil.org.uk to find out more.

> Other Announcements

For other recent funding announcements please visit SECO here http://www.seco.org.uk/recent_funding_announcements.html

Events



> Active People Training

July 26th 2007

University of Surrey, Guildford

Find out how to use Sport England's Active People Diagnostic toolkit. Find out how many people are physically active in your local area, whom to target to improve participation and what investment will have most impact.

For a place, contact Helen Price on 020 7273 1915 or email jacky.major@sportengland.org

> Position - Profile - Regeneration

Defining the role and impact of sports events

Thursday 6th September 2007

Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire

This year the South East will play host to the largest annual

sporting event in the world, the Tour de France, as well as the Archery World Cup, National Badminton Championships and for the first time a National Junior Beach Volleyball tournament. This conference, hosted around the International Horse Trials at Blenheim Palace, will provide a forum to build relationships and learn from the experience of others in attracting and holding sports events in the region.

If you wish to hold a provisional place and be sent more information when available e-mail jbiles@tourismse.com

> **Social Enterprise Research Conference**

The Fourth Annual UK Social Enterprise Research Conference will take place on 4-5 July 2007 at London South Bank University. The event will bring together academics, researchers and practitioners to share their groundbreaking work and to support the community of researchers engaged in social enterprise. [Click here for more details](#)

> **Learning from the Cultural Pathfinders**

The lessons from the Cultural Pathfinders project
25th July, London
Hosts: Local Government Association

The conference will cover some central themes of relevance to the delivery of cultural services within local authorities, such as:

- The cultural offer and its role in meeting shared outcomes – is this being realised? What more could central and local government be doing?
- Getting culture on the agenda e.g. nationally, regionally and locally e.g. strategic positioning, through models of partnership working.
- Good practice – what culture can offer to the rest of the sector e.g. examples of strong partnership working, leveraging in external funding and private/business sector, reaching out and engaging communities.
- Barriers to delivery – what do the pathfinders tell us and how can these be addressed?

For further information, please contact 020 7664 3131 or e-mail info@lga.gov.uk. Booking forms are available in the events section of the LGA website at www.lga.gov.uk

> **Health Concerns? The Library's Role in Providing Health Information for the Public**

11 September, 10.00-16.88: Winchester Family Church, Stanmore Lane, Winchester

13 September, 10.00-16.00, Slough Public Library

17 September, 10.00-16.00, Princess Royal NHS Hospital Trust, Haywards Heath

MLA South East Health Information Partnerships invite staff from public and NHS libraries, as well as from colleges and universities, and NHS Direct, to launch an online toolkit which will help libraries across the South East provide health information to the public. The programme includes:

Where do people look for information about health and illness?

How does NHS Direct support library staff?

What can we learn from what is going on around the region?

How can we help the public judge the quality of popular websites?

What does partnership working look like in practice?

Action points: what next?

To book your free place, including lunch, contact: Nik Wardle, tel: 01962 858834 or email: nik.wardle@mlasoutheast.org.uk.

The closing date for bookings is 20 July

Erratum: Paddy Herlihy: Last month we gave out an incorrect email address for Paddy Herlihy, the South East Co-ordinator for the 2012 Games. His correct email address is padraigherlihy@seeda.co.uk. Sorry, Paddy!



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