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national  
**everyday** cultures  
programme

# newsletter

**no. 3, May 2002**

**Editor: Elizabeth B Silva  
Assistant Editor: Pam Walker**

## Greetings

This third Newsletter of the **National Everyday Cultures Programme (NECP)** reports on the latest developments, providing an account of the work carried out in relation to the proposed aims of this research programme which was originally funded for three years by the Open University Strategic Research Initiative.

In many ways this is a period of conclusion of an important stage within the programme which now sets off to a new phase of consolidation.

We wish to thank all of you who have built the programme with us, either with your active involvement or by your expressions of interest. We hope to carry on being successful with your support.

**Best wishes**

*Elizabeth*

*Tony*

**Dr Elizabeth B Silva**, Research Director, NECP  
**Prof Tony Bennett**, Director, NECP

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## Involving Associate Lecturers in the NECP

Central to the development of the National Everyday Cultures Programme is the involvement of Associate Lecturers. In October 1999 we started a series of regional visits to the Associate Lecturers, whose academic research areas and skills were connected to interests of the Research Programme. A database had been developed with information collected from Associate Lecturers in the Social Sciences since April 1999. From these regional visits we established a key set of research areas and in February 2000 we issued a call for expressions of interest to develop pilot studies in 13 selected fields of everyday cultures. A sub-group of the Steering Committee was formed to assess the projects. Following two rounds of applications (22 projects were submitted to the first round and 11 were invited to develop full applications for the second round) to the NECP Research Development Fund eight projects were selected. These were allocated between £2,000 and £5,000 each, making a total of £30,000 to be spent over 15 months.

Associate Lecturers have also been employed in projects led by Open University staff or by other academics within the NECP Research Collaboration Committee.

The Associate Lecturer Research Network is subject to constant change since Associate Lecturers are employed by the OU depending on the courses on offer. We have updated the network whenever the needs of a particular project require a distinctive research profile which we do not find in the existing database. Staff Tutors in the regions concerned are then contacted and they have assisted us with the inclusion of new Associate Lecturers.

The NECP policies and rates of payment for activities by Associate Lecturers remain as those outlined in our first Newsletter (January 2000), but the current daily rate is £96.93 and the mileage rate payable is currently 26.1 pence per mile. This is in accordance with rates normally paid for research related activity.

## Research Development Seminar

In December 2000 we organized a Research Development Seminar at Walton Hall to discuss the directions and methodologies for the investigation of everyday cultures. This evolved from the consideration that a very important aspect of the research 'results' lies in the methodology, development of concepts and research strategy. We have been aware that this programme deals with a new field of enquiry – everyday cultures – and we have sought to develop frameworks for researching this field. This is an enterprise to which the projects developed by Associate Lecturers have been contributing fully.

## End of Award Reports

End of Award Reports are due when the funding period of a research project comes to an end. These have steadily been received and assessed since early 2001. Guidelines for presentation of End of Award Reports were sent to those Associate Lecturers who were a principal applicant for project funding. The assessment of each project has been based on a set of four major points:

1. **The quality of the work done**
2. **Value for money**
3. **Methodological and analytical developments as a contribution to the study of 'everyday cultures'**
4. **How the project builds on the objectives of the programme.**

Members of the Steering Committee have participated in the assessment of projects.



## Details of OU Regions

Region 1	London
Region 2	South
Region 3	South West
Region 4	West Midlands
Region 5	East Midlands
Region 6	East Anglia
Region 7	Yorkshire
Region 8	North West
Region 9	North
Region 10	Wales
Region 11	Scotland
Region 12	Northern Ireland
Region 13	South East

## Outline of projects

**The funded projects within the NECP are developed by Associate Lecturers or by other OU academics and also by academics from other universities who are members of the Research Collaboration Committee of the NECP.**

Twenty-two projects have so far benefited from NECP funding allocation, of which nine have been carried out by Associate Lecturers.

Thirteen have been developed by OU central and regional academics in Sociology. Some of these have had the participation of academics from other institutions from within the NECP Research Collaboration Committee and have also included Associate Lecturers either as co-researchers or research assistants.

Approximately 20 Associate Lecturers are or have been involved in these projects.

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### Projects developed by Associate Lecturers (ALs)

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#### ***Poetry and Everyday Culture in Ireland*** (Ulster)

Chris Agee (Principal Applicant) and Martin Mooney

What is poetry's actual place in Ireland, and what does it tell us about the country? More precisely, is poetry in Ireland altogether an elite art: for, by and of the few? Or does it have a real presence in the everyday culture of the many?

The social phenomena related to poetry are a matter primarily not of art, but of culture. That is, poetry, like any art has a complex and various social setting. This research project explores that setting in one part of Ireland with an emphasis on the everyday sociology of poetry's uses, as well as the purposes of those uses.

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#### ***My Funny Holiday Clothes: Women and Identity on Holiday***

Maura Banim (Principal Applicant) and Alison Guy

An investigation of women's aspirational and realized identities on holiday as expressed through clothing choices. The research pursues the idea that clothed identity on holiday can be understood as revealing aspects of self not normally expressed in everyday life and opens up a conceptual link between the literature on fashion and women's identity. It addresses debates in relation to issues of authenticity, selfhood and extra/ordinariness within modern life. The research focuses on the presentation and realization of self once away from the conventions of ordinary life and seeks to integrate and explore the current paradigms of the relevant debates from the literature on clothing and identity and on holidays/leisure.

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#### ***National Visual Cultures: A London Street in the Year 2000***

Elizabeth Chaplin (Principal Applicant)

This is a twin project with that developed by Peter Hamilton under the sub-title of *Allotment Societies in Oxford*. *National Visual Cultures* is a sociological / ethnographic project designed to collect visual data about national, regional and local cultures. The proposed research aims to create an archive of still photographs concerned with the UK and focuses on key dimensions of the visual culture of British society at the beginning of the 21st century. It is envisaged that, by creating a project of comparative scope and analytic depth, a historically important archive can be created which deals with ephemeral material which would otherwise disappear.

This project retrieves from potential oblivion some of the detail of one urban London street during one particular year. This has been achieved by recording photographically the gardens and interiors of as many of the households as possible.

***Cultural Identities and the 'Region': Issues of Scale and Legitimation in the South West***

*Bernard Deacon (Principal Applicant) and Treve Crago*

The research investigates the role of culture in constituting 'regions' in the South West of England. Actors in institutions of regionalization bring to their roles cultural assumptions about regions and regional culture. In addition, regional institutions themselves play a key role in the creation of spatial cultural identities. Through elite interviews, documentary analysis and a content analysis of local media this project explores the cultural attitudes to region and regional culture that inform regionalization projects in the South West. However, in the South West, consensus over regional projects is weak. Moreover, we can detect competing scalar narratives of regionalism. Therefore, the research also explores elite attitudes to these competing narratives of regionalism across three scales, the seven-county 'region' of the Regional Development Agency, the two-county 'region' of Devon and Cornwall and the single-county 'region' of Cornwall.

***Constructions and Transmission of Asian Femininity***

Surinder Guru (Principal Applicant)

The research explores the changing notions of femininity within three generations of Punjabi women in Britain and looks at the expression, representation and transmission of femininity amongst women within their public and private spheres. It examines the ways in which ideologies of womanhood are transmitted and translated into everyday living through forms of language, religion, dress, music, food etc against the background of migration and racism and looks at the process through which gender relations are maintained, reinforced and changed. Women's experiences of sanctions against them and rewards for conforming to particular notions of womanhood within the Punjabi and the wider Indian traditions are examined as well as the strategies employed to adhere to, or break away from, dominant ideals of femininity.

***Culture, Social Networks and Participation: North London's Kurdish, Turkish and Turkish Cypriot Communities***

Gary Pattison (Principal Applicant) and Solmaz Tavsanoğlu

The research explores the effects of background culture and existing social, economic and political

networks on public participation in urban regeneration initiatives. It offers insight into the effects of culture and ethnicity on participation through a case study of North London's Kurdish, Turkish and Turkish Cypriot communities. The work focuses on:

- 1) How self identification as, for example, being Turkish, provides different meaning for different groups and individuals and what this might mean for community activists working in the field of urban regeneration.
- 2) The way in which interaction takes place between existing internal and external social/power relations, what constraints and opportunities result from this and how this affects Turkish minorities' involvement in urban regeneration initiatives.

The work identifies the meaning that the perceived ethnicity of community actors has for the locality. It looks at the ways in which cultural features fade or become more pronounced over time and the outcome of established cultural forms attempting to adapt or exist within new spatial, cultural, economic and political terrain.

***Environmental Concern, Behaviour and Everyday Culture***

David Pell (Principal Applicant), Isobel Shelton and Tom Bates

Strong calls have been made for a major shift of lifestyles in favour of environmental sustainability. In response, this ethnographic research of a group of households reads and analyzes the ordinary, everyday, popular processes of cultural consumption from an essentially environmentalist perspective focusing on:

- 1) The cultural meanings through which people understand environmental politics.
- 2) The cultural meanings that people give to specific behaviour such as the disposal of household waste, energy and water use, travel and employment.
- 3) The use of recycled materials and recycling practices that are linked to everyday behaviours, such as what to buy and how to use and dispose of goods.

This study aims to contribute to the development of theory concerning First World consumption and, in respect of the environmentalism debate, the usefulness of linking it with a concern for others and a sense of collective identity.

### ***Interviews with Male Climbers: Identity and Masculinities***

Victoria Robinson (Principal Applicant)

The research project looks at the culture of climbing within Britain to explore the central issues of identity and masculinities. Through a number of qualitative interviews, climbing is seen as a cultural practice, and one which can be interpreted through a 'circuit of culture' (identity, representation, production, consumption and regulation). As Woodward (1997) outlines, it is possible to start at any point in the circuit to see how the categories interrelate. So, although the research concentrates on identity, the aspect of representation in the circuit will also be relevant.

Though there has been work done on the construction of identity, masculinity and sport, (for example in the areas of bodybuilding, boxing and football) there is very little available empirical or theoretical material on climbing. Such an investigation offers new and rich research possibilities around everyday cultural practices.

Theoretical and empirical work drawn from cultural studies, feminist theory, men's studies, the critical study of men and masculinities and the sociology of sport will be utilized in the research.

Ref: Woodward, Kath (ed.) (1997) *Identity and Difference*, London: Sage

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### ***The Cultural Practices of Children in an Urban Context***

Karen Wells (Principal Applicant)

How do children in the city transform and produce urban space through cultural practices? How does the physical and social organization of urban space constrain and enable children's cultural practices? How do children imagine the city – spatially and socially? These are the questions this project addresses. It expands the concept of children's culture from a focus on play to a more complex and holistic account of children's cultural practices. Such practices, which are differentiated in terms of ethnicity, gender and class, may be taken to include the occupation of space, relations with peers and others, consumption practices, noise, dress and movement. The research uses participant observation and insider accounts to produce an ethnographic study of how children think about, represent and experience urban space and how urban space shapes children's cultural and spatial practices.

## **Projects developed by Open University Social Sciences Faculty Staff**

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These comprise 13 projects at different stages of development.

### **TWO PROJECTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED**

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#### ***Media Use in Welsh Households***

Hugh Mackay (Principal applicant) and Darren Ivey  
In partnership with Sianel Pedwar Cymru (S4C, the Welsh Fourth Channel), BBC Wales and the Western Mail (Trinity Mirror).

The project aims to investigate ethnographically how uses of the various media, print and broadcast, are shaped by the dynamics of households and by everyday routines and practices; how household members' uses of the media are changing and the tensions that are raised by new media technologies. It explores the implication of the media in constructions of identities in Wales and for senses of place. The project investigates uses of Welsh language media in households with mixed linguistic members (i.e. some Welsh speaking, others not) and the use of Welsh and English language media in multi or bilingual households, and by individuals with varying Welsh language competence.

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#### ***Technology and Home Life***

Elizabeth B. Silva (with Pippa Stevens, AL Region 7, as Research Assistant

This project is concerned with exploring theories of a 'virtual society' which presuppose that information technology (IT) is a central feature of everyday life in late modernity. A key concern is with the moralities of various uses of technologies in the home. The investigation explores normative beliefs about the workings of households and the effects of the introduction and use of technologies. The study is centred on three key questions:

- 1) How far are ordinary people's normal lives embedded with technology (IT, in particular)?
- 2) Are those who do not have access to IT resisting it, or are they excluded?
- 3) How do access to and use of more traditional technologies in the home (for example, cookers, fridges, microwave ovens and dishwashers) relate to access to and use of IT (for example, computers, e-mail and the Internet)?

The project comprises an ethnography of uses of technologies in households (accounting for the current diversity of home life in Britain) focusing on the roles of women, men and children.

**FIVE PROJECTS ARE CURRENTLY BEING DEVELOPED**

***Music and Dance in Everyday Culture***

David Hesmondhalgh (Principal Applicant) with Lorna Ashcroft, Surinder Guru, Jackie Malone, David Merrick and Ian Robinson, ALs Regions 10, 4,9,3 & 1 respectively as co-researchers

This project investigates the role of music and dancing in the everyday lives of people in six locations across England and Wales (West Midlands, Bristol, Cardiff, Cumbria, semi-urban Lancashire and London). It does so via qualitative, semi-structured, intensive interviews with about 60 people, spread across a wide range of ages. The aim is to provide an in-depth look at how people talk and think about their own musical practices and tastes, including listening versus 'having music on', how people feel about singing or performing music in public or in private, the pleasures of dancing, collecting of records and CDs, music and the evocation/(re)creation of memories, the changing importance of music at different stages in people's lives and a range of other topics. The project began in January 2002 and will end in mid-2003.

***Audio-Visual Media Use, Leisure Practices and Diasporic Cultures***

Kenneth Thompson (Open University) (Principal applicant), Roger Bromley (Nottingham Trent University), Dina Abbott (University of Derby)

This project investigates the media practices of particular ethnic groups, focusing on their uses of mass media such as television (satellite, cable and terrestrial), video and film, radio, newspapers and magazines. These are considered in relation to participation in other cultural activities, ranging from family to religious and community involvement. The research is primarily concerned with identifying the cross-cultural and communal dynamics influencing how audio-visual and other media are used both to maintain cultures within different minority 'Asian-originating' diasporic communities and to negotiate their relationships with the majority 'British' culture. It also considers the role of inter-generational relations, focusing on mothers and daughters, in the creative adaptation of cultures to changing circumstances.

***Histories of Heterosexual Masculinities***

Peter Redman (Principal applicant) with Alison Rolfe, AL Region 4, as co-researcher

The project aims to explore the development of, and continuity and change in, the cultural formation of heterosexuality as an everyday cultural practice. Specifically, it will focus on the construction of heterosexualities in the local pupils' cultures of a number of differing secondary schools from 1945 to the present. In so doing it will utilise a qualitative interview method.

In particular, the project aims to:

- 1) Identify the assemblage of cultural meanings and practices in and through which heterosexuality is performatively enacted in the everyday world of specific pupils' cultures.
- 2) Identify continuities and changes in these cultural meanings and practices.
- 3) Identify any similarities and differences between the performative enactment of heterosexuality in different sites.
- 4) Explore the relationship between the everyday performative enactment of heterosexuality, schooling processes and wider social relations of power.

***After September 11: Satellite TV News and Comparative Media Practices in Transnational Families/Households***

Marie Gillespie (Open University) (Principal applicant), Richard Paterson (British Film Institute) with Matt Adams, Penny Burke and Stephan Drury, ALs Region 6, as Research Assistants

In partnership with the Broadcasting Standards Council and the Independent Television Commission

This project analyzes satellite TV coverage and reception of September 11 and after. The broad aims of the research are to:

- 1) Explore comparatively responses to satellite television coverage of September 11 and ensuing 'critical events' in multi-lingual families, households and their social networks.
- 2) Examine the dynamics of diaspora communication networks and media use at a time of intense political conflict.



3) Analyze the complex processes at play in the negotiation of cultural-political affiliations and identities post September 11, via the circulation and consumption of diverse TV news narratives, images and practices.

4) Assess the extent to which national satellite TV news channels are perceived as shaping different political agendas and using images and narratives in pursuit of their own national interests.

5) Contribute to pluralizing and deepening political, public and media debate on September 11 and its aftermath.

The analysis of coverage is being co-ordinated by Richard Paterson in partnership with John Gow (War Studies, Kings College London). The reception study is being co-ordinated by Marie Gillespie. Twenty-two (mostly multi-lingual) researchers are currently involved in data gathering in the UK (and several other countries in Europe, the Middle East and South Asia). Stefan Drury, Penny Burke and Matt Adams are exploring responses among families of dominant white English ethnicity in the South East of the UK. The data gathering/analysis period is from January 2002 to June 2002.

The final report will be written up collaboratively and is likely to be published by the Broadcasting Standards Commission. The findings will be presented at a conference to be held at the University of Wales, Swansea between 9-11 September 2002 (see [www.afterseptember11.tv](http://www.afterseptember11.tv)).

Funders also include the Pavis Centre for Social and Cultural Research, ESRC Transnational Communities Research Programme, the Broadcasting Standards Commission, the Independent Television Commission and the British Film Institute.

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### ***Tradition, Change and the British Public House***

Sue Scott (University of Durham) (Principal applicant), Diane Watson (Open University), Alan Warde (University of Manchester) with eight ALs from Regions 5,7,8 & 9 to be employed as Research Assistants

There has been surprisingly little research on the British Public House since the publication of the Mass Observation Study as 'The Pub and the People' in 1943. It is our intention to design and gain funding for a major study of the British Public House 60 years on in order to:

1) Assess the relationship between tradition and transformation in the physical setting of the public house.

2) Explore the relationship between pubs as venues for consumption and as sites within civil society which provide contexts for social networks and personal relations.

3) Understand the interplay of gender, ethnicity, generation and other social and cultural factors on both the composition of the clientele and on face to face interaction.

4) Replicate and develop some of the methodological aspects of Mass Observation.

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### **SIX PROJECTS ARE PLANNED TO START IN LATE 2002/2003**

#### ***Cultural Capital and Social Exclusion: A Critical Investigation***

Tony Bennett (Open University) (Principal applicant), Elizabeth B. Silva (Open University), Mike Savage (University of Manchester), Alan Warde (University of Manchester). It is planned that this project should employ five ALs.

In partnership with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, the Office of National Statistics, the British Film Institute and the four UK National Arts Councils

(Status: Large ESRC Grant application submitted)

The central aim of the inquiry is to assess how far the concept of cultural capital contributes to understanding the mechanisms of social exclusion in contemporary Britain. This involves three subsidiary questions concerning:

1) The composition of cultural capital and its role in the reproduction of class relationships.

2) The relative importance of cultural capital in comparison with economic and social capital in accounting for class differences.

3) How far a cultural capital approach provides an adequate conceptual basis for social and cultural exclusion. The inquiry will involve survey research and qualitative components to provide systematic evidence of the respects in which cultural practices, tastes and lifestyles in contemporary Britain articulate with social relations of inequality and difference.

***The Serious Amateur Photographer: Culture, Taste and Status***

Jessica Evans (Principal Applicant)

This project centres on amateur photography clubs. Its aim is to find out what the determinants of amateur photography practice are, in particular its place within a classed and gendered habitus, and how this relates to the aesthetic and technical values placed upon photography. The central question is how do amateur photography and its practices of evaluation manifest social, aesthetic and other knowledge competencies and skills? This involves consideration of how the practice of ordinary amateurs relates to the photographic industry as a whole (from camera manufacturing and marketing to specialist photography magazines) and its various distinctive sectors and styles (amateur, professional, fine art).

***National Visual Cultures: Allotment Societies in Oxford***

Peter Hamilton (Principal Applicant)

This is a twin project with that developed by Elizabeth Chaplin (Associate Lecturer) under the title: *A London Street in the Year 2000*. Both projects are part of a sociological/ethnographic project entitled *National Visual Cultures* designed to collect visual data about national, regional and local cultures. The aim is to create an archive of still photographs concerned with the UK and focus on key dimensions of the visual culture of British society at the beginning of the 21st century. It is planned to create a project of comparative scope and analytic depth, which deals with ephemeral material which would otherwise disappear.

*Visual Manifestations of an Effective Community – A study of allotment societies in Oxford as Cultural Fields* is a project aiming to explore visually and ethnographically the culture of belonging through an affective community - defined as a group who combine in a cohesive organization with shared interests in a pursuit. It also aims to develop an understanding of the relationship of nature, place and identity in the 'cultural field' of the allotment society.

***Digital Divide in the Home?***

Elizabeth B. Silva (Principal Applicant)

This investigation addresses how social inclusion or exclusion is generated in the everyday consumption of information and communication technologies in the home. It considers technology as culture

(including knowledge, practices and relationships) and the recent cultural shifts in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) consumption by women, men and children. The research concentrates on assessing the roles of women in the consumption of ICT in the home. It focuses on homes with families with dependent children of school age to examine:

- 1) Histories of the introduction of computer and Internet into the home and their use in everyday life.
- 2) The expertise and experience women have in using these technologies and their relationships with other home users.
- 3) The integration of the experience of ICT use in the home with other experiences in schools, training centres, employment and the community.

The project addresses three themes relating to gender and technology:

- 1) The subject of technology and inequality (what opportunities do women have for dealing with a technology constructed as a masculine culture?).
- 2) The idea of technology as culture (including knowledge and practices surrounding the use of hardware, artefacts and relationships between people, and between people and machines, in time and in space).
- 3) The argument that a cultural shift is emerging in ICT consumption (women's increasing use is challenging a prevailing gendered culture of technology).

***Self-Service Culture***

Paul du Gay (Principal Applicant)

The historical development of 'Self-service' retailing techniques and practices and their role in the formation of the personae of the service worker and service consumer in the post-war period has received limited attention in critical sociological analysis of services and servicing. This is in no small part due to the near total absence of retailing as an object of study within the sociology of economic life until comparatively recently. However, it is also connected to the sorts of approaches framing sociological analysis of service and servicing. These have tended towards the standard

dialectics of control/resistance, emancipation/oppression and so forth, even when these are not framed exclusively in terms of a management/worker relation but are expanded to include worker/customer and worker/manager relations.

This project explores the historical development of self-service in post-war British retailing as a set of practices and techniques of conduct that have differentially 'made-up' individuals – both retail employees and retail consumers – as certain sorts of persons. In so doing it questions the explanatory reach of the sorts of dialectical analysis that pervade contemporary discussions of service and servicing and the conceptions of the formation of persons that they contain.

### ***Public Realm, Public Space and the Multi-cultural Practices of Everyday life***

Sophie Watson (Principal Applicant)

The civilising, open and democratic possibilities of cities have long fascinated urban and political theorists and urban designers and policy makers. Much of the literature on public space focuses on spaces of contestation or conflict rather than on the humdrum or everyday cultural practices which form much of the texture of daily urban life. One of the main objectives of the research is to shift the emphasis to look at more ordinary spaces where power operates more subtly and differences are being negotiated. Though much has been written about conflict in the city we know far less about how differences are lived in a non-conflictual way. What I also want to explore is how the boundaries between the public and private are being negotiated and redrawn and how public and private spaces are mutually constitutive. This will give us new understandings of public space and the public realm and the ways in which different groups inhabit and challenge notional boundaries between the private/domestic and public space. Through a number of different ethnographies of public spaces in the city, the research will materialise, or make grounded, some of the theories of the urban public realm to see how difference is played out and negotiated in the everyday. These public spaces will be both symbolic and material.



## Workshops on Everyday Cultures

Between October 2001 and June 2002 we developed a series of workshops on 'everyday cultures', usually held once a month. The aim was to address theoretical and methodological issues regarding the study of everyday cultures. This was done in relation to particular themes of everyday culture, or by drawing on the broad literature on everyday cultures and everyday life. Methodologies for the study of everyday cultures were identified as a relevant aspect for discussion.

The workshop sessions encompassed a variety of perspectives: cultural studies, literature, sociology and feminist approaches. We progressed from more general issues like 'the everyday' and 'culture' to specific concerns of the research network. Quite often discussions were conducted in reference to a specific research project. We drew on our own resources within the faculty and also brought in some colleagues from the Research Collaboration Committee.

## The Steering Committee

The management of the NECP is centred around a Steering Committee, which is concerned primarily with policy development and practical co-ordination.

As we start a new phase in the management of the Programme, the composition of the Steering Committee has been changed. We would like to thank retiring members: Dr Dina Abbott, Ms Jessica Evans, Mr Peter Hamilton, Dr David Hesmondhalgh, Professor Ken Thompson and Dr Kath Woodward.

The current membership of the Steering Committee includes the programme's director and research director, respectively Professor Tony Bennett and Dr Elizabeth B Silva, a representative from the British Film Institute, Mr Richard Paterson, a Staff Tutor, Dr Diane Watson and an OU central academic in sociology, Dr Peter Redman. We would like to publicly welcome the new members.

## The Research Collaboration Committee (RCC) and the External Advisory Committee (EAC)

Both these committees bring in senior staff in key institutions to connect with full-time staff at the Open University and with Associate Lecturers. The membership of the External Advisory Committee has remained the same. Academics from two more universities have become members of the Research Collaboration Committee. These are the University of Durham and the University of Teesside.

### Research Collaboration Committee Member Institutions are:

- Cardiff University of Wales
- Goldsmiths College, University of London
- London School of Economics
- Nottingham Trent University
- University College Dublin
- University of Cambridge
- University of Durham
- University of East London
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Lancaster
- University of Leicester
- University of Manchester
- University of Stirling
- University of Teesside
- University of Ulster at Coleraine

The National Everyday Cultures Programme organized a meeting of the Research Collaboration Committee and the External Advisory Committee in March 2001. This was hosted by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport in London. Those present at the meeting were interested to hear of Associate Lecturers involvement in the NECP and it was suggested that both local initiatives by participants at the meeting and research collaborations could provide further opportunities for Associate Lecturer involvement.

A parallel development to this meeting was the creation of the UK Cultural Researchers Network. It is hoped that this will involve universities, policy agencies and others with cultural research interests. Since the meeting work has proceeded on developing the network and setting up a research database.

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## Everyday Cultures *Working Paper series*

We are disseminating the work of research projects in the NECP through a new series of Working Papers. The **Everyday Cultures** Working Papers have an ISSN number and are produced in-house at The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes. The following are the planned issues. The date of publication for the first three is May 2002.

No. 1: **Pattison, Gary and Tavsanoglu, Solmaz**, 'Ethnicity, Identity, Cultural Change: Kurdish, Turkish and Turkish Cypriot communities in North London'.

No. 2: **Chaplin, Elizabeth**, 'Photographs in Social Research: The Residents of South London Road'.

No. 3: **Deacon, Bernard**, 'Building the Region: Culture and Territory in the South West of England'.

No. 4: **Wells, Karen**, 'Strangers in the City: the Structure and Significance of Children's Fears of Urban Outsiders'.

No. 5: **Robinson, Vicki**, 'Men, Masculinities and Rock Climbing'.

No. 6: **Banim, Maura and Guy, Alison**, 'Escaping the Everyday? Women's Clothed Identity on Holiday'.

No. 7: **Pell, David and Shelton, Isobel**, 'Everyday Cultures in Inner City Nottingham: Environmental Concern and Behaviour'.

## Publications related to NECP projects

A number of papers, chapters in books and journal articles have been informed by research developed with NECP funding. These include:

**Abbott, Dina; Bromley, Roger; Thompson, Kenneth and Virdee, Anju** (2001) 'Audio-visual media use, leisure practices and diasporic cultures', Interim Report for the Project Steering Group. Presented at the 'Workshop on Everyday Cultures', NECP, Milton Keynes, The Open University, January.

**Banim, Maura and Guy, Alison** (forthcoming 2002) 'Escaping the everyday? Women's clothed identity on holiday', *Everyday Cultures Working Paper No. 6*, NECP/Pavis, Milton Keynes, The Open University.

**Banim, Maura; Guy, Alison and Gillen, Karen** (2001) 'I wouldn't dare to wear this at home: the sexual politics of holiday clothes'. Paper presented at the 2001 CHODA Fashion and Politics Conference, Courtauld Institute of Art, July.

**Banim, Maura; Guy, Alison and Gillen, Karen** (2001) 'Researching the everyday: women's holiday clothes'. Paper presented at the Centre for Social and Policy Forum, Teesside University, October.

**Banim, Maura; Guy, Alison and Gillen, Karen** (submitted) 'My funny holiday clothes: women's accounts of clothes use on holiday', *Journal of Gender and Tourism*.

**Chaplin, Elizabeth** (2000) 'The residents of a south London road'. Paper presented at The Open University Yorkshire Cultural Studies Research Forum, November.

**Chaplin, Elizabeth** (2001) 'How can photographs contribute to social research?'. Paper given at Leicester University, Sociology Department, Visual Sociology group, November.

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## Forthcoming Pavis Centre Events

### 31 May 2002

NECP Seminar: 'Developing Research on Everyday Cultures with Associate Lecturers' (Organized by - Elizabeth B Silva), Walton Hall. Participation by invitation only.

### 9-11 September 2002

'After September 11: Television News and Transnational Audiences' (Organized by Marie Gillespie and others). An international conference to be held at the University of Wales, Swansea. For further details see [www.afterseptember11.tv](http://www.afterseptember11.tv) or email [conferences@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:conferences@swansea.ac.uk) for booking information.

### 18-20 September 2002

'Cultural Returns: Assessing the Place of Culture in Social Thought' (Conference Committee: David Hesmondhalgh, Marie Gillespie, Liz McFall, Peter Redman and Pam Walker). An international conference to be held at St Hugh's College, Oxford. Further details and booking information available from the Pavis Centre.

Email [socsci-pavis@open.ac.uk](mailto:socsci-pavis@open.ac.uk)

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## The NECP web site

The web site for the National Everyday Cultures Programme has been re-designed. It can be found at

[www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/necp](http://www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/necp)

You can find a great wealth of information in the site. We have included pdf files and you can now download the Newsletters and the Working papers. Also, useful links and contacts facilitate the connections with and around the NECP.

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## Contacting the NECP

The National Everyday Cultures Programme has its own email address:

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