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Study title:

Creative participation to enhance health and wellbeing: an ethnographic study of community arts groups

Study BACKGROUND

- Social prescribing: referral to non-medical resources
- Location of Stoke-on-Trent: an area with pockets of high and multiple deprivation

RESEARCH GAPS

- Qualitative data
- Experiences of 'self-referral' to wellbeing activities
- Subjective experiences of facilitators and participants
- Findings on long term participation

What is ethnography? – Immersive and participatory

It is iterative and inductive

An ethnographic methodology reveals:

'things that are also both predictable and not; it exceeds

questions and answers...telling us more than we knew to ask'

(McGranahan, 2018, p. 7)

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12 months of fieldwork: Sept 2019- Sept 2020

The research participants

Women's weekly wellbeing craft group (17 research participants. Ages 24 - 70)

Men's creative project (20 research participants. Ages 18 - 70)

Data collection

Observing - taking part - interviewing - participant diaries

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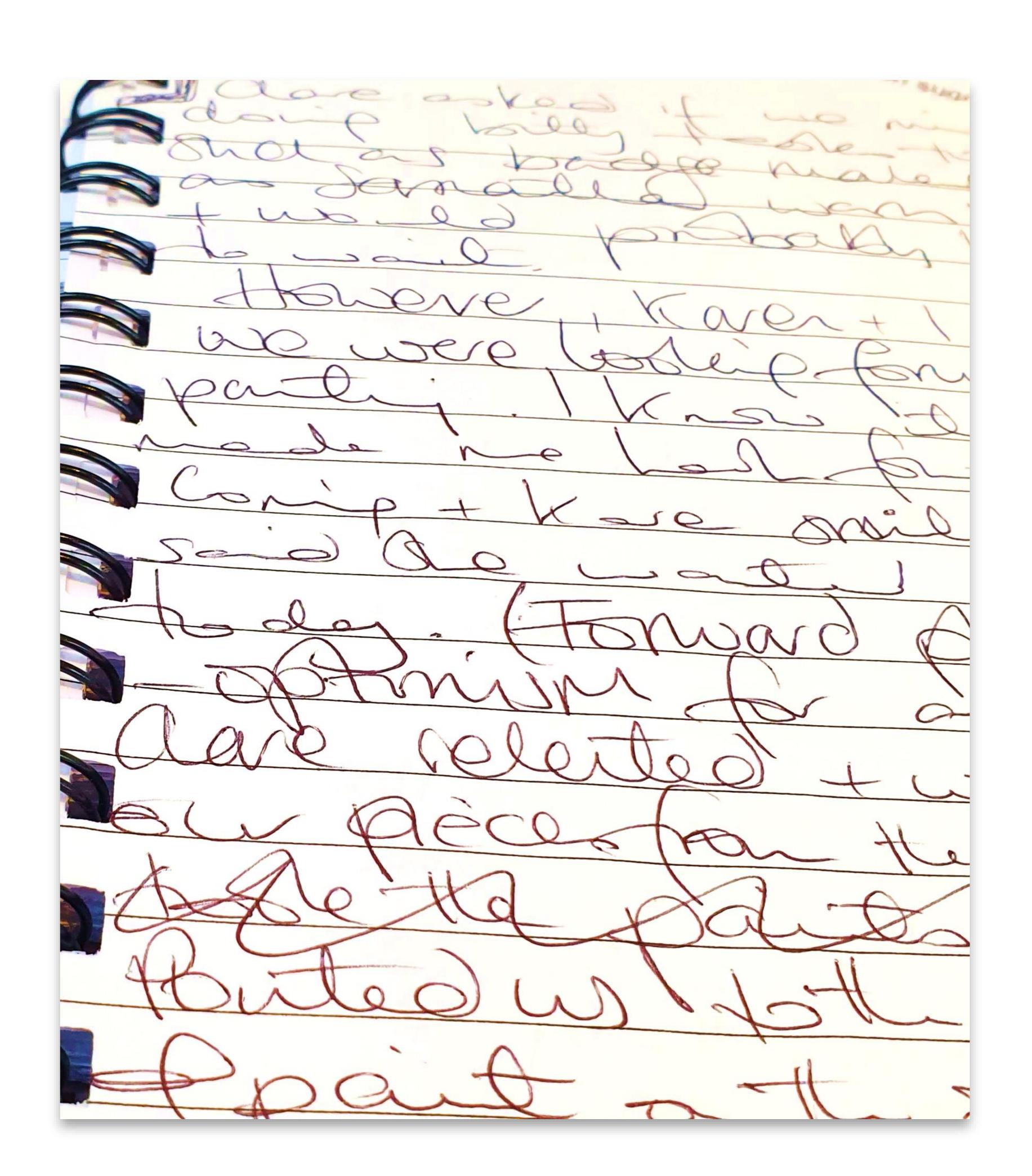
Fieldwork

First 6 months - Face-to-face Sept 2019 - March 2020

Second 6 months - Online March 2020 - Sept 2020

Recording, gathering, capturing





The significance of an ethnographic methodology

- Flexible, adaptable and inclusive.
- Embodied experience informed understanding
- Trust and relationships built enhanced data collection
- Research participants valued the opportunity/experience

Thank you for inspiring this self-reflection, it may spur me to progress with my own therapeutic conversations! - Frank (Research participant)