Communities & Culture Network+

CCN+ Newsletter, March 2014

Upcoming Events

Transport Futures. 21st March, Imperial College, London

Sustainable Society Network+ (SSN+) and the New Economic Models in the Digital Economy Network+ (NEMODE) will be holding a symposium on the role of digital technologies in our future transport systems and their supply chains. This workshop seeks to bring together transport sector specialists, industry experts, policy-makers, researchers and the private sector to exchange ideas and discuss five key areas that could be disrupted by advances in digital technology. **Read more**.

Libraries of the Future. 25th March, University of Aberdeen

This event continues the Digital Economy IT as a Utility Network+'s series of workshops on the theme of 'Libraries of the Future' with a focus, this time, on community engagement. The organisers welcome all those with an interest in the theme of Libraries of the Future and especially those concerned with outreach and community activities and related knowledge management. **Read more**.

Research

Funding Call to be issued in March!

In the coming weeks the CCN+ will be issuing details of our next funding call, focusing on food security and austerity, in collaboration with NEMODE and Sustainable Society Network+. Details will be posted on the Funding page of the CCN+ website….

Completed Pilot Studies

The final reports for two recently completed pilot studies, 'Reaching Out Online' and 'Trajectories to Community Engagement', are now available to read on the CCN+ website and are included in Volume 3 of the *Working Papers of the Communities & Culture Network+*. 'Reaching Out Online' examined the use of online social media tools and platforms by outreach workers during sexual health interventions targeted at gay male and MSM communities whilst 'Trajectories to Community Engagement' investigated what motivations exist at a local community level for older people to engage with online communities and considered the on-going effect on local community involvement. **Read more**.

Who we are

The Digital Economy 'Communities and Culture' Network+ engages with digital transformations, bringing them together with a wider public through direct engagements, innovative methods and digital resources.

Funding

Open call for seed funding

Funding for seed projects of £1-4k per project (to fund small discrete projects within the remit of the CCN+.

Next deadline: 30th May 2014

The next call for CCN+ Pilot Studies, Networks and Placements will be issued in March 2014

Research

StoryStorm: Communities with an Urgent Story to Tell

A full programme of events is now being planned for the CCN+ StoryStorm network, building on the success of the first event in Dundee. StoryStorm York will take place in March at Stonebow House and ask 'How should decisions about heritage be made?' The network will then hold its third event in Manchester as part of the FutureEverything Festival 'Tools for Unknown Futures'. The event, in collaboration with Nicky Kirk (architect), will engage with the theme of City Fictions at the former NOMA site in Manchester, where a pop up city will emerge. A workshop will explore themes currently being scoped with the team to engage stories in this site-specific context.

Above: Sharing ideas at the Dundee Event

A culminating workshop event will take place in Vancouver, in July 2014, as part of the ACM conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS 2014). The workshop will present key exemplars from the previous Storystorm events and be used to form the basis of a Storystorm 'toolkit' or lexicon for distribution. See the StoryStorm **Interim report** for further details.

Everyday Growing Cultures Toolkit and Report

The final report from the CCN+ 'Everyday Growing Cultures' pilot study is now available to **read online**. A toolkit, based on the project is also available at http://everydaygrowingcultures.org/toolkit/. As well as outlining how the team used the Freedom of Information Act to collect data for allotments across the UK the toolkit offers suggestions to community groups who are interested in setting up a growing project on a plot of unused land.

Opportunities

Food Banks Systems Modelling

The Digital Economy Sustainable Society Network+ is seeking to fund a short project (approx. 2 months) aimed at developing a systems model of how the requirement for food banks has come into existence. Funding for 80% of a project costing up to **£6,000** is available for applications led by staff from UK universities and research organisations.

Further details available at: http://sustainablesocietynetwork.net/food-banks-systems-modelling/

Deadline for applications: 5pm on 12 March 2014