## Campaign to End Loneliness Research Hub

**Professor Ann Bowling, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southampton**

Ann is a quantitative social scientist with a history of research in healthcare and ageing. Ann has worked both in public health and primary healthcare settings, including St Bartholomew’s, Kingston University and University College London.

She is a member of the editorial boards of the International Journal of Ageing and Human Development, the Journal of Ageing Research and Health Expectations.

Recent research includes national surveys of quality of life in older age, equity of clinical decision-making in cardiology (funded by ESRC), and cardiology patients’ treatment preferences (Medical Research Council). With the ESRC and International Longevity Centre, she recently developed the Older People’s Quality of Life Questionnaire.

**Richard Bryan, Managing Director, Qa Research**

Richard is Managing Director of Qa Research, a full service social and market research agency that specialise in a range of key sectors including health and community engagement.

Richard has been involved in a number of Qa’s studies that have engaged with some of the most vulnerable people in society including children in gangs, offenders and ex-offenders and parents with children with special educational needs.

In many of the studies Qa has undertaken with vulnerable groups the subject of loneliness and isolation has emerged as a symptom or a cause of other drivers relating to disaffection in society. Qa Research is currently evaluating the Joseph Rowntree Foundation’s Neighbourhood Approaches to Loneliness Programme.

**Professor Vanessa Burholt, Director, Centre for Innovative Ageing at Swansea University**

Vanessa became Director of the Centre for Innovative Ageing at Swansea University in 2007, and has a background in social gerontology, sociology and psychology.

Vanessa's research interests include intergenerational relationships, support and social relationships, rurality, attachment to place and housing and migration of older people.

She sits on two National Institute of Social Care and Health Research Committees, (Health Research and Social Care Research) and holds a public appointment as research member for the National Partnership Forum for Older People.

**Paul Cann, Chief Executive, Age UK Oxfordshire**

Paul Cann was appointed Chief Executive of Age UK Oxfordshire in 2000, having previously working as Director of Policy and External Relations at Help the Aged. Paul's research and policy interests include pensioner poverty, loneliness and social exclusion and care issues.

From 2004-07, Paul held a Visiting Fellowship at the Oxford Institute of Ageing and in 2009 became an Associate Fellow of the International Longevity Centre. A founding member of the Campaign, Paul wrote *Safeguarding the Convoy: A Call to Action from the Campaign to End Loneliness.* Paul chairs Age UK's Public Policy Panel.

**Professor Mima Cattan,** **Health, Community and Education Studies, Northumbria University**

Mima was appointed Professor in Public Health (Knowledge Transition) at Northumbria University in 2009, and was previously a Reader in Health Promotion and Co-Director of the Centre for Health Promotion Research at Leeds Metropolitan University.

Mima's research interests include the promotion of mental health and wellbeing in older people, and the development of health promotion interventions to alleviate social isolation and loneliness in later life.

Her published PhD thesis, *Preventing social isolation and loneliness among older people: a systematic review of health promotion interventions,* has greatly influenced the work of the Campaign.

**Professor Philip Corr, School of Psychology, University of East Anglia**

Philip is an academic psychologist interested in quantitative approaches, especially in the general area of personality and individual differences. He is interested in how these individual differences are expressed in a wide range of behaviours across different situations.

Philip is a member of several editorial boards of psychology journals for which he acts in editorial roles. He is also the Co-Founder of the British Society for the Psychology of Individual Differences (BSPID), which aims to foster greater research collaboration amount individual differences researchers in the UK.

With social work colleagues at UEA, Philip is involved in several projects which aim to provide the research evidence on which to build programmes to reduce social isolation and loneliness, especially in the elderly.

**Laura Ferguson, Director, Campaign to End Loneliness**

Laura joined the Campaign to End Loneliness as Director in October 2010. Prior to this, Laura led a range of development projects at the national charity Volunteering England including partnership projects with Sport England, the Department of Health and the charity YouthNet.

She has also been a corporate and government fundraiser at the Royal National Institute of the Blind and before this worked in the private sector.

**Sheila Furlong, Director, The Archway Foundation**

Sheila is Director of The Archway Foundation, a registered charity founded in Oxford that responds to the needs of those hurt by loneliness through the provision of supported social opportunities.

With a background in Mental Health Nursing working with adults and children in hospital and community settings Sheila's research interests lie in Attachment Theory, its impact on the development of human relationships and the identification of effective strategies for promoting meaningful healthy relationships.

**Dr Barbara Hanratty, Clinical Senior Lecturer, Department of Public Health and Policy, University of Liverpool**

Barbara is an NIHR Career Development Fellow and Clinical Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Health and Policy at the University of Liverpool.  Her research interests encompass inequalities in health, end of life care and the health and wellbeing of older adults. Barbara works one day a week as a GP.

**Marie Holdt, Communications Manager, Contact the Elderly**

**Alison Jarvis, Programme Manager, Joseph Rowntree Foundation**

**Annabel Davidson Knight, Project Officer, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation**

Annabel is a Project Officer for the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and leads on the UK Branch's Fulfilling Potential theme and coordinates transnational and national initiatives, including an extensive European programme on Ageing.

The programme has focused particularly on the effect ageing populations will have on individuals and their relationships with one another through two related streams; tackling loneliness in older age, and strengthening intergenerational connections.

She is a member of Transatlantic Network 2020, a British Council initiative working to strengthen ties between Europe and North America through the creation of a sustainable network of young leaders. She has recently begun work on a new TN2020 initiative *Empowering the Balkans* in collaboration with Civil Society groups in the region.

**Martha Lester-Cribb, Quality Officer, Befriending Networks**

Martha is the Quality Officer at Befriending Networks, an umbrella organisation which supports befriending services throughout the UK. She is an Exchange Fellow with the University of Edinburgh and is working with Professor Platt to gather evidence from befriending clients for robust statistical analysis.

She is also on the Project Advisory Group for the ‘Me and My Befriender’ project at the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships at the University of Edinburgh and is developing a research study with the University of Stirling and Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland on the impact of befriending on socially isolated patients with chronic heart failure.

**Ruth McCallum, Chief Officer, Care Networks Cambridgeshire**

**Tracey Robbins, Programme Manager, Joseph Rowntree Foundation**

**Phil Rossall, Research Manager (Knowledge Management), Age UK**

Phil is in charge of knowledge management at Age UK, which includes the collection, analysis and publication of statistical and research information across a wide range of subjects relevant to the older population at a local, national and international level.

His team is responsible for the content on the Age UK Knowledge Hub (on the Age UK website), which contains research summaries, fact sheets, presentations and all the available research-based reports published for Age UK, Age Concern and Help the Aged.

Phil has worked collaboratively on publications across a wide range of topics, such as *Agenda for Later Life*, *Age Friendly Cities (London Report)* and *Older People, Decent Homes and Fuel Poverty.*

**Professor Thomas Scharf, Director, Irish Centre for Social Gerontology, NUI Galway**

**Nicole Valtora, Research Assistant, Department of Public Health and Policy, University of Liverpool**

Nicole has recently joined the University of Liverpool as a Research Assistant in the Public Health Department, after completing a Master's in Public Health and Policy at the University of Political Sciences of Paris.

She is working for Dr Barbara Hanratty on loneliness and social isolation among older adults. Nicole's research interests include older adults, health inequalities and health economics.

**Professor Christina Victor, School of Health Sciences and Social Care, Brunel University**

Christina joined Brunel in October 2009 as Professor of Gerontology and Public Health in the School of Health Sciences and Social Care. She has a keen interest in loneliness and isolation; the benefits of exercise and activity in later life and the experiences of old age and later life amongst minority communities.

Christina has written over 180 journal articles and book chapters and has published 8 books in the field of gerontology, the most recent being *Ageing, Health and Care*. She is the Editor of Ageing and Society, the leading social gerontology journal in the UK. She is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health and an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences.

**Dr Karen Windle, Senior Research Fellow, Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU)**

Karen is Senior Research Fellow at the Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU) at the University of Kent. Karen’s research activities are to explore prevention and integration across the social and health care fields, focusing particularly on different policy innovations and implementation.

Research projects have included leading the National Evaluation of the Partnerships for Older People’s Projects, the national evaluation of Personal Health Budgets and developing outcome and quality measures for older people’s services. Karen has been involved with SCIE on looking at those services that are effective in reducing social isolation and loneliness and is looking to develop that work into a meta-analysis.