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Supervisory team: Prof. Dikomitis, Prof. Chew-Graham, Dr Luksaite

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**
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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)

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



Fieldwork

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

Second 6 months - Online
March 2020 – Sept 2020



Recording, gathering, capturing



...are asked if we
doing Billy if we
shot as bridge made
as jammed we
+ would probably
to wait. probably
However, Karen + I
we were looking for
painting. I know it
made no head for
Conip + Kare said
said do wait
today. (Forward
- optimum for a
are selected + w
ow piece from the
the the paint
Butted w both
paint on the

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)