

**DONCASTER**  
**Festival of**  
**Research**  
**17-20 October 2017**  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/researchfestival](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/researchfestival)

## **Community Engagement & Community Resilience**

Good morning and welcome to Denaby Main. This fringe event is part of the Doncaster Festival of Research 2017. The Festival has run from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October, meaning this event helps to close the week. Organisers have saved the best for last!

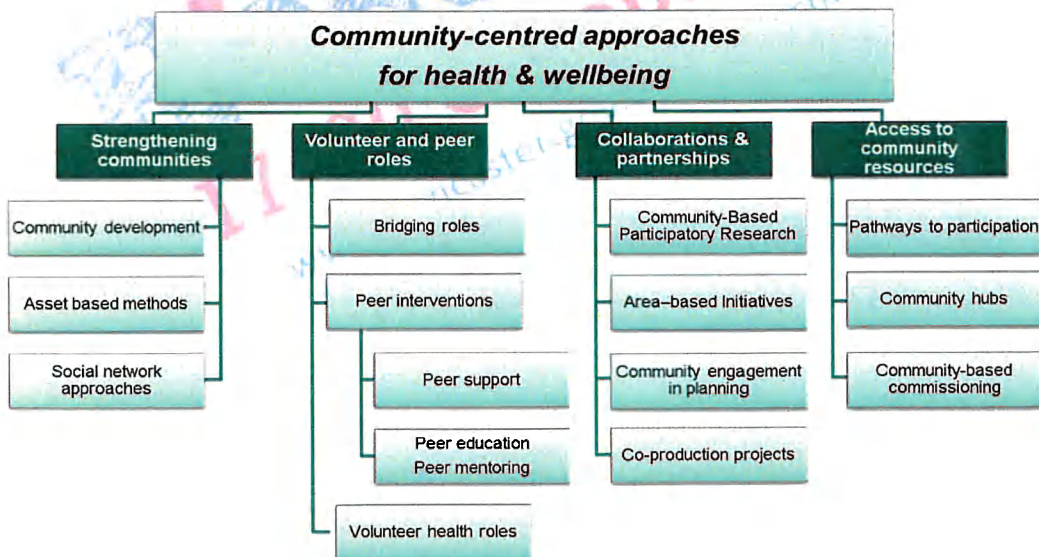
The Research Festival has celebrated research from a number of angles – from topics such as learning disabilities and child obesity through to prison health and sustainable food economies. This morning the focus is on community engagement and community resilience and we hope to present this in a variety of ways that you find interesting.

# Introduction

We are fortunate that the event this morning is being opened by Prof Jane South from Leeds Beckett University. Jane works in the field of volunteering, active citizenship and community health. Jane has an international reputation for her research on lay health workers and volunteer roles in health. She has a long standing interest in community engagement and is on secondment to Public Health England as an expert advisor on community-centred approaches for health and wellbeing. Jane authored the Public Health England report '*A Guide to Community-Centred Approaches for Health and Well-being*', setting out the Family of Community Centred Approaches.

This event has been organised by the project team for Well Doncaster within Doncaster Council. Well Doncaster is the local arm of a national programme called Well North ([www.wellnorth.co.uk](http://www.wellnorth.co.uk)) working in 10 areas across the North of England, addressing the root causes of poor health through issues such as employment, debt, housing and social isolation. Importantly this is being done with (rather than to) communities.

So this event showcases engagement work by local groups in Denaby and also research from across Doncaster and South Yorkshire. Many of these examples fit within the framework for the Family of Community Centred Approaches mentioned above;





## Craganour Tenant and Resident Association, Denaby Main

This group is at the heart of the community. It has worked ceaselessly to improve the opportunities for all tenants and residents. They run art and craft classes, sewing and knitting lessons, bingo sessions and provide fresh cooked meals and afternoon tea at various times during the week. They also host advice sessions with various agencies. Through Craganour people have been inspired to do more with their lives.

## Aspiring2

Aspiring2 is a Community Interest Company established in 2013. Their primary goal is to support individuals and not-for-profit organisations to reach their full potential. Ongoing work includes vintage tea parties (reducing social isolation through fun, laughter and the sharing of memories) and digital inclusion with 1:1 and small groups. Aspiring2 have been working with local people to 'Get Denaby Enterprising', supporting people to take the first steps into self-employment through enterprise.

## Denaby Bumping Space

Denby Bumping Space is a peer-led group that meets weekly, offering a welcoming space as introduced by the People Focused Group. The Bumping Space opened in January 2016 and quickly grew to have an average of 60 members of all ages attend their weekly session held at the library, based in the GP practice. Members come and enjoy games, learn and share skills and support each other. The group now meets 3 times a week at community halls across the Denaby.

## Relative Poverty (Les Monaghan)

A Joseph Rowntree Foundation report found there were 1.25 million people in the UK living in destitution, including 312,000 children. More than three-quarters of destitute people reported going without meals, while more than half were unable to heat their home. This report prompted photographer Les Monaghan to start a project with families defined as destitute in Doncaster, resulting in an exhibition called Relative Poverty. Les set about creating an exhibition that would give a rounded, layered and personal view of the complexities of destitution, highlighting its importance for everyone in our society.

## Poster Presentations

Phil Jones is a geographer in the University of Sheffield. His PhD is based on the geography of health inequalities and health resilience in Doncaster. He identified a number of areas in Doncaster that had low prevalence of clinical depression despite economic and social disadvantage. In this poster he will discuss the characteristics of these areas and what is likely to make them 'resilient' compared to other similar areas.

Rebecca Walls is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Mental Health and Deafness. Deaf people often struggle to access healthcare services, which can have a detrimental effect on their health. The Accessible Information Standard identifies that services need to ask about communication needs and meet those needs, which requires more than just ensuring a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter is present at appointments. Rebecca is presenting two posters identifying the needs of the Deaf community in accessing services, and the communities preferred methods of communication.

## There are opportunities to join 2 round table discussions

The Voice Project – 'Developing the Voice of the Child for Arts & Culture in Doncaster' was set up by the Doncaster Culture Education Partnership [DCEP] to give a voice to Children and Young People in the Doncaster so they can inform provision of arts and culture. The consultation elements were written by Young People for Young People; Sophie Anderson will be sharing the interesting results of this process.

## Ellie Holding

Yorkshire Health Study (YHS) – The YHS is the largest long term health study in Yorkshire; since 2010 over 42,000 people have filled out the questionnaire. Ellie Holding is the Project Manager of the study and will lead a discussion on the research and on-going recruitment.

## Talking Heads videos

'Talking head' videos by three local people will describe their work in Denaby Main – Steve Ackerman in his role as Secretary of Craganour TARA, Glyn Butcher as a volunteer with the Denaby Bumping Space, and Vanessa Powell-Hoyland as the Officer organising a local Appreciative Inquiry.

## We hope you enjoy this fringe event.

Nick Germain  
Project Manager, Well Doncaster