



Diversity Group

Mission Statement: The aims of the Diversity Group are to unite those members of CILIP engaged in or interested in issues of diversity as they affect the library and information community, to foster communication between such members, to facilitate exchange of experience and the promotion of work relevant to those interests in order to promote and support library and information services to diversity and excluded communities.

"Diversity" covers issues of race, religion, culture, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, age, ability and other factors that result in discrimination and inequality.

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Summer Edition 2010 Conference Special

- New LGBT Reading Group
- Takeshita Demons
- Fiona Shaw in
Wolverhampton
- New web Resource - Better
Homes / Better Housing
- Diversity Awards Shortlist
- Personality Profile



New LGBT Reading Group at Smethwick Library

For more details, contact Sirena on
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Be our friend on
Facebook!



<http://tinyurl.com/DiversityGroupFacebook>



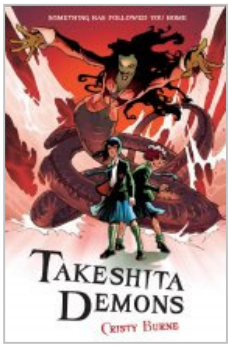
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Unite in Diversity

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Takeshita Demons by Cristy Burne

Winner of the inaugural Frances Lincoln Diverse Voices Children's Book Award 2009, will be published on 8th June 2010. The winner of the award this year will be announced at a

ceremony at Seven Stories, the national Centre for Children's Books on the same day.

The Frances Lincoln Diverse Voices Children's Book Award aims to:

- Take positive steps to increase the representation of people writing from or about different cultural perspectives, whose work is published in Britain today.
- Promote new writing for children, especially by or about people whose culture and voice are currently under-represented.
- Recognise that as children's books shape our earliest perceptions of the world and its cultures, promoting writing that represents diversity will contribute to social and cultural tolerance.
- Support the process of writing rather than, as with the majority of prizes, promoting the publication.

For more information visit:

www.sevenstories.org.uk

Wolverhampton Libraries, THT and The LGBT Network

Health & Wellbeing Show

12-5pm on 26th June 2010
Lighthouse, Chubb Street

Finding her life hijacked by a postnatal breakdown after the birth of her second child, author Fiona Shaw wrote the fierce and eloquent memoir, *Out of Me* (1997), shortlisted for the MIND prize and found today on health professionals' reading lists.

She is special guest at this year's Health & Wellbeing event in Wolverhampton, supported by the Library service.

The most recent of Fiona's novels, *Tell it to the Bees*, tells the story of two women's love for each other, at a time when such love was almost unimaginable



For more information about this FREE event call Martin ☎ 0800 021 7613 or email martin@citizencoaching.com

www.lgbtwolverhampton.org.uk



Race Equality Foundation

Using Evidence to Promote Race Equality in Health Services

The Race Equality Foundation (REF) explores what is known about discrimination and disadvantage and then uses this evidence to develop interventions which overcome barriers and promote race equality.

REF have recently launched two new websites, which provide a collection of resources and useful information relating to:

Race equality and housing ☎ www.better-housing.org.uk

Race equality and healthcare ☎ www.better-health.org.uk

DIVERSITY AWARDS

The following projects have been short-listed for the 2010 Diversity Group Award

Engaging with Somali and Latin American Communities in Southwark

Mike Prendergast and Mike Allport; London Borough of Southwark,

This project followed on from 'Welcome to Your Library Project' which was launched in 2007 with the Somali community.

From the evidence provided, Mike and his team sustained the project, encouraged the authority to make engagement with new communities a key priority for Southwark Libraries; and up to January 2010, they have ran programmes involving new communities like the Latin Americans.

Ethnicity and Study Skills: Active Intervention in the Library Setting

Lisa Lawrence and Suzanne White, Subject Librarians; Lanchester Library, Coventry University

The project was set up following evidence that British Black and ethnic minorities in Higher Education are not achieving the same level of progression and attainment as other groups. Peer groups called Roving Study Support Assistants (RSSAs) were trained to support fellow students by making themselves clearly visible and flexible. They helped struggling students in their areas of need - using the library, using IT etc.

Six Book Challenge

Carol Wootton, Sian Wheatcroft, Catherine Lumley and Allison Pugh; Learning Resource Centre, Doncaster College

The college participated in the National Six Book Challenge. The aim was to encourage learners with less confidence in reading and using the LRC. The challenge focused on use of a range of 'easier to read' resources including fiction and non-fiction materials. Book exchanges took

place in a specially prepared section of the LRC, and as the learner's confidence grew, these sessions included extra activities.

Material Hollywood

Sandra Shevey; Curator, Archive of Popular Culture

The project is based on Sandra's research and exhibitions at Westminster Reference Library

- 1) Alfred Hitchcock's London Odyssey: Location Art in the Capital
- 2) Outing Hollywood: suppression of identity

Universal Access

Moira Johnson; Learning Resource Centre Manager Treloar College

Treloar College Learning Resource Centre has developed resources and services since 2000 to meet the changing needs of the College, which is a residential specialist college and care home for young people with disabilities aged between 16-25. Multidisciplinary team work has underpinned LRC development to provide universal access for the wide range of learner needs presented by students working across Entry levels, through Levels 1 and 2 and up to level 3. Resources include assistive technology, literacy support, and a range of therapeutic activities, as well as text, online and audiovisual library resources.

Polish & East European Librarians in the UK (PEEL)

Agnes Kozłowska-Wolodkiewicz; Senior Assistant Librarian/Cataloguer, Harrow and **Ula Tnsley;** Assistant Librarian, De Montfort University

PEEL is a new forum for all librarians interested in promoting Eastern European literature in British libraries, exchanging views and experiences, and sharing information about forthcoming events and new books

For more information about the above projects and to find out who won, please visit our web pages.



QUICK QUESTIONS

David Percival

What's your library history?

I have worked in public libraries for over ten years, working in various roles from library assistant to supervisor.

After qualifying, I was a librarian working with young people and looked after children. I am currently Learning and Engagement Manager for Portsmouth Library Service. This team leads on children's and young people's services, cultural diversity and reader development.

What's your involvement with the Group?

I joined the Diversity Group from the very beginning, having a special interest in library and information services to diverse and excluded communities. I attended the first conference in 2004, but did not consider greater involvement with the group, or CILIP in general, for that matter. The turning point for me was after receiving support from the John Campbell Trust to attend IFLA in 2008. I thought it would be better to get more involved, rather than be a passive bystander, so a couple of months later I became a committee member. It is a real privilege to work alongside such a passionate, committed and - dare I say it - diverse group of colleagues. The Diversity Group might be one of the newest and smallest special interest groups in CILIP, but we like to think we punch above our weight!

Where do you see things going?

I think the very real challenges to library services that we are all well aware of can also offer up real opportunities. I see public libraries beginning to connect more with their communities. I believe in the power of libraries to have a transformative effect on society, that we need real social change, and that libraries can play a central role in this. It is vital that CILIP work with course providers to ensure that what is offered provides future - as well as existing - professionals with the necessary skills to engage more effectively with their communities. I'm convinced that real empathy and a meaningful dialogue to understand the needs of our service users will

ensure the relevance and sustainability of libraries. We need to challenge orthodoxies. There are, of course, some well established dissident voices in our profession, but it is vital that we encourage a new generation of activists to come forward.

What about your wider involvement with equality issues and the library profession?

Last year, the group organised the first New Professional's conference in partnership with the Career Development Group which was a very popular event. It has been really encouraging to see that many of those who participated are now taking an active role within CILIP. I am currently involved with the Equalities Task and Finish Group, and the Diversity Group committee has been busy organising our fourth conference. We are also planning some exciting events for the 2011 Umbrella programme so watch this space. Better still, get involved!

Diversity Group Committee

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