

Monthly Bulletin: February 2009

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Here is the February 2009 issue of the SRA's Monthly Bulletin of news, research funding, publications and events. This issue includes:

News of ESRC – Festival of Social Science

Many current *research funding* opportunities, including Dept for Health's Programme

Publications including Youth & Culture in Modern Britain

And finally details of *events* - including workshops, seminars and conferences - over the next four months.

The next bulletin will issue in early March. Items for possible inclusion should be sent to Mark Roche at the Social Research Association by e mail mark.roche@the-sra.org.uk. Note that events and funding with closing dates earlier than the 10th day of the first month will rarely be listed, so send these contributions at least a month ahead.

If you are not a member of the SRA and would like further details about the benefits of membership, please go to the SRA website at www.the-sra.org.uk or email admin@the-sra.org.uk.

National Centre's 40th Anniversary

The National Centre for Social Research has its 40th anniversary this year. Last year it formed an academic partnership with the London School of Economics. One of its fruits will be an international Conference *Informing Public Policy: New Agendas for Social Research* on 23-24 April. More details on www.natcen.ac.uk/conference. A joint 6 week Summer School in research methods covering survey, quantitative and qualitative analysis is also planned.

British Attitudes Survey

Sage has also just published NatCen's 25th *British Social Attitudes Report* summarising and interpreting 2007 data. As always it provides a fascinating guide to who we are, what we think and how that has changed. The 25th Report contains chapters on people's use of emotional support networks, levels of social trust and respect, parent's attitudes to work and family life, satisfaction with the NHS and attitudes to air travel. For details contact www.sagepub.co.uk.

Poverty and Social Exclusion

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation report on *Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion* is now in its 10th annual edition. It explores the impact of policy and the economy on a range of indicators. It focuses on children, young adults, working age adults, older people and communities. Overall it reports a picture of stagnation with little improvement on most indicators – past improvement has stalled, become undone, deteriorated or just not changed. The report is available online at www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/eBooks/21315-sovciety-poverty-exclusion.pdf.

Festival of Social Science

The ESRC-organised Festival of Social Science takes place this year from 6-15 March. The usual dizzying array of events - lectures, debates, seminars, exhibitions, film shows - are planned across the country. Among them are an event in Glasgow for schools and colleges on *The science of social interaction*, one in Bath on *Consuming children: the battle for children's minds*, and in Cambridge on *The economic crunch: gender equality in hard times*. Among the London events is a debate at Kings College on the motion 'Research findings should count more than other kinds of evidence in making public policy.' The SRA is hosting an event aimed at 16-18 year olds who would be thinking of a career in Social Research. This is to be held on March 11th in conjunction with schools in the Tower Hamlets area. More info on www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/FSS/Whatson

RESEARCH FUNDING

In deadline date order over the next four months

Sir Halley Stewart Trust awards

This Trust offers awards for social and educational research that seeks to improve the conditions of particular groups of people while having wider implications. More info on www.sirhalleystewart.org.uk/priorities.html. No deadline.

ESRC

The Economic and Social Research Council invites applications for its post doctoral fellowships scheme. The scheme is open to all social science disciplines. More info on <http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/earlycareer/postdoctoralfellowships/index.aspx>

British Academy

The British Academy invites applications for the grants in support of conferences awards. The scheme promotes the dissemination and of the results of research in the humanities and social sciences. More info on <https://britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/index/cfm>

Deadline 30 April 2009

British Council

The British Council is pleased to invite researchers from universities in the UK and Israel to apply for funding under the new Britain – Israel Research and Academic Exchange Partnership. More info on <https://www.britishcouncil.org/israel>

Deadline 2 March 2009

DH (NIHR)

The Department of Health's National Institute for Health Research Research under its service delivery and organisation programme, wishes to commission research aimed at: evaluating promising innovations in the integrated organisation and delivery of health and social care services for adults and older people. More info on <https://www.sdo.nihr.ac.uk/currentcalls.html>

Deadline 24 February 2009

PUBLICATIONS

edited by Brian D. Loader,
**Young Citizens in the Digital Age: Political Engagement,
Young People and New Media,**
Routledge Taylor and Francis 2007

David Fowler
Youth Culture in Modern Britain, c.1920-c.1970,
Palgrave Macmillan 2008

Tess Ridge and Sharon Wright
Understanding Inequality, Poverty and Wealth: policies and prospects,
Policy Press, 2008

Niall O'Dochartaigh
**Internet Research Skills: How to do your literature search and find research
information online**
Sage, 2008

Gary Kitchen: Editor
The Journal of Voluntary Sector Research
<http://www.getheard.org.uk/subscriptions.php>

Russell K Schutt
Investigating The Social World
Sage 2008

Michael Pickering ed.
Research Methods for Cultural Studies
Edinburgh University Press 2008

Bridget Penhale and Jonathan Parker
Working with vulnerable adults
Routledge, 2008

Charles et al.,
Families in Transition: Social Change, family formation and kin relationships
Policy Press 2008

EVENTS & TRAINING

SRA events over the next few months –

Course: [Participatory Research](#)

Level: Advanced

Length: 2 Days

Cost: £390 (non members) £330 (members)

Location: Bristol

Date: 4th & 5th March 2009

Course: [Question\(naire\) design – paper self completion](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: Newport

Date: 11th March 2009

Course: [Understanding Statistics – An Introduction](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: London

Date: 20th March 2009

Course: [Quality in Social Research](#)

Level: Advanced

Length: 2 Days

Cost: £390 for (non members) and £330 for (members)

Location: Cardiff

Date: 25th & 26th March 2009

Course: [Introduction to Knowledge Transfer](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: London

Date: 2nd April 2009

Course: [Reviewing Research](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: London

Date: 27th April 2009

Course: [Introduction to Psycho Social Research](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 2 Day

Cost: £390 (non members) £330 (members)

Location: London

Date: 28th & 29th April 2009

Course: [Introduction to Research Commissioning](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: Cardiff

Date: 30th April 2009

Course: [Introduction to Research Project Management](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: Cardiff

Date: 1st May 2009

Course: [Introduction to Research Commissioning](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)

Location: Edinburgh

Date: 13th May 2009

Course: [Consultancy Skills for Social Researchers](#)
Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)
Location: London
Date: May 21st 2009

Course: [Writing Effective Research Reports](#)
Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)
Location: Leeds
Date: June 9th 2009

Course: [Introduction to Evaluation](#)
Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day

Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)
Location: London
Date: 23rd June 2009

Course: [Survey Research & Data Privacy](#)
Level: Advanced
Length: 1/2 Day
Cost: £140 (non members) £80 (members)
Location: London
Date: July 7th 2009

Course: [Introduction to Research Commissioning](#)
Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £190 (non members) £130 (members)
Location: London
Date: 16th July 2009

Other events in date order over the next two months:

5th March – London

RSS: Consultancy Skills:

More info on

www.rss.org.uk/courses

12th March – London

RSS: Presenting Data:

www.rss.org.uk/courses

19th March

Natcen Learning: Communicating Research into Policy and Practice

More info on

www.natcen.ac.uk/natcenlearning

25th & 26th March

Natcen Learning: Qualitative Research Design

More info on

www.natcen.ac.uk/natcenlearning

16-17 April

Introductory BHPS course using STATA

<http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/survey/bhps/courses>

6 – 8th July 2010

Leisure Studies Association: Diversity and Equality in Leisure and Sport Tourism

More info on : www.leisure-studies-association.info/LSAWEB/index.html

SPSS Training – With Jon F Hall

Training materials from my hands-on postgraduate course **Survey Analysis Workshop** are now available from my new webpage <http://independent.academia.edu/JohnHall> They have been converted and updated for use with SPSS15 for Windows.

I have also edited and uploaded the full unabridged text of my review of Julie Pallant's **SPSS Survival Manual** and my presentation to ASSESS (SPSS Users Group, York, 2006) **Old Dog, Old Tricks: using SPSS syntax to avoid the mouse trap**

The latter contains a short account of survey processing technology before 1970 and of the history and development of SPSS, including, with examples, changes to syntax and output formats, and the development of conventions for suggested best practice. I offer a detailed critical examination of the use of SPSS in published work, again with fully worked examples, and strongly advocate the use of syntax in preference to point-and-click. In addition to the paper there is a full set of slide shows.

Finally, I have also scanned and uploaded a selection of reports, papers and other materials (not easily available elsewhere, if at all) derived from surveys conducted at the SSRC Survey Unit and the Survey Research Unit (Polytechnic of North London).

