



Welcome to our June PPIE Newsletter!

Reflecting back on the spring, we have been moving strongly forward in many of our research activities at the University of Kent, and again I thank you all for your involvement – whether it's in reviewing new applications for research, involvement in projects or team meetings, or learning more from our researchers in some of our training sessions. Kate Day, Research Assistant in the Centre for Health Service Studies, delivered a very informative Behaviour Science training session in May, relating to her research in the Health Determinants Research Collaboration in Medway, Kent. Kate has recorded this training, so please let me know if you would like a copy of the recording.

We held our memorial service for Jules at the University of Kent in April. It was a really great day, listening to so many colleagues, friends and family talk about his impactful research, the extraordinary amount of research funding he secured and his modesty, kindness, care for colleagues and brilliance of mind. We planted a cherry tree in his memory in the grounds of the University – if you ever visit, I shall show you where this is.

In this newsletter, you will find information about the Domiciliary Care project, which is now in survey piloting phase, and searching for homecare and housing with care providers, to take part in surveys. There is also great news from our research advisor, Jennifer, who nominated her carer for the Gold Chief Nurse Adult Social Care award.

As ever, please contact me with any news or research updates you would like to share with other research advisors in a future newsletter.

Please note, I have a 3-week period of leave during the summer holidays (Monday 28th July to Friday 15th August inclusive).

Kind Regards, Sarah
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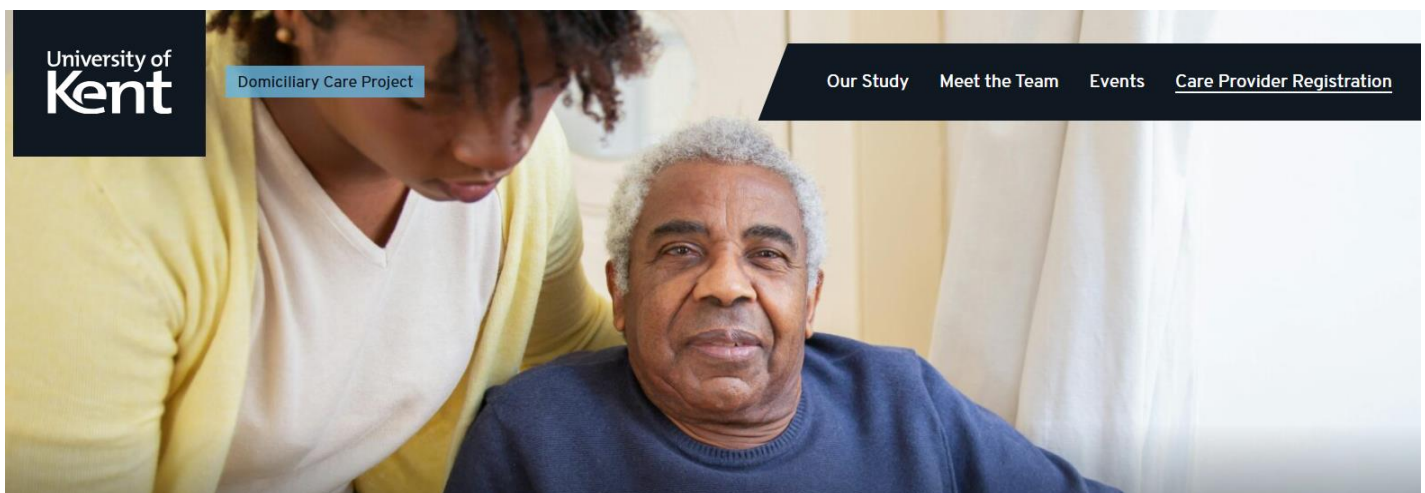


The Benefits and Costs of Domiciliary Care

Introduction

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the University of Kent has secured £1.6m funding to collect data to understand the value of homecare services.

Findings from this project will be used to inform policy decision-making on the commissioning of public services, the development of home care option guidance, and support for individuals and families purchasing care to make more informed decisions.



Are you an unpaid carer or do you receive homecare?

This project will be collecting data on homecare. The project team have developed two surveys; one for carers who provide support to family, friends, partners or neighbours, and one for people who receive homecare either through homecare agencies, housing with support or personal assistants. The surveys are currently ready for testing or 'piloting'.

Please let Sarah know if you are interested in piloting one of the surveys.

Homecare or Housing with Care providers

This project is also looking for participants, specifically homecare providers or housing with care schemes supporting adults in Kent, Surrey or Sussex, East Midlands or Yorkshire & Humber.

If you know of someone who may be interested, they can find more information about how to participate in this research in the [website link](#).

For any questions, please contact the team at: domcareproject@kent.ac.uk.

Carer, Marcia, receives Gold Award at the Chief Nurse Adult Social Care Awards

Introduction

Jennifer, one of our research advisors in our Public Involvement Research Advisor Network (PIRAN), nominated her carer for the Chief Nurse Adult Social Care Awards.

This award acknowledges the outstanding contribution made by social care workers and nurses in England, who go 'above and beyond' their everyday roles by providing excellent care, leadership, and inspiration to their colleagues and those who use services. They have gold, silver and team award categories.

Marcia's Gold Award Nomination

Marcia was nominated and won the Gold Award for the outstanding care she delivers which, along with Jennifer's other carers, enables Jennifer to fully participate in family life and to be able to work, and lead an active social life.

Jennifer has written a blog about Marcia's exceptional caring role and the impact this has on Jennifer in the following [blog](#) on the 'Think Local, Act Personal' website.

Many congratulations Marcia! It is great to see such recognition for your strong values and dedication.

The Gold Award

The gold award is for individuals who:

1. show outstanding achievement and performance in their practice.
2. have shown exceptional contribution in their nursing or social care career.
3. strive to be a role model for others whilst achieving the highest standard in their area of clinical practice and making a significant contribution to the quality of care received by users of services and their families.
4. have a current Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) registration or is a care worker working in adult social care in England.
5. meet the principles of the fit and proper person test and not subject to any disciplinary or regulatory action.



News, Publications and Bulletins

SCIE Co-production Conference

'Innovation through co-production' : 1 July 2025

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) have shared the agenda for their co-production week conference. On Tuesday 1 July 10am – 4pm, they are hosting 6 online workshops throughout the day:

- Workshop 1: Impact & evidencing co-production.
- Workshop 2: Accelerating Reform Fund: Two projects showcasing community co-production.
- Workshop 3: Innovations in commissioning.
- Workshop 4: More diverse voices innovating-equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in co-production.
- Workshop 5: The use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in social care and 'Data for People' (TLAP – Think Local Act Personal).
- Workshop 6: National Care Forum 'Care Innovation Challenge' and TLAP hack-day.

Here is a link to [SCIE website](#) for further details and how to register.



NIHR Online Training Resources

The NIHR Applied Research Collaboration West have online training resources (mainly YouTube videos) for anyone involved in Health and Social Care research.

If you want to know more about 'qualitative evaluations', 'basic statistics and data interpretation', or view other course options, you can follow this link to their [website](#).

Please let Sarah know if you are unable to access any of the information provided by hyperlinks in this article, as this information can be sent via email or in the post (email: s.j.birch@kent.ac.uk; Phone: 01227 824967).

Acronyms and links for further information

EDI	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	
NIHR	National Institute for Health and Care Research	'Homepage'
PIRAN	Public Involvement Research Advisor Network	QSO PRU PPIE
PPIE	Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement	NIHR Resource Pack
PSSRU	Personal Social Services Research Unit	'About Us'
SCIE	Social Care Institute for Excellence	'Homepage'
TLAP	Think Local Act Personal	'About Us'