We are delighted to congratulate CHSS Professor of Community Nursing and Public Health Sally Kendall on being awarded an MBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List earlier this year. The award recognises her 30 years of research in nursing and health visiting. Sally is known particularly for her contribution to practice-based research in the area of parenting and maternal and child health.

“I feel really honoured in receiving the MBE, it is recognition of the nursing profession and the value of research in community and family health that seems particularly important in the 70th year of the NHS.”

See more from Sally on p4
News and events round up

EXCEPT Parliamentary reception
25 April 2018

“Social Exclusion of Youth In Europe: Cumulative Disadvantage, Coping Strategies, Effective Policies and Transfer” (EXCEPT) is an innovative EU-funded research project to develop effective policy initiatives to help young people in Europe overcome labour market insecurities and related risks.

In April the University of Kent EXCEPT project team held a highly successful Parliamentary reception at the House of Commons to share project findings, youth stories and policy analysis. The event aimed to advance dialogue between policy makers, civil society and researchers and discuss new interventions to tackle and reduce social exclusion in Europe.

Approximately 120 guests attended, including 90 young people. They included experts from European and international institutions, who are at the forefront of research, policy analysis, innovation and implementation. Speakers included Professor Peter Taylor-Gooby of the University of Kent School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Research.

Canterbury MP Rosie Duffield hosted the event, giving a thorough introduction to EXCEPT. She stressed the project’s importance for policy-making in addressing negative consequences of youth unemployment. CHSS Research Fellow Dr Rowena Merritt chaired the proceedings and the event concluded with a panel discussion with young people Patrick Cantellow, Olga Nikolaieva and Thomas Middleton.

CHSS Senior Research Fellow Dr Olena Nizalova said: ‘Our findings highlight the policies and strategies that do make a difference and there were some very interesting reflections on the EXCEPT data in the UK context. The event is a really fantastic finish for this three year project’.

See more about the project on the EXCEPT website www.except-project.eu/home

UK EXCEPT project Youth Ambassador’s blog on final project conference

Patrick Cantellow, an 18-year-old social entrepreneur from Sittingbourne, Kent is the Youth Ambassador for the UK EXCEPT project team.

Aged 15 he founded Swale Young People, an organisation that takes an innovative digital approach to youth empowerment. Patrick is also an Ambassador for a number of organisations across London and the South East, notably the NSPCC, CXX and Youth Employment UK. Read his second blogpost about the final EXCEPT conference on our website: www.kent.ac.uk/chss/news/index.html?view=1608
New five-year NIHR contract for Research Design Service South East!

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has awarded further funding to enable the Research Design Service SE (RDS SE) to continue supporting researchers in the South East.

A new five-year contract begins on 1 October 2018. Expert RDS Advisers at CHSS and the Universities of Surrey and Brighton will continue their invaluable free advice service for those applying for health and social care research funding.


Request free support at: www.rds-se.nihc.ac.uk/research-design/booking-an-appointment

New funding for CHSS offers new research training opportunities for local health practitioners

Health Education Kent, Surrey and Sussex (HEKSS)/National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Integrated Clinical Academic Programme 2018-19

CHSS is to be a funded provider, for a second consecutive year, of the HEKSS/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic Programme (ICAP). The new funding covers internships for Non-Medical Applied Health Professionals, and the (new for 2018/19) ICAP Bridging Scheme.

The successful interns receive a bespoke learning and development programme which supports both clinical and research skills. The ICAP internship and bridging schemes prepare applicants to apply for NIHR Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship, and in the long-term, Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowship, Clinical Lectureship or Senior Clinical Lectureship.

The Bridging scheme supports clinical academics to build on previous academic training and take the next step on their clinical academic pathway.

CHSS Research Fellow and ICAP Programme Lead Dr Ferhana Hashem said: ‘We are delighted to be awarded the ICAP internships and bridging programme funding to develop capability and research capacity in the Kent Surrey and Sussex region. It’s all about translating research into the NHS to improve care delivery and patient outcomes’.

Email Ferhana for more information: FHashem@kent.ac.uk

Pint of Science 14-15 May 2018

Following Dr Sarah Hotham’s contribution to the 2017 Pint of Science event, CHSS researchers gave two fascinating presentations on consecutive evenings to the 2018 sessions.

Dr Ashley Mills introduced ‘Clean air matters’ – a chance for the audience to test their knowledge of and learn more about air pollution and health.

RISKIT project Research Assistants Nadine Hendrie and Rosa Vass, gave an insightful presentation about their work with young people, and the risks – and perceptions of risk – of alcohol use. A willing audience member played ‘bartender’, estimating how much drink comprises a unit of alcohol.

The audience clearly enjoyed both talks, and there were lively Q&A sessions.

Find out more: https://pintofscience.co.uk/events/kent

#PintofScience
‘US stance on baby formula wrong and risks babies’ lives’

CHSS Professor Sally Kendall on controversial US administration policy

CHSS Professor of Community Nursing and Public Health Sally Kendall, has responded to reports that the Trump administration is opposed to efforts that promote breastfeeding.

‘Donald Trump’s position that many women need formula because of malnutrition and poverty is wrong and denies babies who are most in need the right to human milk. Formula is expensive and causes malnutrition and poverty. The research evidence on the benefits of breastfeeding and human milk demonstrates that globally 800,000 babies’ lives would be saved each year if they were breastfed (Lancet series, 2016).

‘The conversation should not be about women’s ability to breastfeed or being stigmatised for not breastfeeding. Human milk is like a perfect vaccine that is free to produce, store and distribute and is protective against infection, obesity and breast cancer, and promotes attachment and bonding between mother and baby.

‘It is surely every baby’s right to receive the nutrition that is designed for them and every country’s duty to ensure that it can protect, promote and support breastfeeding for every baby where possible and improve population health’.

Sally is Professor of Community Nursing and Public Health at CHSS. Read more about her work, and the Becoming Breastfeeding Friendly project on our website.

BBF team gearing up north of the border

Becoming Breastfeeding Friendly in Scotland is now in full swing. In June CHSS representatives met with the multi-agency BBF Scotland committee to discuss the BBF process and support the Scottish project plan.

Since then, committee members have been working hard researching the status of 52 benchmarks which form the evidence-based BBF Gear model (see fig 1 opposite). At BBF Scotland’s next meeting the gear teams will share early findings on current gear status, along with gaps and initial recommendations for supporting breastfeeding scale-up in Scotland.
Improving health and social care services for vulnerable older Brazilians

Professor Jenny Billings is working with lead investigator Professor Peter Lloyd-Sherlock at the University of East Anglia (School of International Development) on a new, timely and valuable research project aimed at reducing unneeded admissions and unnecessarily long stays in Brazilian hospitals and care homes.

Brazil’s public healthcare system, in common with the UK, is facing increasing financial pressures due to the needs of a rapidly ageing population. This MRC-funded project aims to support policy and practice to reduce unneeded admissions of older Brazilians to hospital and care homes, and reduce unnecessarily long stays. This will improve efficiency of service provision and optimise the health of the older population. Unnecessary hospital stays expose older people to new risks such as acquired infections.

Drawing on studies and experiences in other countries, such as the UK, and through talking to Brazil’s policymakers and practitioners, the study will develop a strategy to identify whether admissions could have been averted or length of stay reduced. A new national survey (ELSI) will produce data showing which older people are most likely to experience these problems and identify which situations trigger unnecessary admissions/lengthy stays.

As well as analysing the data, the research team, working closely with social care practitioners, will develop detailed case studies of two Brazilian cities in different regions, talking to selected ELSI survey participants and their families about their experiences to gather a clear picture of the problem and focus on solutions. They will review a pilot project offering temporary homecare services for frail people and carefully assess this, considering how well it has worked (in the eyes of practitioners, as well as older people and families) and any impact on unneeded admissions/long stays.

The project represents an excellent opportunity for CHSS to apply extensive research expertise gained in the UK and elsewhere, to a Brazilian context. Specifically, the aspects of our work relating to the development of new models for integrated health and care provision for older people are highly relevant to similar challenges now facing Brazil’s health system.

Welcome Dr Fabiana Da Cunha Saddi

We were delighted to welcome Fabiana to CHSS recently from the Federal University of Goias, Brazil.

She and Professor Stephen Peckham are collaborating on a British Academy Advanced Newton Fellowship-funded study around strengthening the primary care workforce in Brazil.

Read more about the project in our Spring 2018 issue.

www.kent.ac.uk/chss/news/newsletters/index.html

Rasa joins Brazilian Early Career workshop

Dr Rasa Mikelyte was among 13 UK Early Career Researchers to win a place on the British Council’s Researcher Links Programme Workshop: OPAL – Identifying and addressing shared challenges in conducting health and social care research for older people.

The five day workshop at the Faculty of Medicine, State University of Sao Paolo Botucatu, Brazil, on 11-19 June 2018 was a unique opportunity for sharing research expertise and networking. It brought together researchers from the UK, with 17 counterparts from Brazil across a range of disciplines.
We recently welcomed Hannah, Philippa and James to CHSS. Each has a one-year fulltime Darzi Fellowship in Clinical Leadership. Darzi Fellowship gives clinicians time to build leadership skills. The posts are open to doctors, nurses and allied health professionals from all NHS backgrounds, including primary and community services.

Darzi Fellowships started in London in response to Lord Darzi’s High quality care for all: NHS Next Stage Review (2009), calling for stronger clinical leadership.

In 2017 Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS) became the first region outside the capital chosen to recruit Darzi Fellows. Our three Fellows are part of the second KSS cohort. They are mentored while undertaking a project for a sponsoring organisation and completing a PG Cert at London Southbank University. They can opt to continue clinical work one day a week.

Dr Hannah Al-Hasani
‘CHSS is friendly and professional – a great place to start the Darzi journey. While learning to be a leader you’re doing a project, and you learn through doing’.

**Darzi Project:**
Using contextualised alerts to improve patient care.
**Host organisation:**
East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust
**Sponsor:**
Professor Chris Farmer

This Health Foundation-funded project is around clinical alerting to improve care for seriously ill patients. Real-time contextualised alerts guide clinicians on likely outcome/mortality risk, enabling escalation of care, advance care planning and social care assessments earlier in hospital admission.

**About Hannah:**
Hannah attended Simon Langton Girls’ Grammar School in Canterbury. After studying medicine at the University of Oxford, she completed her specialty training in Kent and is now a Gastroenterology Registrar at William Harvey Hospital, Ashford.

‘It’s great to take time out to learn more about systems leadership and sustainable quality improvement. Before returning to the NHS frontline I want a different perspective of the healthcare system, with a view to being a future clinical leader’.

Hannah is a budding triathlete and open water swimmer. She grows vegetables and hopes one day to have a small-holding (complete with turkeys) to grow Christmas dinner! She has a new enthusiasm for bread making, thanks to Darzi Fellow Philippa.

Philippa (Pip) Burden
Sally and the team are so helpful. I’ve had a fantastic immersion in the world of breastfeeding organisations.

**Darzi Project:**
Becoming Breastfeeding Friendly (BBF)
**Host organisation:**
CHSS, University of Kent
**Sponsor:**
Professor Sally Kendall

Becoming Breastfeeding Friendly UK is part of an international project to increase breastfeeding rates. CHSS leads – and Philippa is part of – the UK team, with opportunities to engage with world-leading experts.

**About Philippa:**
Philippa is a health visitor with Kent Community Health Foundation Trust, based in Dover. She has a special interest in infant feeding and in working with migrant families. She was ‘fortunate to meet Professor Sally Kendall’. She came late to health visiting, but a passion for holistic health (she practises complementary therapies) made it a good fit.

She is relishing new challenges: ‘It’s strange to leave your everyday job and team for something so different. We spend half our time on our project and the other half at Southbank. The course offers leadership education in an experiential, challenging way’.

Philippa enjoys baking and gardening. ‘Hannah and I are a bit of a pair. We both like bread making – I’ve been teaching her how to master sourdough!’
Dr James Hadlow
‘it’s great and everyone has been friendly’.

**Darzi Project:**
Creating an innovative Dementia Village in Kent

**Host organisation:**
East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust (EKHUFT)

**Mentor:**
Professor Chris Farmer

James is working on setting up World Cafe events for people living with dementia and their carers to explore the ethics and acceptability of Artificial Intelligence and digital technology such as wearables/GPS tracking. Findings and policy decisions will help shape ethical, effective and transparent AI and digital technology use in facilities such as Dover Dementia Village.

**About James:**
James went to St Edm unds School in Canterbury and studied for his Medical Degree at Kings College, London. He is an Anaesthetics and Intensive Care Registrar at East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust, but for much of the past year had a dual role, working for Pfizer. He gained a PGCert in Clinical Education whilst working at Kings College London School of Medicine as a Clinical Skills Tutor. Experienced in research and commercial development, he is passionate about effective, ethical digital health.

‘I am really excited about the project and to have Chris Farmer as a mentor’. Dementia Village is not Chris’ project, but his technical background and expertise make him an ideal mentor for James. (Chris also mentors Hannah).

Outside of work, James is a football and cricket fan, though nowadays with two young children, you are more likely to find him building a Lego castle! (Which he’s secretly very happy with!).

More information about the 2018 KSS Darzi Fellows and projects:
www.kssahsn.net/darzi-fellowship/Pages/2018-shortlisted-sponsors.aspx

---

**Recent selected CHSS publications**


MacInnes J and Williams L (2018) A review of Integrated Heart Failure Care. *Primary Health Care Research and Development* ISSN 1463-4236


Details of all CHSS current and past research is available on our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/chss/research/current.html
CHSS staff news

Information about all CHSS staff is available on our website: www.kent.ac.uk/chss/staff

Welcome to our three Darzi Fellows (see p6-7):

Phillippa Burden

James Hadlow

Hannah Al-Hasani

Anna Walker

Anna recently joined the RISKIT project team.

Congratulations to:

Dr Ferhana Hashem

On promotion to Senior Research Fellow.

About CHSS

CHSS is a centre of research excellence which undertakes high quality research into a wide range of health systems and health services issues at local, national and international levels. CHSS also supports and advises health care staff to develop and undertake research projects. CHSS collaborates with a wide range of partners in Kent, the UK and in other countries to improve the links between research, policy and practice.

Please see the CHSS website for details of current and previous research and publications.

Details of current CHSS vacancies and studentships can be found at: www.kent.ac.uk/chss/vacancies.html

NIHR Research Design Service South East

Need help applying for health research funding?

RDS SE – FREE advice and support on all aspects of research design

Since 2008 CHSS has hosted the RDS SE at the University Kent. The service also operates from Brighton and Surrey Universities. Funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) the RDS supports teams and individuals preparing applications for health and social care research funding.

See more at: www.rds-se.nihr.ac.uk

Follow us!

www.twitter.com/chss_kent