



Durham
University

Centre for Social Justice
and Community Action

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Brief Report for 2014-15



1. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

New initiatives:

- *Successful bid to ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (Durham) to establish Participatory Research Hub, one-year appointment of Cat Alexander as part-time Development Officer (£29,142).*
- *Successful bid to AHRC for Connected Communities Festival events to be held in Durham and Tyneside, 15-27 June 2015 (£10,000)*
- *Successful bid to ESRC N8 (match-funded by Impact Acceleration Account) for study of mapping alternative forms of impact from co-produced research (£13,950)*

Training events:

- *Three one-day training events (Participatory Action Research 1, Participatory Action Research 2 and Developing Policy and Practice through Participatory Research, facilitated by Rachel Pain and Andrew Orton, Feb & May 2015) 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, 23-24 June 2015.*

Seminars and workshops in Durham:

- 4 Nov 2014, *Issues & Challenges in PAR* (postgraduate research), facilitators Sarah Banks & Andrew Russell
- 27 April 2015, *Launch of Participatory Research Hub*
- 9 June 2015, *Introduction to PAR*, and *Speed-dating*, a Hub event, facilitated by Mary Brydon-Miller and Andrew Russell
- 17th June 2015, *Action Research for Social Justice: Changing the Climate for Research and Teaching*, Mary Brydon-Miller, Miriam B. Raider-Roth, Lisa M. Vaughn; University of Cincinnati
- 22 June 2015, *Participatory Ethics through Participatory Theatre*, facilitated by Frances Rifkin, Utopia Arts and Sarah Banks
- 23 June 2015, *Dilemmas Café: Using Dialogue to Explore Ethical Challenges in Community-based Participatory Research*, facilitated by Sarah Banks and Sue Shaw
- 19 June 2015, *New Developments in Community Finance: 50 years of Credit Unions, and where next?* Chaired by Sarah banks, with national and local speakers, and discussion groups.
- 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*, a Hub event, facilitated by Andrew Orton.
- 16 Nov 2015, *Participatory Research in Arts and Heritage*, a Hub event.
- 25 Nov 2015, *Ethics in Participatory Research: Building Trust and Being Fair*, facilitated by Sarah Banks.

Selection of Research Projects

(for full list please see www.dur.ac.uk/beacon/socialjustice/researchprojects/)

Imagine: connecting communities through research is a large consortium project (£2.2 million) funded by ESRC (2013-2017). CSJCA is coordinating one of four work packages, involving a two-year action research project (2014-15) exploring two former Community Development Project areas in the North East and one in Coventry.

2. SELECTION OF PUBLICATIONS

- Banks, S., Armstrong, A., Booth, M., Brown, G., Carter, K., Clarkson, M., Corner, L., Genus, A., Gilroy, R., Henfrey, T., Hudson, K., Jenner, A., Moss, R., Roddy, D. & Russell, A. (2014). '[Using co-inquiry to study co-inquiry: community-university perspectives on research collaboration](#)', *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship* 7(1).
- Pain, R. (2014) 'Impact: striking a blow or walking together? *ACME: an International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*' 13: 19-23
- Robinson, P., Macnaghten, P., Banks, S. et al (2014) 'Responsible scientists and a citizens' panel: new storylines for creative engagement between science & the public', *The Geographical Journal* 180(1): 83-88.
- Whitman G, Pain, R. and Milledge, D. (forthcoming) 'Going with the flow? Using Participatory Action Research in physical geography', *Progress in Physical Geography*.

3. PLANS FOR 2015-16

- Support and promote new community-university participatory research partnerships through the Participatory Research Hub
- Develop further training/ support for doctoral students, building on new course started in 2015
- Programme of work around mapping alternative impact
- Develop international networks and partnerships

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

13th November 2015