

Centre for Social Justice and Community Action

Annual Report 2017

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/socialjustice/>



Visiting Research Fellows: This year we welcomed two visiting researchers to CSJCA for extended periods: **Prof Ole Petter Askheim**, Faculty of Education and Social Work, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences (Jan-April 2017) came to the Centre learn about participatory research (PR). He has subsequently set up a research group in his home university and is involved in writing a book with a colleague in Norwegian about PR. **Dr Caroline Lenette**, University of New South Wales, Australia (Oct-Nov 2017) focused on ethical issues in visual methods in PR, contributing to seminars and a workshop on this theme, and instigating a co-authored article with members of the Centre.

Centre Directors and others travelled to conferences and meetings across the world. In May 2017 **Sarah Banks** attended the Community-College-University (C2U) Expo in Vancouver Canada, taking part in a plenary panel, presenting a poster about CSJCA and offering a dilemmas café workshop. **Andrew Russell** travelled to India for a Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) Global Engagement Meeting in New Delhi in November 2017, a three-day RCUK-sponsored networking event attended by 100 academics and practitioners from 17 countries around the world. He also visited Rajesh Tandon, Participatory Research in India (PRIA), to discuss the Centre's involvement in a global training programme for mentors of community-based research. **Gary Craig** visited Hong Kong in his role as consultant to three universities on research strategy.

Changes in personnel: **Prof Rachel Pain**, one of the founding Co-directors, left Durham University in September 2017 to join Newcastle's Geography Department. Rachel was an inspiration to many in CSJCA and we wish her well in her new post. **Sue Shaw**, long-time member of the CSJCA steering group, took on the role of Chair from September 2017 and **Andrea Armstrong**, formerly Development Officer for the CSJCA several years ago, is now doing some administration work on a part-time basis.

The Participatory Research Hub, which was funded on a short-term basis ended in June 2017. This work continues on a smaller scale as part of the mainstream work of CSJCA. Many stimulating events, networking and support for community-university research partnerships took place through the Hub, as recorded in this report: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/socialjustice/researchprojects/prh/>

Training events, seminars and workshops in Durham (number of participants in brackets)

- 3 February 2017: Participatory Action Research 1: Introduction to PAR (49)
- 16 February 2017: Issues and challenges in participatory and collaborative research – sharing experiences (20)
- 17 February 2017: Exploring issues of Trust and Mistrust: Ethics in Participatory Research, Design, Democracy and Action (43)
- 3 March 2017: Participatory Action Research 2: Embedding participation in research practice (56)
- 8 March 2017: Researching Social Change: Reflections from Brazil (12)
- 20 March 2017: Theatre of the Oppressed Seminar and Workshop (56)
- 29 March 2017: Recent International Developments in Community-University Engagement: A conversation with Budd L Hall, Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research (17)
- 17 May 2017: Developing Policy and Practice through Participatory Research
- 3 & 4 July 2017: Participatory Action Research: Theory, Methods and Challenges (35)
- 24 November 2017: Visual Methods in Participatory Research: ethical and practical issues in working with refugees and other groups (47). Report available: www.dur.ac.uk/resources/socialjustice/VisualMethodsInParticipatoryResearchReport.pdf

Selection of current research projects

- *Energy on the Move* - Gina Porter (Anthropology, Durham University) is Co-investigator on an ESRC DFID Development Frontiers project (£224,816). It runs between October 2017- September 2018 in four countries - Nigeria, South Sudan, Nepal, Bangladesh. Gina runs the Nigeria component and transport/energy/ICT linkages across the project; Ben Campbell, Anthropology, is Principal Investigator.
- *GCRF international network on mobilities of vulnerable groups in cities* -Gina Porter is also participating in this ESRC funded network. She ran a workshop for the group in Cape Coast with UCC staff in May 2017 focusing on their work with children and young people as research collaborators. There were participants from the network (UK, Nigeria, Uganda, Bangladesh), practitioners and the African Development Bank.
- *Dispersed Belongings: Experiences of young forced migrants in regional cities in the United Kingdom and Australia* - Caitlin Nunn (Sociology, Durham University) has been continuing her working on this participatory project, with a particular focus on arts-based methods. More about this can be found here:
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/sociology/research/research/projects/?mode=project&id=914>
- *Contributions to participatory workshop discussions* on issues and dilemmas linked to 'Spirituality in the Helping Professions' (Prague, 4/7/17) and 'Faith and Spirituality in Community Services' (Adelaide, September 2017), by Andrew Orton (Sociology).
- *Christian Responses to Debt and Financial Exclusion in the North East of England and London* was funded by the Leech Fellowship, 2015-2017. Andrew Orton (Sociology) worked with David Barclay (Good Faith Partnership) on this project.
- *Imagine – connecting communities through research project (2013-17)* ended on 31 December 2017. Sarah Banks (CSJCA Co-director, Sociology) led the historical work package and the research undertaken in North East England. Materials produced by *Imagine NE*, focussing on community development and civic participation, are on our website, including films, booklets, reports and articles: www.dur.ac.uk/socialjustice/imagine/ Sarah is co-editing a book on Co-producing research: a community development approach, to be published by Policy Press later in the year.

Selection of publications

- Armstrong, A., & Banks, S. (2017) Organizing for change: North Tyneside Community Development Project and its legacy. *Community Development Journal*, 52(2), 290-312.
- Barclay, D. & Orton, A. (2017) [Money Talks: Christian Responses to Debt in the North East and London](#). School of Applied Social Sciences. Durham, Durham University.
- Banks, S., & Carpenter, M. (2017) Researching the local politics and practices of radical Community Development Projects in 1970s Britain. *Community Development Journal*, 52(2), 226-246.
- Banks, S., Herrington, T. & Carter, K. (2017) [Pathways to co-impact: action research and community organising](#). *Educational Action Research* 25(4): 541-559.
- Craig, G. (2017) (ed.) *Community organising against racism: 'Race', ethnicity and community development*, Policy Press, University of Bristol, UK.
- Kong, S.T. & Hooper, C.A. (2017) [Building a Community of Practice for Transforming 'Mothering' of Abused Women into a 'Mutual Care Project' A New Focus on Partnership and Mutuality](#). *British Journal of Social Work*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcx055>
- Nunn, C. (2017) [Translations-Generations: Representing and producing migration generations through arts-based research](#). *Journal of Intercultural Studies* 38(1): 1-17.
- Russell, A. (2017) Smog in a time of tobacco control. *Anthropology Today* 33(6): 27-29.