



Annual Report 2019

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10th anniversary of CSJCA. “We have passed our 10th anniversary, and keep providing events, training and resources that have real purpose and value to practitioners and academics around the world, through maintaining a belief in the power of community action and social justice, however challenging the situations in which we find ourselves”, **Sue Shaw** (Chair, CSJCA)

Conferences & meetings: During 2019 we celebrated the 10th anniversary of CSJCA’s founding. The occasion was marked by a very successful international conference on 21 May 2019 on the theme of: ‘Top-down meets bottom up: negotiating the ethics in participatory action research’.

Centre directors and others attended many events where they presented and discussed the work of the centre. **Sarah Banks** facilitated a one-week module on ethics for the online ‘Knowledge for Change’ international training course for mentors in community-based participatory research in May and November 2019, and participated in a ‘masterclass’ on ethics at the European Association of Schools of Social Work Conference in Madrid, June 2019. **Gina Porter** gave a keynote on participatory methods for mobilities research with vulnerable groups at the Mobilities Congress, Berlin [sponsored by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung] in May 2019. Gina also organised a workshop in Malawi in August 2019 with head teachers, alongside associated discussions with the Ministry of Education about introducing guidelines for responsible phone use in schools, based on findings from previous ESRC-funded study into youth and mobile phones in Africa.

Participatory Action Research Postgraduate Forum: **Andrew Russell**, along with **Wang Yi** and **Wendy Gill** (Sociology postgraduate researchers attached to CSJCA), have reinvigorated the termly Postgraduate Forum, supported by the Centre for Academic and Researcher Development.

Visitors: International visitors to the Centre during 2019 included: **Pradeep Narayanan** and **Anusha Chandrasekharan** (Praxis, India), **Prof Charlotte Loppie** (University of Victoria, Canada) and **Sherri Pooyak** (Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network), who attended for the CSJCA 10th anniversary conference and for a two-day workshop in May. **Prof María Jesús Úriz Peman** (Department of Social Work, Public University of Navarre, Spain), was a visiting research fellow during October-December 2019, researching ethics in social work and giving a seminar titled ‘Ethical dilemmas in social work in Spain’ for the Communities and Social Justice Research Group.

Training events, seminars and workshops in Durham

- 21st January, 2019, *'I'm just no good': the internalisation of degradation for women seeking asylum in Britain, Denmark and Sweden*. Public lecture, Victoria Canning, University of Bristol.
- 8th February, 2019, *Postgraduate Forum on Participatory Research Methods*, Durham University, facilitated by Andrew Russell, Wendy Gill and Wang Yi.
- 22nd March, 2019, *Developing Policy and Practice through Participatory Research*, facilitated by Andrew Orton.
- March, 2019, workshop with *Eurodiaconia*, a European network of Christian social welfare agencies, exploring dilemmas relating to researching their work, facilitated by Andrew Orton.
- 10th May, 2019, *Postgraduate Forum on Participatory Research Methods*, Durham University, facilitated by Andrew Russell, Wendy Gill and Wang Yi.



- 21st May, 2019, *Top-down meets bottom up: Negotiating ethics in participatory action research (PAR) for health and social well-being*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action 10th Anniversary Conference, organised by Sarah Banks, Tian Cai, Wendy Gill, Helen Casey, Wang Yi.
- 11th -12th July, 2019, *Participatory action research: theories, methods and challenges*, Two-day course for doctoral students and members of community organisations, organised through Northern Ireland and North East Doctoral Training Programme (NINEDTP) and facilitated by Sarah Banks (Durham University), Mary Brydon-Miller (University of Louisville, USA) and others.
- 18th November, 2019, *Fostering Solidarity in Challenging Times: Exploring Ethical and Political Issues for Participatory Action Research*. Annual conference of CSJCA, organised by Sui-Ting Kong, with keynote speaker Prof Paul Routledge, Leeds University.
- 11th December, 2019, *Postgraduate Forum on Participatory Research Methods*, Durham University, facilitated by Wendy Gill and Wang Yi.

Selection of current research projects

- ***Top-down meets bottom up: negotiating the ethics in participatory action research (PAR) for health and well-being***: £ 10,251 grant from Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing was awarded to Sarah Banks, Sui-Ting Kong, Andrew Orton and Andrew Russell for a pilot project, January to July 2019.
- ***Youth engagement and skills acquisition within Africa's transport sector - promoting a gender agenda towards transition into meaningful work***: Gina Porter received funding for this ESRC Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) education and skills research project, Dec 2018 – Nov 2021. Dr Claire Dungey, researcher on the project, has been working on the training of, and

ongoing support to, young unemployed women as community peer researchers in three study sites - Tunis, Abuja and Cape Town. In December 2019, Claire Dungey presented at Women and Transport Africa conference in Addis Ababa on 'Peer research as a method for mobilities research with women and other vulnerable groups'.

- **'Protest from the Margin': Solidarity in Hong Kong's anti-extradition law protests**, Sui-Ting Kong commenced a project in December 2019 to understand how protesters from different political factions develop a sense of solidarity to maintain the momentum of the democratic movement in Hong Kong. Co-Investigators are Sik-Ying Ho (The University of Hong Kong) and Stevi Jackson (University of York).
- **Network for the development of participatory methods to investigate current and alternative livelihoods with bidi workers in South India**, Andrew Russell, working in collaboration with Prof Sushil John of the Low Cost Effective Care Unit, Christian Medical College, Vellore in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, started a project in April 2019 funded by an award from the Global Challenges Research Fund. A workshop in December, attended by 33 bidi workers and others, was facilitated by CSJCA steering group member and creative facilitator, Mary Robson.
- **Limits of Solidarity? Ethics in Christian Social Welfare Practice**, Uppsala University/Durham University seedcorn grant, €15,000 awarded to Andrew Orton, with partners in Sweden, Czech Republic and Germany.
- **Do traditional youth work organisations hold the key to sustainability for 21st century youth provision? Lessons from The Guide Association**, Wendy Gill, Sociology PhD, is currently undertaking a participatory project with a group of young women involved in Girlguiding in NE England. Wendy facilitated a one-day workshop at Durham University Sociology Department in April, exploring and identifying their research project. In October, they conducted their research as part of a residential camp activity, interviewing and gathering data from 20 Guides.
- **Exploring the interplays of the foreign organization and the local agenda in community development: a case study of a Chinese organization's practice in Mathare, an informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya**, Wang Yi, a Sociology PhD student, is undertaking her second fieldwork involving action research in Nairobi.

Selection of publications

- Abma, T., **Banks, S.**, Cook, T., Dias, S., Madsen, W., Springett, J., Wright, M. (2019) *Participatory Research for Health and Social Well-being*, Switzerland, Springer.
- Banks, S.** & Westoby, P. (eds) (2019) *Ethics, equity and community development*, Bristol, Policy Press.
- Lenette, C., **Stavropoulou, N.**, Nunn, C., **Kong, S T**; Cook, T., Coddington, K., **Banks, S.** (2019) Brushed under the carpet: Examining the complexities of participatory research, *Research for All*, 3 (2) pp. 161-179, open access, <https://doi.org/10.18546/RFA.03.2.04>
- Orton, A.** & Barclay, D. (2019) 'Why networks matter in faith-related community development work: Learning from diverse Christian responses to debt in England', *Community Development Journal*, open access, <https://academic.oup.com/cdj/advance-article/doi/10.1093/cdj/bsz002/5307807>
- Porter, G.**, Hampshire, K., Abane, A., Munthali, A., Robson, E., de Lannoy, A., Tanle, A., Owusu, S. (2020) Mobile phones, gender and female empowerment in sub-Saharan Africa: studies with African youth, *Journal of Information Technology for Development*, 26(1), pp. 180-193, open access, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02681102.2019.1622500>
- Porter, G.**, Hampshire, K., De Lannoy, A., Bango, A., Munthali, A., Robson, E., Tanle, A., Abane, A., Owusu, S. (2018) Youth livelihoods in the cell phone era: perspectives from urban Africa, *Journal of International Development*, 30 (4), pp. 539-558.
- Russell, A.** (2019) *Anthropology of Tobacco: Ethnographic Adventures in Non-Human Worlds*, London: Routledge. Open Access, <http://open.org/search?identifier=1004131>