

Newsletter



Network News:

It was a delight to reconvene on 28th April 2022, especially with the introductions of new and old members. Ladies asked to learn more about what the Network has done in the past. Our ice-breaker were recommendations for Netflix/Prime/Reading which included:

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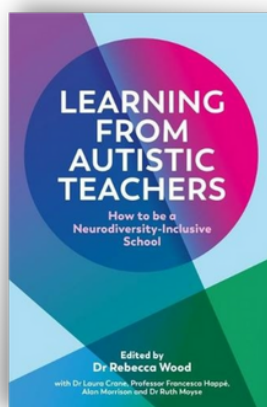
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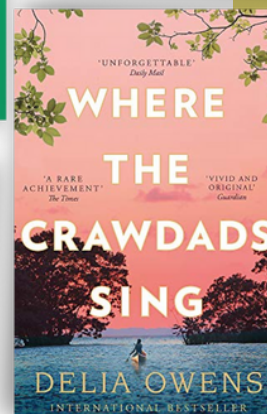
Book recommendations:

- 'Learning From Autistic Teachers', by Dr Rebecca Wood
- 'The Body Keeps The Score', by Bessel Van Der Kolk
- 'Where the Crawdads Sing', by Delia Owens



Netflix/Prime recommendations:

- "The Eagle Huntress"
- "Gullie Boy"
- "Black Mirror"
- "Good Girls"
- "Power of the Dog"
- "Working Mums"



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About SMEWN

The Scottish Minority Ethnic Womens Network (SMEWN) has been developed by CEMVO Scotland in order to address the issues of intersectionality and to ensure that women of colour living in Scotland have a voice in shaping the issues that affect them.

Network members are not only ethnically diverse but also, diverse in terms of skills, experience, and knowledge that they bring to the Network, with a mixture of professional and individual women with different needs.

The purpose of the Network is to:

- To develop a Network led by Minority Ethnic Women for Minority Ethnic Women, providing a safe place to discuss the issues that affect them and empowering them to tackle those issues through engagement, support, training and mentoring.
- The vision of Scottish Minority Ethnic Network is to provide a recognised platform for their inclusive participation across the political, social and economic landscape of Scotland.

Do you have something to share in the SMEWN newsletter?
Please email smewn@outlook.com

To build on the professional networking opportunities of ethnic women in Scotland, follow, like and share our posts on social media platforms (link below):

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Scottish-Minority-Ethnic-Womens-Network-1354244751366726>

Twitter: @SMEWN1

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/scottish-minority-ethnic-womens-network>

Jennifer Stewart is the Senior Development Officer, Women's Health Plan, at the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE). The ALLIANCE is progressing a new programme of work that supports the implementation of the Scottish Government's Women's Health Plan, and as such myself and ALLIANCE Director Irene Oldfather would like to invite you and your colleagues to attend an upcoming stakeholder event. We are mindful that supporting the Women's Health Plan requires an inclusive and participatory approach, and we recognise SMEWN's connections and expertise in this.

We are hosting a **Stakeholder Introduction Event on 31st May 10-11am** on Zoom for organisations working across women's health, social/health inequalities or gender equality to hear more about our forthcoming work and meet the Scottish Government team leading on the Women's Health Plan. This event will also be an opportunity for us to hear from you about your organisation's priorities in the area of women's health.

We are also hosting a **complimentary event for women & people with lived experience** of the priority areas of the Women's Health Plan on 15 June 10-11am on Zoom.

Please feel free to share this event with your network and the women you work with.

Women's Health Plan Stakeholder Introductions

<i>For organisations</i>	<i>For individuals</i>
31 May 2022	15 June 2022
10-11am	10-11am
Zoom	Zoom

✉ **WHP@alliance-scotland.org.uk** to register



NHS Lanarkshire's Ethnic Minority Employee Network (EMEN) is excited to host a Q&A session with **Neena Mahal** on '**Her Leadership Journey as an Ethnic Minority Woman**' at the quarterly meeting on **16th June 2022**. As a network we are keen not just to keep our fabulous and inspirational speakers to ourselves so want to extend an invitation to all members of NHS Ethnic Minority Networks across Scotland.

Many of you will know Neena as the previous Chair of NHS Lanarkshire but has also held a number of senior positions in public, private and charitable sectors. In Lanarkshire she was instrumental in **setting up and supporting** our Ethnic Minority Employee, & LGBT+ Networks and has recently worked with the Scottish government on improving the recruitment of ethnic minorities in public appointments: These are just two of many achievements in a long and fascinating career.

Our meeting is held from **4-6pm** with network business from 4-5pm and Neena's Q&A from 5pm onwards. You're welcome to attend the entire meeting as we'll be covering a couple of topics that could be relevant to your Boards, or to attend for Neena's Q&A.

If you or your members want to attend please can they contact **Chris Kimber** at Chris.Kimber2@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk or join via the team link (emailed to SMWEN)



COVID-19 and Children of Colour in Scotland: Visions for Change



Please join the launch of the findings of this research project and discuss implications for research, policy and practice in Scotland on **Tue, 7 June 2022**

13:00 – 14:30, online. Registration via:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/covid-19-and-children-of-colour-in-scotland-visions-for-change-tickets-339868274157>

About this event

This project centred the views of children of colour living in Scotland. It explored their lived experiences of the pandemic and their visions for change. It was conducted by researchers from Queen Margaret University in Scotland.

Children wanted their views to be shared widely in their own communities and with people in power such as teachers, politicians, lawyers and health workers. At this event we will share the findings of the project, launch our comic book which will be shared widely with decision-makers around Scotland, and open the floor for discussion of what needs to happen now.

The event will be held online, using Zoom. For security reasons and to protect the safety of the space, only registered participants will be sent the link. The link will be sent closer to the time of the event.

Research team:

Dr Caralyn Blaisdell, Fatmata Daramy, Pavithra Sarma, Benitha Iradukunda, Tamzin McDonald, Ashaanka Sarma, Jamal Imran.

This project was funded by the Scottish Funding Council (Research Funding to Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19 on the Research Base).

MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Name: Naira Dar

Occupation: Equality Diversity & Inclusion Manager

In her current role as EDI Manager with the City of Glasgow College, Naira works to give a wider understanding of the impact of race within the college sector and the challenges that this brings.

Naira is the Chair of the Scottish Minority Ethnic Women's Network. She has presented her work at a number of conferences both in the UK and across Europe and was one of the founders of the academic network, The South Asian Social Research Forum which ran for over 10 years. As a Research Fellow at Stirling University her work focused on race, health and housing.

She has experience in research, training and development and has worked across strategic and operational management. Naira has worked across the Public Sector, the Voluntary Sector and both in Higher Education and the College sector.

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