

Scottish Mental Health Service User Research Network

ABSTRACT FORM

The Scottish Mental Health Service User Research Network was launched in 2011 with the aim of promoting mental health service user research in Scotland through helping to develop partnerships with other organisations, build capacity amongst service user researchers and showcase examples of good practice in relation to mental health service user research.

Organisations or researchers are invited to submit an abstract of their research to the Network. Where submissions satisfy the criteria agreed by the Network for service user research, these will be published on the Voices Of eXperience (VoX) website at <http://www.voxscotland.org.uk>.

If you wish to submit a research abstract or have any questions please email Chris White at c.white.mentalhealth@gmail.com

Research Title:	Oor Mad History
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Author(s):	CAPS (The Consultation and Advocacy Promotion Service)
Date:	2010

Details of User Involvement (50 words max): <i>(This should include brief details of the level of participation by services users in the following stages of the research: research design; implementation and data collection; data analysis; dissemination)</i>
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The project was initiated, designed and implemented by service users. They were both participants and researchers, and were involved in all aspects of the project.

Research Rationale (50 words max): <i>(This should include brief details of the purpose of the research).</i>
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The project resulted from a desire for service users to record the history of the advocacy in mental health movement, from their perspective.

Method (75 words max): <i>(Brief explanation of research methods, participation, data collection, analysis etc.)</i>

Researchers met with collective advocacy groups within the area, to collect archive material, and discuss what they wanted from the project. A volunteer workshop was held to look at themes for the oral interviews. A second workshop trained volunteers to interview. They conducted formal oral history interviews with supporters and service users, supported by the community history worker.
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These interviews were recorded, and transcribed. They were archived, alongside other valuable materials. This book was also produced.

<p>Findings and Recommendations (150 words max): <i>(Please provide a brief overview of the main findings and recommendations)</i></p> <p>When the movement first started, service users were treated poorly. They had concerns over treatment and their lack of rights but were not listened to. Frustrated, they founded groups and held public meetings, demanding to make their voices heard. Initially staff were hostile, and refused to acknowledge them. When groups started being asked to represent service users, staff started to talk with them, and appreciate their right to raise issues</p> <p>Service User groups now sit on official and voluntary bodies, including recruitment panels. Successes of the movement included the creation of a crisis centre, the recognition of advocacy in the Mental Health Act.</p> <p>Service users have more autonomy now, and feel they have made a difference. Activism is tiring, and some felt out of their depth. There were differences of opinion within the movement. However, most gained a lot of confidence, found the peer support element helpful, and the experience inspiring.</p>
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<p>Dissemination Details (50 words max): <i>(This should include details of any events, journals etc. and how to obtain copies of the research)</i></p> <p>All resources from the project are accessible in a community archive at CAPS. The project continues, still accepting material, and growing over time.</p>

<p>Keywords: <i>(keywords aimed at identifying the research report in information systems and search engines)</i></p> <p>'History' 'advocacy' 'service users' 'mental health' 'activism' 'lothian' 'scotland'</p>
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<p>Link to full research paper:</p>	<p>http://www.lgbthistory.org.uk/resources/Oor_Mad_History_Book.pdf</p>
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<p>Contact Email:</p>	<p>contact@capsadvocacy.org</p>
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Are you happy for this email address to be published? Yes No

<p>Telephone Number</p>	<p>0131 538 7177</p>
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Are you happy for this number to be publicised? Yes No

Completed forms should be returned to: Chris White at c.white.mentalhealth@gmail.com

Thank You