

Teen Librarian

Monthly Newsletter

www.teenlibrarian.co.uk

Editorial

Welcome to the July issue of Teen Librarian Monthly! It was going to be Teen Librarian International as I am now in the USA but decided to keep the original title as this newsletter has been international for years. I apologise for the delay in putting this issue together but changing continents and getting settled took up more time than I thought it would and I am still seeking gainful employment within the libraries of the Sunflower State (Kansas).

This month we begin with news of The Portable Magic Dispenser, a new newsletter for School Librarians, created by Lucas Maxwell the brilliant UK School Librarian on the Year for 2017. The second issue has just been released and it is a brilliant piece of work and I recommend it highly (and not just for School Librarians).

Amazing Librarian Ka-Ming Pang is organizing a 'zine making workshop for BAME library staff in early August, space is limited so if you identify as a BAME Library Worker and are within striking distance of London I urge you to sign up – it looks as if it will be the beginning of something wonderful!

The DILON blog (mentioned in the April issue of TLM) has a fantastic post on how to support BAME colleagues titled *So you want to be an ally?* – important reading for everyone, particularly if you have wanted to do something, but were not too sure what exactly.

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE) has carried out a study of books published for children and young people in 2017 and it makes for upsetting reading as ethnic representation is incredibly poor.

I have included two book lists in this month's issue, the first a selection of LGBTQ+ titles and the second a selection of books and resources targeting knife crime.

Lastly for this month I have included an activity idea I discovered in my new local library that is replicable anywhere that someone can get their hands on a withdrawn book, a paper shredder and a large plastic bottle.

Teen Librarian Monthly exists because library workers around the world subscribe to it or download it directly from the website. If you are running activities that you would like to share with colleagues, or have compiled lists or created resources you would like to share then please drop me a line at teenlibraryservice@gmail.com

The Portable Magic Dispenser

The Portable Magic Dispenser is a new monthly newsletter that gathers Library and Classroom program ideas and initiatives from around the globe. If you'd like to be added to the mailing list, you can email Lucas Maxwell at lml@glenthorne.sutton.sch.uk or find him on Twitter @lucasjmaxwell

BAME Library Worker Zine Workshop

Ka-Ming Pang

I am organizing a zine making workshop for BAME library staff, a space where BAME staff can create a piece of work documenting the experiences of being a minority in a 97% white profession. This will be taking place at the Stuart Hall Library.

Stuart Hall Library is a fantastic library with a great collection to draw inspiration from.



The date will be Saturday 11th August from 12-2.45pm. There is currently space for 10 people, please email at bamelibuk@gmail.com to book a place.

Some notes from Stuart Hall Library about the set up:

- We can use pencil and collage (no pens or ink stamps as per their normal library rules)
- We can make use of their scissors, A4 and A3 paper
- We can make use of the photocopiers
- We can use some old INIVA leaflets that they have
- We can bring our own materials to use (cut up as collage etc)

I am hoping that as library staff, those who come might have access to some materials that may be able to take with us (prittstick, old magazines, duplicates etc. to make it work), alternatively you can bring some pre-assembled work together.

I am a complete zine making newbie, but excited for a chance for us to tell the story of BAME staff through pictures, drawings, collage, words and meet other BAME librarians to share stories. I am hoping

that some of you will also be interested in this. If you know someone who might be interested, please forward this to them.

Ideally by the end of the session we would have a collaborative zine that we can scan and create a digital copy of, or we could each individually work on our own zine. Once I have the final numbers, I thought it might be nice to have a group discussion (probably by email, about what we'd like to produce)

There is a young people's workshop group starting after us at 3pm, so we would need to be finished and cleared up by 2.45

So you want to be an ally?

Natalia Gordon

Everyone has been in this position at some point in their lives. You know you want to do something, but yet not sure how to go about it.

We at DILON have been getting quite a few people and organisations contacting us asking this question (or questions in a similar vein) recently. So I decided to address this in a very structured librarian way: with a list. Please be aware that I am not an expert, this is not an exhaustive list, nor is it the *best* list available, but it should be a helpful starting point for you to do more research on being an effective ally.

To read the full article, please visit the DILON blog here:

<https://libdiverse.wordpress.com/2018/06/11/so-you-want-to-be-an-ally/>

CLPE Reflecting Realities Research

Caroline Fielding

The Centre for Primary Literacy Education (CLPE) have carried out a survey on the books published for children in the UK in 2017, the first large scale piece of research of its kind, and the results are sobering. Librarians and booksellers will unfortunately probably not be surprised to hear that this study into ethnic representation in children's literature has revealed that only 1% of main characters were BAME, indeed only 4% featured any BAME character. BookTrust is currently undertaking a related but separate piece of research regarding the ethnicity of authors and illustrators, with their findings due to be published in September.

As disappointing as this is, I have hopes that things can only get better, but to help this as readers and book pushers we need to be sure that we're supporting the books that exist and shouting for more! Have a look at our regularly updated list of UK BAME authors and illustrators (and tell us if someone's missing): <http://teenlibrarian.co.uk/2016/09/19/an-incomplete-list-of-british-bame-authors-for-children-young-people/>

You can download the full report from CLPE's website here:

<https://clpe.org.uk/aboutus/news/announcing-results-our-reflecting-realities-survey>

Book Lists

LGBTQ+ Books: a List

A selection of picture books, fiction, non-fiction and graphic novels featuring LGBTQ+ characters in either main or supporting roles.

Usual caveats apply: there are many more titles available, but these are books that I have in my library collection and I do recommend them. If anyone would like to recommend additional titles, then please leave a comment below.

Picture Books

- Pride the story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag by Rob Sanders & Steven Salerno
- A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo by Jill twiss & E.G. Keller
- And Tango Makes Three by Justin Richardson, Peter Parnell & Henry Cole
- The Great Big Book of Families by Mary Hoffman and Ros Asquith
- Introducing Teddy by Jessica Walton and Dougal MacPherson
- Fiction
- The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo
- Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda
- The Upside of Unrequited by Becky Albertalli
- Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo
- Kaleidoscope Song by Fox Benwell
- Alex as Well by Alyssa Brugman
- The Perks of being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky
- Undone by Cat Clarke
- The Miseducation of Cameron Post Emily M. Danforth
- Wildthorn by Jane Eagland
- If You Could be Mine by Sara Farizan
- Tessa Masterton Will Go to Prom by Emily Franklin & Brendan Halpin
- Will Grayson, Will Grayson by John Green & David Levithan
- Noah Can't Even by Simon James Green
- Skylarks by Karen Gregory
- Read Me Like a Book by Liz Kessler
- Pantomime by Laura Lam
- Boy Meets Boy
- Two Boys Kissing by David Levithan
- A Line in the Dark
- Ash
- Huntress by Malinda Lo
- The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue by Lee Mackenzie
- The Big Lie by Julie Mayhew
- The Rest of Us Just Live Here
- Release by Patrick Ness
- Things a Bright Girl can Do by Sally Nicholls

- Gabi, a Girl in Pieces by Isabel Quintero
- Fever Crumb by Philip Reeve
- Carry On by Rainbow Rowell
- If I Was Your Girl by Meredith Russo
- Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
- Grasshopper Jungle by Andrew Smith
- Lies We Tell Ourselves by Robin Talley
- The Color Purple by Alice Walker
- The Art of Being Normal by Lisa Williamson
- Queens of Geek by Jen Wilde
- Playing the Oart by Daria Wilke translated by Marian Schwarz

Graphic Novels

- Giant Days by John Allison
- Fun Home by Alison Bechdel
- The Authority by Warren Ellis & Bryan Hitch
- Death: The High Cost of Living
- Death: The Time of Your Life by Neil Gaiman & Chris Bachalo
- The Wicked + The Divine
- Young Avengers by Kieran Gillen & Jamie McKelvie
- Scott Pilgrim by Bryan Lee O'Malley
- The Imitation Game: Alan Turing Decoded by Jim Ottaviani & Leland Purvis
- Batwoman: Elegy by Greg Rucka & J.H. Williams III
- Lumberjanes by Noelle Stevenson, Grace Ellis, Brooklyn Allen & Shannon Watters
- Skim by Mariko Tamaki & Jillian Tamaki
- Supergirl: Being Super by Mariko Tamaki & Joëlle Jones
- Drama by Raina Telgemeier
- Pedro and Me by Judd Winick

Non-Fiction

- Issues: Sexuality and Gender edited by Cara Acred
- How to Transform your School into an LGBTQ+ Friendly Place: a Practical Guide for Nursery, Primary and Secondary Teachers by Dr Elly Barnes MBE and Dr Anna Carlile
- Queer : the ultimate LGBT guide for teens by Kathy Belge
- This Book is Gay
- The Gender Games by Juno Dawson
- From Ace to Ze: The Little Book of LGBT Terms by Harriet Dyer
- LGBTQ Comedic Monologues That are Actually Funny by Alisha Gaddis
- Understanding Sexuality: what it means to be Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual
- Understanding Transgender by Honor Head
- GLBTQ: the Survival Guide for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Teens by Kenny Huegel
- From Prejudice to Pride: a History of the LGBTQ+ Movement by Amy Lamé

- Identity and Gender by Charlie Ogden
- Straight talk About... Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity by Rachel Stuckey

Anti Knife Crime Fiction and Resources Lists

Knife crime soared by almost a quarter last year in Britain amid warnings that the reduction in stop and search is fuelling violence on the streets...the police recorded just under 40,000 offences involving a knife in the year ending December 2017 – which was up 22 per cent on the previous year.

~<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/04/26/latest-crime-statistics-reveal-knife-crime-soaring-stop-search/>

Violent crime in England and Wales is rising at an accelerating pace, according to police figures showing a 22% increase in knife crime

~<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/26/surge-in-knife-offences-fuels-rise-in-violent>

The news about knife crime in the UK has been on my mind for a while now, Libraries (both school and public) are well-placed to offer links to information and resources for library uses of all ages. The lists I have compiled are a beginning so if anyone knows of other books or has links to resources not listed below, please leave a message in the comments.

Below is a list of YA fiction titles that about crime and violence involving bladed weapons.

- ***When I Was Joe* Keren David**
When Ty witnesses a stabbing, his own life is in danger from the criminals he's named, and he and his mum have to go into police protection. Ty has a new name, a new look and a cool new image – life as Joe is good, especially when he gets talent spotted as a potential athletics star, special training from an attractive local celebrity and a lot of female attention. But his mum can't cope with her new life, and the gangsters will stop at nothing to flush them from hiding. Joe's cracking under extreme pressure, and then he meets a girl with dark secrets of her own.
- ***Hello Mum* Bernardine Evaristo**
"It's a hot summer afternoon. Tension is in the air. A gang of youths on bikes gathers outside a chip shop. A teenage boy is stabbed and left bleeding on the street. The boy's mother wonders how this could have happened to her son. She is full of questions, but when the answers lie so close to home, are they really what she wants to hear?"
- ***The Deepest Cut* Natalie Flynn**
Adam blames himself for his best friend's death. After attempting suicide, he is put in the care of a local mental health facility. There, too traumatized to speak, he begins to write notebooks detailing the events leading up to Jake's murder, trying to understand who is really responsible and cope with how needless it was as a petty argument spiralled out of control and peer pressure took ho
- ***The Knife that Killed Me* Anthony McGowan**
Paul Varderman could be at any normal school – bullies, girls and annoying teachers are just a part of life. Unfortunately 'normal' doesn't apply when it comes to the school's most evil bully, Roth, a twisted and threatening thug with an agenda quite unlike anyone else. When Paul ends up delivering a message from Roth to the leader of a gang at a nearby school, it fuels a rivalry

with immediate consequences. Paul attempts to distance himself from the feud, but when Roth hands him a knife it both empowers him and scares him at the same time .

- ***The Knife of Never Letting Go* Patrick Ness**

Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And they can hear everything you think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans...

Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run...

- ***Crossing the Line* Gillian Phillip**

Nick Geddes's life is a mess. His sister's boyfriend was killed in a school stabbing. His grandmother is descending into a world of her own, his mother has a 'god-slot' on local radio, and his father is drinking way too much. But that is nothing, because he is also crazy in love with Orla, the sister of the boy who has been killed.

- ***Dead Boy Talking* Linda Strachan**

Josh has 25 minutes left to live. Lying alone in a pool of blood, Josh hasn't much time to think. Yesterday he stabbed his best mate, and now it's happened to him. But there are questions he can't get out of his head. Like how did he get into this mess? Will anyone find him in time? Will his girlfriend forgive him, and what really happened to his older brother? As his life slips away, the events of the last 24 hours start to look very different...

- ***The Passenger* Dan Tunstall**

Mikey's trainers are box-fresh Nikes. They're as white as new snow. White leather, white laces, white soles. But something on the right shoe catches my eye. It's a tiny circle. The size of a five-pence piece. It's bright, bright red. Blood.

- ***Teacher's Dead* Benjamin Zephaniah**

A teacher is dead, murdered by two of his students in front of the whole school. Right in front of Jackson Jones.

But Mr Joseph was a good man people liked him, respected him. How could those boys stab him and jog away like nothing had happened'

Unable to process what he has seen, Jackson begins his own investigation- everyone knows who did it, but as Jackson uncovers more about the boys, he becomes convinced that people need to understand why.

Knife Crime Resource Links

- [Safety Box Knife Prevention](#)
- [The Ben Kinsella Trust](#)
- [Red Cross Knife Crime Teaching Resources](#)
- [Teen Knife Crime booklet](#)
- [Say No 2 Knives](#)
- [No Knives Better Lives Resources](#)
- [Knife Crimes Young People & Teachers' Resources](#)

First Aid

- [Red Cross: how do you help a stabbing victim?](#)
- [How to help someone who has been stabbed or is seriously bleeding](#)

Activity Idea: Guess the Book in the Bottle

I took my daughter down to the Paola Free Library to sign us up for library cards – it is one of the first things I do whenever I move into a new area and in the junior library I discovered an amazing idea! Guess the book in the bottle – basically they put books aside that have been withdrawn as being too old and beyond salvaging and run them through a shredder, then put the remains into a large bottle and voila – a ready to go activity. Fairly simple, all that is required is a large-ish bottle a book (or books) that have been withdrawn and a shredder.

