

Creative Communities Unit

IT'S ALL GOING ON IN THE CREATIVE COMMUNITIES UNIT!

Welcome to our latest edition of the Creative Communities Unit newsletter, and we have so much to fit in!

What with exciting European projects, that you could take part in, consultation projects that have been underway to improve your community and up and coming events like the church, community work and community ministry visionary and consultation day we better get started!

GET TALKING HANLEY PARK

A team of eight residents and community workers, with Creative Communities Unit staff, have carried out the Get Talking in Hanley Park consultation project, as part of their training in community research this year.

The team learned about participatory consultation by interviewing people about what they would like to see and do in Hanley Park.

More consultation events will take place over the next few months. For more information about the project and the course, please contact Penny Vincent or Janet Hetherington.



CONSEQUENCES: USING THE ARTS TO PROMOTE WELLBEING

The Creative Communities Unit in partnership with Praxis Arts and Health and Participatory Practitioners for Change held the Consequences event on 13th January. It was an unprecedented success- 150 delegates came along to Staffordshire University. Our sincere thanks go to all the speakers, workshop leaders, organisers, helpers and of course participants who made the day such a triumph:

"Excellent event - really interesting keynote speech & thought provoking workshops. Great to see such a large number of delegates interested in arts and health, wellbeing and participation."

To read conference presentations visit the Praxis website.

<http://www.praxisartsandhealth.org.uk/events-main/events.html>

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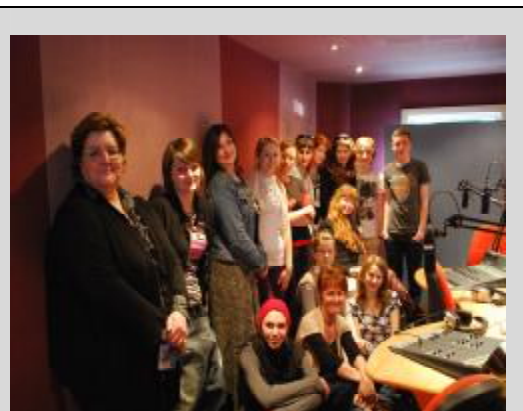


DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY ARTS ON A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCALE? HAVE THE CHANCE TO SHARE YOUR PRACTICE INTERNATIONALLY AND MAKE INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS? THEN READ ON!

Localise is a project bringing together people in Poland, Lithuania and Stoke-On-Trent. The project is based on work which has been going on over the past two years between Warsaw University (Poland), Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania) and Staffordshire University.

Localise focuses on creative approaches to health and community practice in each of the countries and what we can learn from each other. The project brings community and arts practitioners from each country together for study visits in each country.

The first study visit was in March 2011 in the West Midlands. Participants experienced and heard about a range of community arts and regeneration



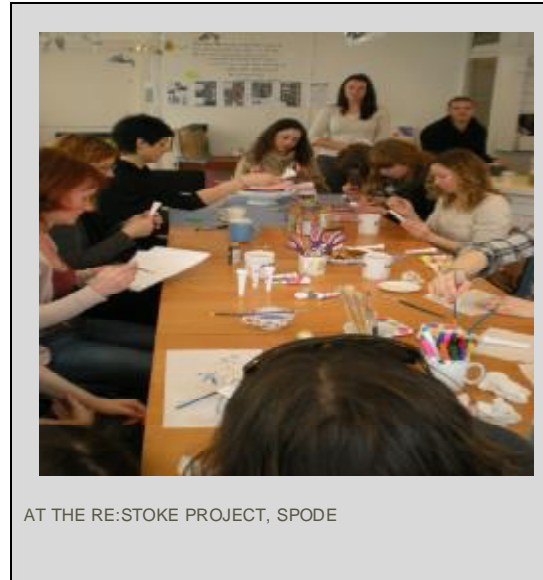
STUDY GROUP 1 AT STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY, STOKE PARTICIPANTS FROM LITHUANIA, POLAND AND ENGLAND

activities and initiatives, in North Staffordshire and Walsall. We began to form a shared understanding of the different approaches to practice in each country.

Vytautas Magnus University in Lithuania, are holding the second visit in June 2011. We are pleased to invite creative community practitioners to apply to take part in it.

Visit our website for more information about all the study visits and an application form.

[Communi Action Project at Creative Communities Unit - Staffordshire University](#)



For more information please contact Samantha Rushton on 01782 294659 or samantha.rushton@staffs.ac.uk

CONSULTATION AND VISIONARY DAY BEING HELD AT STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

CHURCH, COMMUNITY WORK AND COMMUNITY MINISTRY – LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

This day event is being held at Staffordshire University on the 18th June 2011 and is being organised by the Creative Communities Unit and the United Reformed Church, Church Related Community Work programme. During the day there will be inputs from a number of people who have a wide range of experience in working in and with churches and communities. The programme will include contributions from Ann Morisy and Fran Beckett and discussions groups led by people from leading organisations in the fields of church community work and ministry. The discussion groups will give the opportunity to both hear about exciting and inspiring pieces of work that are being done with communities as well as discussing some of the very real issues that people face at this time when society, communities and churches are facing major changes and challenges.

The discussion groups will include:



In partnership with the above.

- Urban Expression, Cobridge (Developing Missional Communities)
- Housing Justice (Churches tackling homelessness and housing need)
- Church Action on Poverty (Local Community Action & Community Organising)
- Tear Fund (Your Square Mile)
- Centre For Youth Ministry (Community based pioneer ministry)
- Oasis College - (Academy Schools and Developing a Community Approach)
- Church Related Community Work Programme
 - Developments with the URC Church Related Community Work programme
 - Community Ministry in a multi-faith society
 - Church related Community Work (CRCW) in reality.
- Creative Communities Unit -
 - Mentoring to maximise potential
 - The Big Society – An Opportunity?

There will also be opportunities to meet new people, exchange ideas and stories as well as finding out about some of the new and developing ways in which people can learn and train for working in various aspects of community work and ministry.

Further information and a booking pack are available from **either:**

Samantha Rushton: Creative Communities Unit, Faculty of Arts, Media and Design. Staffordshire University, Flaxman, College Road. Stoke-On-Trent. ST4 2DE

or

E-mail:

samantha.rushton@staffs.ac.uk

Or Samara Andrews: Post: The CRCW Office, The United Reformed Church, 86 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9RT

or

E-mail: crcw@urc.org.uk

WHAT CAN I TAKE PART IN?
Could you help Nigel?

Short Courses & MA Programmes

One of our PhD students, Nigel Pimlott, is currently researching what faith-Based youth workers think about the Government's 'Big Society' idea.

On **24 May**, Nigel is hosting two consultations in the Creative Communities Unit at the University: 2.30-4.00 and 6.30-8.30. If you work with young people from a faith perspective then Nigel would be delighted to have you come along to one of these events. They are entirely FREE, but booking a place is essential.

Nigel is also undertaking a survey about faith-based youth work. For further information about either of these, please see the 'Latest News' on Nigel's web site: www.pimlott.org

You can also contact him on nigel@pimlott.org for further details.

Summer learning

We still have the following 3 or 4 day Short Courses recruiting:

ü Commissioning Local services
Start date: Tue 3rd May
(3 day course between May and June)

ü Working with groups in a youth or community context
Start date: Mon 9th May

(4 day course between May and June)

ü Evaluation in the community
Start date: Thur 12th May

(3 day course between May and June)

For full information on all MA programmes please contact Samantha Rushton, contact details below.

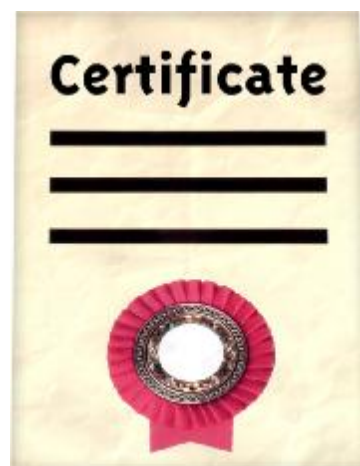
Get in touch

WWW.STAFFS.AC.UK/CCU

If you require any more information on anything you have seen, have had this passed on and would like to be added onto our mailing list or would like to talk to anyone about our MA Courses or how we could providing training for you and your organisation please feel free to get in touch.

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Thank you.