



## PEARL News - Issue 4

News, opportunities & updates in public engagement with research at University of Lincoln

### PEARL - to be continued...



After a successful first year, PEARL is delighted to announce that a second year of UKRI and University of Lincoln continuation funding has been confirmed. The second year of PEARL will see another round of the popular PEARL grant-funding, awards, training & CPD, drop-in surgeries, PEARL internal and external conferences sharing and celebrating publicly engaged research and more. PEARL will also be supporting large-scale events such as [Pint of Science](#) and

[Being Human Festival](#) as well as the University's [LiGHTS festival](#), exploring new ways in which PEARL can function as a platform to join up researchers and communities through surveys of what people want, social networking events, increasing visibility and more. These activities will support and celebrate staff and students in their work engaging the public in research. Watch this space!

---

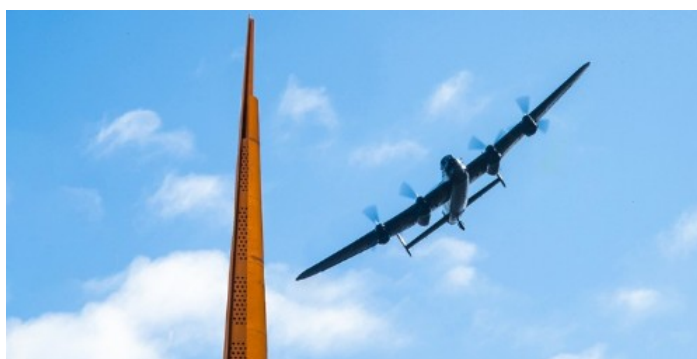
### Heritage Dot - Conference launch success & call for participation



On September 5th an exciting evening event launched the new '[Heritage Dot](#)' conference and International Bomber Command Centre Archive. Heritage Dot will create a platform for 'sharing, challenging, disrupting, and interrogating what digital heritage is and does across professional, academic and community sectors with interests in heritage'. In 2019, the University of Lincoln is hosting the Heritage Dot inaugural conference exploring how fusion of the digital and cultural heritage worlds can create new relationships between past and

future, tradition and innovation. The launch saw speakers including Darren Henley (Chief Executive of Arts Council England), Dr Clare Watson (MACE) and Eilish McGuinness (Heritage Lottery) discussing their insights around digital technology, tools and cultural heritage, and what the challenges and opportunities will be. The conference will take place on 3rd-4th June 2019, and a [call for participation](#) has been released for practitioners, professionals, researchers and anyone with an interest in digital cultural heritage to present their work.

## IBCC Digital Archive Launch



Have you visited the [International Bomber Command Centre Archive](#) yet? The Archive has been developed as a partnership with the University and shares people's stories of RAF Bomber Command through over 1,000 oral interviews and more than 3,500 personal documents; photographs, diaries, letters and more. The archive provides stories from many perspectives to promote 'recognition, remembrance and reconciliation'.

---

## PEARL Grant-Holder News

### ILLUSTRATION OPPORTUNITY: Design a Microbiology Book for Children

Dr Nadia Andreani

Dr Nadia Andreani (Life Sciences) is writing a book to engage primary school students in microbiology. The story has been drafted and Nadia is now advertising for an illustrator.

The story follows a group of bacteria on their travels, meeting and learning about different



microorganisms. The chosen illustrator will design illustrations for the book which will be published with their name credited, and will also be awarded a £200 prize. To apply, illustrators will be asked to submit at least one design for a section of the drafted book. Contact [nandreani@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:nandreani@lincoln.ac.uk) for more information. **Deadline 15th November 2018.**

---

## The public house in the rural community

Dr Claire Markham

On Thursday 27th September Dr Claire Markham ran a second seminar on the importance of the pub in the rural community, the services they offer, and how pubs may be able to be sustained.



The event, held at the New Life Conference Centre in Sleaford, was a resounding success. Local residents involved in preserving, developing and running their pubs attended, picking up new learning and understanding around the factors to be considered in sustaining these venues. The event offered the chance for attendees to make new connections and put their questions to Claire. If you would like to know more, please contact [cmarkham@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:cmarkham@lincoln.ac.uk).

---

## Resources & Networks for Researchers

*Are you looking for ideas to involve people in your research? Maybe you already do, but you want to develop these further. Below are some useful resources that may help...*

---

### Are you interested in innovating your public engagement practice?



The [NCCPE](#) (National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement) run an [Engaged Practice Learning Exchange \(EPL\)](#), providing opportunities for those who are involved in community-university activity to reflect, share and develop ideas on engagement practice in a series of workshops. These are usually run to coincide with major conferences relating to the subject. The next event is 28th November (to coincide with Engage 2018) - bookings [here](#).

---

### Engagement Activities - What are other people doing?



Engaging the public in research creates excitement and inspiration around being involved in new discoveries. But what exactly are the methods of doing this? How do you come up with an idea? What are other researchers doing? What works? The [NCCPE](#) website has an extensive range of resources and tools to explore. Their '[inspire me](#)' and '[choosing a method](#)' pages offer engagement ideas including '[PEN Portraits](#)', showcasing profiles of engaged researchers and professionals, and the activities they have organised.

[Wellcome Trust](#) recognise public engagement is key to high quality research and have developed key requirements around this in grant applications. Alongside this they are developing resources for researchers; the [first](#) in their new blog series looks at tailoring your research for its target audience - are you asking the right questions? Do people feel their involvement is tailored and beneficial to themselves, and the research? In addition, PEARL can help with up with ideas and plan activities, and will also be running Training / CPD on 'Activity Planning'...coming soon.

---

### How do you know if public engagement has been effective and impactful?



Evaluation is a requirement for engaged research, it allows researchers to identify and evidence impact and develop future projects. However it can feel like an 'extra task' and is not always carried out as a habit. However, with the right resources, designing evaluation can be quick and easy, and go above and beyond in the benefits it provides. Here are some useful starting guides:

- UK Research Innovation: [Evaluation: Practical Guidelines](#) - a practical guide on where to start, what method and how to do it efficiently. Laid out in clear sections to allow quick usage.

- University College London: [Evaluation Toolkits and Guides](#) - UCL have put together a useful breakdown of different methods for evaluation, alongside case studies exemplifying evaluation that has been carried out.
- Science Museum: [Effective questionnaires for all](#) - if you have chosen to evaluate using a questionnaire, this recipe book provides a step-by-step walk through for designing relevant, outcome-focused questions to give you valid data.
- Unicef: [Useful tools for engaging young people in participatory research](#) - if you work with young people, an interactive, dynamic approach than a form may be appropriate, this guide provides detailed ideas with images to help you develop this.
- NEF Consulting: [Prove it!](#) - if you work in projects with community involvement, particularly those that look to enhance local residents' quality of life this toolkit provides ready-to-go templates and forms for 3 different methods of evaluation.

If you would like help on developing evaluation for your engagement with research please contact the PEARL team (details below). PEARL will also be running Training / CPD on 'Evaluation' for public engagement with research later on this term - watch this space.

### Have your say on evaluating public engagement...

NCCPE are asking [researchers](#) and [professionals](#) for their views on public engagement evaluation. Responses will inform plans for developing evaluation support and resources within the sector and so could make a real difference to the resources available for you.

---

**What did you think of this newsletter? Have you got any news you'd like to share?**

Was the content of this newsletter useful, inspiring, interesting to you? What would you like to see more of? Or less of? Have you got an upcoming event, new project, call for participation, tips, news, opportunities you would like to share in either our staff & student or public newsletters? Please let us know by emailing [pearl@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:pearl@lincoln.ac.uk) so we can share it and make sure it is what you want to read.




---

e: [pearl@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:pearl@lincoln.ac.uk) t: 01522 835505 w: [pearl.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk](http://pearl.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk)

The [PEARL Privacy Notice](#) outlines how we use any personal data we collect.  
If you wish to unsubscribe to these updates please email [pearl@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:pearl@lincoln.ac.uk) at any time with 'Unsubscribe'.