

Creative Communities Workshop Outline

Location: GSA Highlands and Islands, Blair's Farm Steading, Altyre Estate, Forres, IV36 2SH

Dates: 29-30 April

Day 1: Exploring creative expressions of rural mental health

13:30 Welcome Lunch: Introduction to the workshop and plan for 2 days

14:00 Introduction to 'flurry' tracks

Presentations from each of the flurry leads about the methods and form of creative expression (5-10 mins each).

Flurry #1 'Occupying the unseen' Bev Hood & Gregg Lloren

Writing short first person narratives about mental health in rural areas, that voice the invisible narratives hidden within existing data. These narratives will be recorded as short spoken word sound pieces. 360degrees video footage of the rural area around Forres will be filmed and combined with the sound pieces to create short immersive films, with the aim of stimulating empathy in viewers.

Flurry #2 'Data Comics for data-driven storytelling' Chris Speed & Zezhong Wang

Data comics for data-driven storytelling are inspired by the visual language of comics and aim to communicate insights in data through visualizations. While comics are widely known, data comics offer an accessible and tangible form to turn data sets into illustrated stories that articulate the challenges of well being in rural settings.

Flurry #3 'Using Animation to collaboratively bring data, experiences and future possibilities to life' Sarah Kettley & Myria Christophini

Workshop participants will be supported to develop a short story and animate it, possibly adding their own sound. The emphasis of the workshop will not be on the production of quality end-results but the introduction into the use of animation production and the many opportunities it provides for a variety of artistic expression and teamwork.

14:30 Sharing experiences and ideas in groups (making and prototyping)

(tea, coffee and refreshment will be available in the afternoon for groups to pause as they wish)

17.30 Lighting presentations from each group

18:00 Day one ends

19:00 Evening meal in Forres (please let us know if you would like to join)

Day 2: Developing and refining creative expressions of rural mental health

9.00 Reflecting and refining: continuing in groups

(tea, coffee and refreshment will be available during the morning for groups to pause as they wish)

12.30 Lunch

13:00 Presentations and showcasing the creative expressions

14:00 Wrap up discussion and next steps

14:30 Workshop ends



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