



Durham  
University

Centre for Social Justice  
and Community Action

# Brief Report for 2015-16

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## 1. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS: EVENTS, TRAINING AND RESEARCH PROJECTS

### New initiatives:

- *Successful bid to Wolfson Research Institute to run a new CSJCA small grants scheme and an international conference in 2016 (£5,250)*
- *Successful new bid to ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (Durham) to run second year of Participatory Research Hub from February 2016 (c. £30,000).*
- *Bid submitted successfully through round 1 for Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada) grant with University of Victoria, Vancouver, for international training consortium in community-based research.*
- *Fulbright Scholar and Co-Fund Fellow – during Jan-April 2016, Dr Patrick Harman of the Hayden-Harman Foundation and Prof Aila-Leena Matthies, Finland were visiting researchers.*

### Small grants (£500) awarded by CSJCA in 2016:

- *Researcher-artist design workshop, Caitlin Nunn, SASS*
- *Participatory research in Haringay, Janice Astbury, Geography*
- *Testing the potential of self-build housing within austerity, Julia Heslop, Geography*
- *Enhancing engagement and impact of the CSJCA, 2 projects, Dori Beeler, Anthropology*
- *Recording and reporting on new directions in participatory research ethics, Andrea Armstrong, SASS*

### **Training events:**

- *Two one-day training events* (Participatory Action Research 1, and Developing Policy and Practice through Participatory Research, facilitated by Rachel Pain and Andrew Orton, Feb & May 2016) organised with University Staff Development and open to academics, postgraduates and community partners.
- *Two-day course* on Participatory Action Research for doctoral students and community partners, organised through NE Doctoral Training Centre, 7-8 July 2016.

### **Seminars and workshops in Durham:**

- 15 Sep 2015, *Mapping Impact Together: Alternative Forms of Impact in Co-produced Research*, facilitated by Rachel Pain and Kye Askins (Glasgow University).
- 23 Oct 2015, *Developing a Participatory Research Project*, facilitated by Andrew Orton.
- 16 Nov 2015, *Participatory Research in Arts and Heritage*, facilitated by PR Hub.
- 25 Nov 2015, *Ethics in Participatory Research: Building Trust and Being Fair*, facilitated by Sarah Banks.
- 4 Feb 2016 *Issues and Challenges in Participatory and Collaborative Research – Sharing Experiences*, 4<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate Event, facilitated by Andrew Russell.
- 4 March 2016 *Participatory Action Research 1: Introduction to PAR*, facilitated by Rachel Pain.
- 8 March 2016 *Chemical Youth: understanding the chemical lives of young people through participatory action research methods*, Anita Hardon, University of Amsterdam.
- 18 March 2016 *Establishing a Research Partnership*, facilitated by PR Hub.
- 8 April 2016 *Developing a Participatory Methodology*, facilitated by PR Hub.
- 22 April 2016 *Open Space for Project Development and Mentoring*, facilitated by PR Hub
- 10 May 2016 *Participatory Video, Ethics and Decolonizing Research: Retrospective Hyper-Self-Reflexivity*, seminar, Sara Kindon, University of Wellington, New Zealand.
- 11 May 2016 *Digital Storytelling Training Session*, facilitated by Alex Henry, Curiosity Creative.
- 18 May 2016 *Developing Policy and Practice through Participatory Research*, facilitated by Andrew Orton.
- 20 May 2016 *Methods in Action: Developing PAR in Post-Conflict Zones*, Zahra Hussain
- 17 June 2016 *How to be Heard? Collaborative Research with Arts & Drama*, facilitated by Ruth Raynor
- 30 June 2016, *Outreach Youth Social Work in Hong Kong: Social Care or Control?*, Prof Eric Wing Hong Chui, and *Legal Participatory Action Research: Community Approaches to Private Violence*, Prof Kristin Kalsem, USA.
- 7 July 2016, *Dilemmas Café: Using Dialogue to Explore Ethical Challenges in Community-based Participatory Research*, facilitated by Sarah Banks
- 8 July 2016, *New Directions in Participatory Research Ethics*, international conference chaired by Sarah Banks with international speakers, Profs Mary-Brydon Miller, and Caitlin Cahill USA.

### **Selection of current research projects**

***Disposal – The Housing Crisis in Horden’s Numbered Streets*** (2015-16) – investigation of worsening housing crisis in the ex-mining village of Horden, conducted in partnership with Horden Residents’ Community Association by Rachel Pain and Durham University Geography students.

**Christian responses to debt and financial exclusion** (2015-2016) – conducted by Andrew Orton in partnership with the Centre for Theology and Community, funded by the Leech Foundation, this project aims to enable churches and other Christian groups in NE England and London to discuss money issues in their local community and identify collective action for change.

**Imagine: connecting communities through research** – a large consortium project (£2.2 million) funded by ESRC (2013-2017). CSJCA is coordinating one of four work packages, exploring two former Community Development Project areas in the North East and one in Coventry. 12 community partners have been involved in the NE, with Sarah Banks as Principal Investigator. Very successful dissemination and dialogue workshops in Newcastle, North Shields, and London with Department of Communities and Local Government.

## 2. SELECTION OF PUBLICATIONS

### **Academic**

- Banks, S. (2015) 'Action research for social justice: researching and organising on household debt', in Hardwick, L., Smith, R. and Worsley, A. (eds), *Innovations in Social Work Research: Using Methods Creatively*, London, Jessica Kingsley, 2015, pp.18-39.
- Dominelli, L. (2015) 'The opportunities and challenges of social work interventions in disaster situations', *International Social Work* 58(5): 659-672.
- Lindsey, I. & O'Gorman, J. (2015) 'Not just playing the game: Possibilities of empowerment through an alternative type of engagement with sport in international development', *Sociology of Sport Journal* 32(1): 49-67
- Russell, A. & Lewis, S. (2015). Documenting Impact: An Impact Case Study of Anthropological Collaboration in Tobacco Control. *Anthropology in Action* 22(2): 14-23.
- Whitman G., Pain, R. and Milledge, D. (2015) 'Going with the flow? Using Participatory Action Research in physical geography', *Progress in Physical Geography*, 39:622-639.

### **Practice guides/briefings**

- Centre for Social Justice and Community Action (2015) *Dilemmas cafes: A guide for Facilitators*, CSJCA, Durham.
- Centre for Social Justice and Community Action (2015) *Mapping alternative impact: Alternative approaches to impact from co-produced research*, CSJCA, Durham

## 3. PLANS FOR 2016-17

- Seek funding, with support of Development and Alumni Relations Office, to consolidate and develop the work of CSJCA during 2016-17
- Continue to support and promote new community-university participatory research partnerships through the Participatory Research Hub, applying for third year of funding
- Develop further training/ support for doctoral students, building on course started in 2015
- Develop international networks and partnerships, building up new work with the Center for Action Research, University of Cincinnati on participatory research ethics and participatory law and with Community-based Research Canada and the UNESCO Co-Chairs in Community-Based Research.

**Co-directors:** Prof Sarah Banks (School of Applied Social Sciences); Prof Rachel Pain (Geography); Dr Andrew Russell (Anthropology).

27 June 2016