



Violence Abuse & Mental Health Network: October Newsletter



VAMHN Opportunities

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence – call for information on events and resources

The [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) is an international campaign that runs from 25th November – 10th December each year. The global theme for this year's 16 Days is "UNITE! Activism to end violence against women and girls". To highlight some of the incredible work that will be shared by organisations around the world during this period, we will be collating a programme to share details of any events being run and/or resources being launched during this period.

If you are organising, or are aware of any open events being run during the 25th November – 10th December this year, please send the details below to vamhn@kcl.ac.uk by the **16th November** to allow us to include it in our programme. Any events outside of this time period or submitted after the deadline will be shared via our newsletter or twitter as normal.

1. Title of event
2. Name of individual or organisation running the event
3. Date of the event
4. Location of the event (please state if in-person or online)
5. 1-2 sentences describing the event e.g. *This webinar will share findings from the XX study on domestic violence and mental health.*
6. The event webpage URL
7. Details on how people can register for the event

We will then share the collated programme through our mailing list, on our website and via social media.

VAMHN at The Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum

The VAMHN Team were delighted to represent the Network at the recent SVRI International Forum in Mexico. Here we highlighted some of the amazing work our network members have done to international researchers and service providers. A huge thank you to the SVRI team for hosting such an incredible event. You can find out more about the SVRI [here](#).

VAMH Online Network Meeting Webinar Recording:

On the 20th October we ran our latest online network meeting where we welcomed the following incredible speakers:

- Lindsay Kelland - Rhodes University
- Lisa Ward - Lived experience consultant and VAMHN LEAG coordinator
- Laura Fischer - Traumascaples
- Sullivan Holderbach - Traumascaples

We have now uploaded the recording to this meeting on our website which you can access [here](#) along with additional resources from our speakers.

Early Career Researcher Bursary Award Scheme – awardees and next round

Our next round of Early Career Researcher Bursary Awards is open, and we have increased the amount we are awarding! We now have awards of up to £350 available to support junior researchers to attend training courses, research placements at institutions other than their own, and conferences. Bursaries can be used towards training course and/or conference fees, or for travel and accommodation to support attendance. This includes registration fees for virtual webinars and conferences.

These awards are open to early career researchers from **both UK universities and third sector organisations**. The deadline is **4th November 2022**. To find out more and to apply [click here](#). To read what our previous ECR bursary winners have done with their awards click [here](#).



Other Training, Events and Opportunities

The BACP are inviting abstract submissions for their 2023 Research Conference on “Global issues in counselling and psychotherapy research, policy and practice”. The conference will be held in Leeds, and online, between Thursday 18th and Saturday 20th May 2023. Submissions should address the theme of global issues, either directly or indirectly. For more information and details of how to submit, view the abstract submission guidelines [here](#). The deadline for submitting abstracts is Tuesday 1st November 2022.

The Drake Foundation are hosting a symposium on intimate partner violence on the 29th November at Woburn House in London. To find out more and to register click [here](#).

Mental Health Research Matters are running a [campaign](#) asking “Why does Mental Health Research Matter to you?”. To get involved you can

1. [Print a sign](#) (or write your own)
2. Share your message on social media during October and November, using the hashtag #MentalHealthResearchMatters
3. Tag your friends to join in

Additionally, from 10th October to 1st December Mental Health Research Matters is running a digital conversation about [why mental health research matters](#), [what good mental health research looks like](#) and [how we can all get involved to make a difference](#).

The campaign, which you can find on the hashtag [#MentalHealthResearchMatters](#), is sparking a conversation about mental health research, all while celebrating the achievements of the eight [UKRI-funded mental health research networks](#) (including VAMHN). The team have organised Tweet chats, blogs, videos and [five webinars for researchers](#), would-be researchers and people with lived experience of mental health problems. To attend these events you can book your place using the links below:

- Multidisciplinary research - how to do it (better) – Thursday 10th November from 5.30- 7 pm. Click [here](#) to sign up.
- Experts by Experience: how your personal experiences of mental health problems can shape mental health research – Wednesday 16th November from 5.30pm - 7 pm. Click [here](#) to sign up.
- Partnership working in mental health research – Tuesday 22nd November from 5.30pm - 7 pm. Click [here](#) to sign up.
- From research to action - Mental health research and policy – Thursday 1st December from 5.30pm – 7 pm - save the date! Link available shortly.

The ManKind Initiative are holding their annual conference on Wednesday 16th November from 9.30am-12.30pm. It is free, via Zoom and qualifies for three CPD points. To register your attendance, click [here](#). Additionally, they have created the “Supporting Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Day” which takes place on Wednesday 2nd November where organisations are encouraged to promote the support they provide for male victims and their children. For further information, click [here](#).

The APPG on Family Justice will meet on Wednesday 2nd November from 1-2pm. The meeting is titled “Two years on – have the Harm Panel’s recommendations been delivered?”. To register to attend the meeting click [here](#).

The Violence and Society Centre are launching the new book "Policing Domestic Abuse" by Katy Barrow Grint (Thames Valley Police), Dr Jacqueline Sebire (University of Cambridge), Professor Jackie Turton (University of Essex) and Dr Ruth Weir (City, University of London). They will be joined by Louisa Rolfe OBE, Assistant Commissioner at the Metropolitan Police and NPCC lead for Domestic Abuse. Drinks and nibbles will be served. The event takes place on the 15th November from 6pm-8pm at The Pavillion, City, University of London, Northampton Square, London, To join please register [here](#).

The HALT (Homicide Abuse Learning Together) research group are hosting the “Gender-based Violence Seminar Series: Focus on Domestic Homicide”. There are four webinars planned as part of this series, with details below:

- Minoritisation in Domestic Homicide Reviews: Prof. Khatidja Chantler and Dr Vicky Baker, Manchester Metropolitan University. Tuesday 22nd November from 4-5 pm. Click [here](#) to sign up.

- Professional and Family Experiences of Domestic Homicide Reviews (Dr Alina Haines and Elaine Craig). Tuesday 29th November from 4-5pm. Click [here](#) to sign up.
- Utilising Domestic Homicide Reviews to prevent Adult Family Domestic Homicide (Dr Kelly Bracewell, University of Central Lancashire). Tuesday 6th December from 4-5 pm. Click [here](#) to sign up.
- Intimate partner homicide-suicide: an exploration of characteristics and contexts using domestic homicide reviews (England and Wales) - (Dr Vicky Baker, Manchester Metropolitan University). Tuesday 13th December 4-5 p.m. Click [here](#) to sign up.

The MESARCH project are running an event titled “A thousand conversations: new evidence to inspire change and inform recovery and healing in the aftermath of sexual violence and abuse (MESARCH)” which showcases evidence from their ground-breaking research on sexual violence and abuse funded by the National Institute for Health Research. The event takes place on 7th December 2022 from 10am - 4.30pm at The Techno Centre, Puma Way, Coventry, CV1 2TT. Sign up [here](#) (registration closes today).

The Women and Mental Health Special Interest Group are hosting an online conference on the 14th October (timings TBC) on “Systemic Misogyny and VAWG: international perspectives”. To register your attendance click [here](#).

SMARTen are hosting a range of events – both online and in-person - commencing Monday 31st October 2022, as part of their final project showcase. This will culminate in a conference on the 4th November 2022 at the Science Gallery in London. To register your interest now, to be kept in the loop about updates and opportunities to contribute, and for a notification when bookings open click [here](#).



Ongoing Research

Viv Gordon from Viv Gordon Company and Alison McKinlay from UCL are inviting adults who have experienced child sexual abuse (CSA) to take part in research collaboration designed to tackle stigma and change public misperceptions about adult survivors of CSA. Together, they will be asking for suggestions for the creation of a film series about narrative change and social justice. If you are interested in volunteering and feel safe to do so, you can find [more information](#) and [a link to the survey here](#) or contact Alison McKinlay a.mckinlay@ucl.ac.uk if you have any queries. The survey will close on November 30th 2022 or when the maximum number of participants has been reached (100 participants).

The Young but Wise project team at King’s College London are running a survey to investigate whether wisdom can buffer stress, anxiety and depression in young people. You are eligible to take part if you are aged 16-25 and living in the UK. The survey takes around 25 minutes to complete, and there will be another follow-up questionnaire to complete 3 months after the first time point. Participants who complete the questionnaire will be entered into a raffle for one of two £20 Amazon vouchers. To find out more and to complete the survey click [here](#).

Researchers at University College London are running a survey on “Supporting women with complex health needs in maternity services: a survey of health care professionals”. They are seeking health care professionals who work in maternity services in England or Wales to hear about their experiences of providing care for women with complex health needs. This survey takes 15 minutes to complete. You can access the survey link [here](#).



Job Opportunities

The Dove Research Centre has a post-doctoral position open to study violence in large birth cohort studies in Brazil. Post holder should be fluent in English or Portuguese. Experience of research and understanding of theory related to aggression, violence, crime, antisocial behaviour and child problems required. Applicants should have experience using quantitative research methods and strong writing skills. For more details please contact contact@doverresearch.org. The application deadline is the 30th November 2022.

NAPAC are currently recruiting for two vacancies.

- 1. Head of Learning:**

Salary: £36,400 for 1.0FTE.

Hours: This is a flexible hybrid role. Minimum 21 hours per week (0.6FTE) up to full-time 35 hours (1.0FTE). Final working patterns will be negotiated with the successful candidate and may include the option of compressed hours.

- 2. Training Partnership Manager:**

Salary: £29,640 for 1.0FTE.

Hours: This is a flexible hybrid role. Minimum 21 hours per week (0.6FTE) up to full-time 35 hours (1.0FTE). Final working patterns will be negotiated with the successful candidate and may include the option of compressed hours.

The closing date for both roles is 10am on Monday 5th December 2022. For more information about either role, click [here](#).



Resources

Medium-term health and social outcomes in adolescents following sexual assault: a prospective mixed-methods cohort study – *Clarke et al, 2021*

This paper aimed to describe medium-term physical and mental health and social outcomes following adolescent sexual assault and examine users' perceived needs and experiences. To read the full paper published in the *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology Journal*, click [here](#).

Disgrace: Global Reflections on Sexual Violence – *Bourke, 2022*.

This book offers a global history of sexual violence, delving into the factors that facilitate violence – including institutions, ideologies and practices – but also giving voice to survivors and activists. Ultimately, Joanna Bourke intends to forge a transnational feminism that will promote a more harmonious, equal and rape- and violence-free world. To find out more about the book and to purchase it click [here](#).

The Catalogue of Mental Health Measures

This resource is an interactive catalogue of mental health and wellbeing measures in British cohort and longitudinal studies. New datasets and resources have now been added to the Catalogue which you can access [here](#).

Preventing intimate partner violence improves mental health – World Health Organisation

This article summarises many of the key recommendations identified by the VAMHN coordinated Lancet Psychiatry Commission on intimate partner violence and mental health. To read the article click [here](#). To access the Commission document, as well as additional associated resources click [here](#).

Long-term trends in child maltreatment in England and Wales, 1858–2016: an observational, time-series analysis – Esposti et al, 2019

This paper investigated whether the annual incidence of child maltreatment has changed over time, using official record data and time-series methods to establish long-term trends. To read the full paper published in *The Lancet Public Health* click [here](#).

For more useful resources and links, take a look at [our website here](#)

VAMHN Forum

Whether you want to share a survey, find collaborators for a bid or discuss a paper you've written, the VAMHN forum is a space for you to do that. To sign up to the forum and start connecting to other VAMHN members click [here](#). Full instructions on how to use the forum can be found on the homepage.

VAMHN Directories

The VAMHN has developed three active directories available on our website for our members to access. To access our directories masterpage click [here](#).

1. VAMHN Data Directory

This resource indexes UK datasets, data repositories, and aggregate/published statistics about violence, abuse, and mental health, providing you with information about these resources and how to access them. To access this resource, click [here](#). We'll be continually

adding to the data directory, so if you know of a resource that we haven't yet indexed, please tell us about it by completing the template at the bottom of the Directory webpage [hereabout:blank](#), and emailing to Dr Jude Towers at Towersj@edgehill.ac.uk. Please note that the resource should be either publicly available or available upon application. You do not need a password to access the data directory.

2. VAMHN Expert Directory

Our Expert Directory collates details of Network member expertise – e.g., academics, policy-makers, practitioners, those with lived experience, etc. This resource can be used to help members find experts to help with bids or research or more general questions and queries. To access the Expert Directory webpage click [here](#). **The password to the webpage is UKRInetwork1!**

3. VAMHN Network Directory

This directory is for organisations and networks – again, academic, policy-making, practitioner, lived experience, third sector, voluntary sector, etc. These may be formal or informal; organisations, discussion forums, mailing lists; etc. The resource can be used to help members find relevant networks to join, to signpost others to and potentially to help with bids or research or more general questions and queries. To access the Network Directory webpage click [here](#). **The password to the webpage is UKRInetwork1!**

Both the expert and network directory webpages include instructions on how to use them effectively, and also include a video introduction from our network co-investigator Dr Jude Towers.

If you would like to add your details either the expert or network directory, you can download the template form from our website at the web-links above and send to Dr Jude Towers at Towersj@edgehill.ac.uk.

We hope you find the directories useful! If you would like to refer these directories onto colleagues who are not currently members of the VAMHN, please kindly ask them to join the network [here](#) and contact us at vamhn@kcl.ac.uk to request the password.

4. VAMHN Blog Directory

Our blog directory which contains blogs by people with lived and living experience of violence, abuse and mental health. The blogs are about diverse forms of domestic and sexual violence, diverse types of mental health and different experiences of services e.g. health, policing, research etc. To access the blog directory, click [here](#). The password to the webpage is *UKRInetwork1!* For any and all enquiries about this directory please contact Dr Jude Towers at Towersj@edgehill.ac.uk.

Useful Links



VAMHN website: <https://www.vamhn.co.uk/>



VAMHN twitter: [@VAMHN](https://twitter.com/VAMHN)

We are one of eight UKRI funded mental health networks. To find out more about the other seven, [click here](#)



If you have any collaboration or funding opportunities, events or resources for our newsletter please contact us at vamhn@kcl.ac.uk