

BSA Sociology of Alcohol Study Group Annual Report (2021/2022)

Name: Sociology of Alcohol Study Group

Established: July 2011

Number of members: We currently have 106 people registered with the Jiscmail list, 19 of these are BSA Members and 87 are Non BSA Members

Income: On the 1st January 2022 we started with a study group account balance of £1,666.92 No costs have been incurred in the last year.

Key aims of the Sociology of Alcohol Study Group include:

- To support and promote the emergent subject field of sociology of alcohol and related fields
- To support researchers in the sociology of alcohol and related fields
- To support the aims of the BSA

Review of the year:

- We regularly maintain the study group Twitter account which has 1,467 followers, a 20 person increase on the previous year. This helps to maintain the profile of the study group, and links with other BSA study groups.
- We also have an active the Jiscmail list and circulate relevant messages when received.
- The convenors organised a half-day online event on 15th September 2021 called **‘Thinking critically about lived experience of alcohol in social science research and teaching’**. A call for abstracts was circulated and six abstracts were received, five people were able to present on the day. Twenty people registered to attend and the presentations were as follows:
 - 1) **“Tell me about your drinking...?” Pints, Personal Stories and Positionality in Alcohol Research, Dr Emily Nicholls, Lecturer, University of York**
 - 2) **Lubricating the field: reflections on wine, emotion, and the research process, Zara Babakordi, ESRC PhD student, Newcastle University**
 - 3) **Alcohol – The Friendly Foe, Diane Goslar, Expert by experience**
 - 4) **Whose harm is it anyway? Representativeness of lived experience voices in the context of alcohol use and policy, Dr James Morris, Centre for Addictive Behaviours Research Fellow, London South Bank University**
 - 5) **The Personal is Pedagogical? Using lived experience and vulnerability in teaching settings, Dr Sharon Greenwood, Lecturer, University of Glasgow**

The presentations from this event are currently available on the BSA web page.

- The convenors have met several times over the last 12 months to plan a larger event around the topic of ‘pubs and society’ to be held in spring 2024. It is anticipated that

this event will be a collaboration with the Drinking Studies Network ‘drinking spaces’ cluster.

- The convenors have published the following work in the field of alcohol and sociology during this year:

Wilkinson, S. and Wilkinson, C. (in press). Researching Atmos-spheres of Alcohol Consumption. In Steadman, C. and Coffin, J. (Eds.). *Consuming Atmospheres: Designing, Experiencing, and Researching Atmospheres in Consumption Space*. Routledge.

Jackson K, Finch, T, Kaner E, McLaughlin J (2022) Exploring the significance of relationality, care and governmentality in families, for understanding women's classed alcohol drinking practices. *Social Theory and Health*. (Online first) <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1057/s41285-022-00183-7>

Concluding remarks:

We are pleased to have been able to run this successful online event during the pandemic period. An ambition of the current convenors is to make the group as accessible as possible to early career researchers, people with lived experience of heavy alcohol use and people working outside academia. We are planning the face-to face event to be held in spring 2024 on the topic of ‘pubs and society’.

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