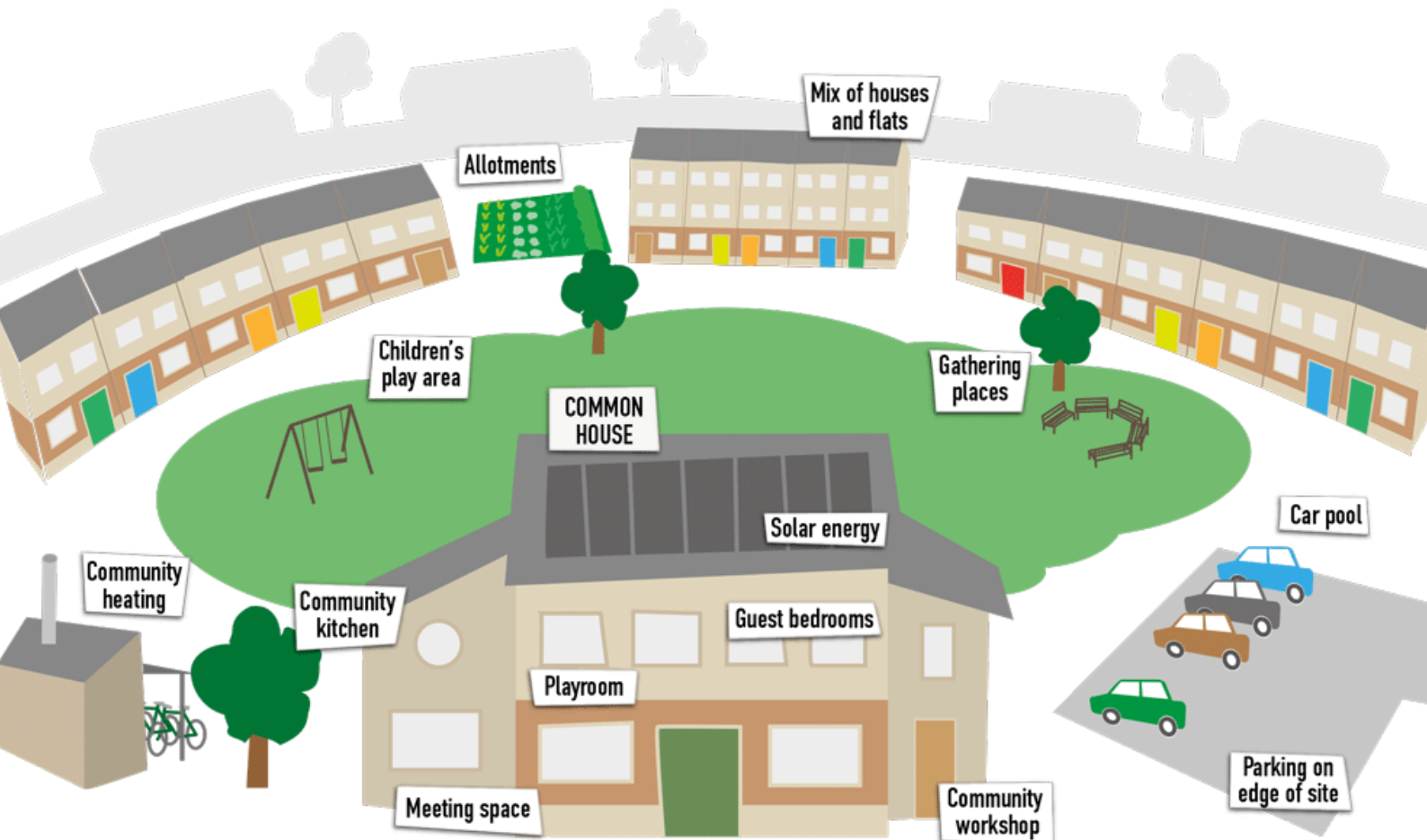


COHOUSING: SHARED FUTURES



FOREWORD



STEPHEN HILL

‘How will you be living in 2050?’ That’s the question I have been putting to the future leaders of the design professions. The Integrated Design of the Built Environment Masters at Cambridge attracts mid-career architects, planners, engineers, surveyors, landscape designers and project managers. In a week-long design studio they learn how to design cities that will be fit for purpose in 2050, when, in this country at least, we should have decarbonised our economy by 80%. They must imagine what life will be like in a year when they themselves will be contemplating later life.

Over the past five years what has been wholly striking is that the students, who come from all over the world, *all* imagine that *all of us*, not just older people, will have a better quality of life and one in which space and other resources will be much more shared than they are now.

They reached this remarkable consensus through on-line research and taking time to think together about the future. What they also say is, ‘we never ask ourselves this question in our work today’. That means our cities are obsolete, even before they are built.

This seminar series has been special in providing time for academics, designers, community groups and others to meet and think together about the knowledge we have already accumulated and to understand its implications. They have started to work more creatively with cohousing, a platform for social organisation and the co-production of space that has a really vital role to play in developing new models of urban and rural living.

Cohousing is an opportunity to co-design a very different and necessary shared future. It is one of the few sources of housing innovation being driven by ‘the customers’; people like you and me who, in the normal course of events, have no say in housing policy or the way the housing market works, or doesn’t work.

The UK Cohousing Network is truly grateful to the ESRC and the wonderful team of researchers in CollaborativeHousing.net, as well as all the seminar participants, for creating and filling this valuable thinking space. We hope we have distilled some useful ideas and insights in this report. Perhaps the most valuable outcome is the building of networks of people wanting to make change happen. Please start...now!

Stephen Hill
Chair, UK Cohousing Network

JUNE 2016

By Helen Jarvis, Kath Scanlon
and Melissa Fernández Arrigoitia.
With Paul Chatterton, Anna Kear,
Dermot O’Reilly, Lucy Sargisson
and Fionn Stevenson.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COHOUSING AND THE WIDER HOUSING MARKET	4
KEY FINDINGS	6
CRITICAL QUESTIONS	7
KEY ASKS	8
THE RECOGNISED BENEFITS OF COHOUSING	9
OUR VISITS: SEEING IS BELIEVING	10
LESSONS FROM ELSEWHERE	14
WHAT PRACTITIONERS TOOK AWAY	17
APPENDIX: SEMINAR PROGRAMMES	18

COHOUSING AND THE WIDER HOUSING MARKET

4

It is widely recognised that the UK housing market is dysfunctional. The problems are not limited to affordability and the mismatch between supply and demand. Equally important are the *kinds* of new housing produced by the speculative volume building model, and the communities and neighbourhoods that result. In the real world, the quantity, quality, location, density and price of housing are intimately bound up with how people live and relate to their neighbours and the resources that their homes consume.

Cohousing could play a key role in solving the crisis. Cohousing usually includes private individual or family homes, which may be owned or rented, clustered around spaces and facilities that are collectively used. Food is often a focus, with community food production and/or a common house for shared meals. The communities generally have non-hierarchical structures and decision-making processes, and are usually designed, planned and managed by the residents¹.

Our recent ESRC action research programme² focused on cohousing in the UK today: what works, what are the barriers to wider adoption, and what questions still need to be answered? Over the course of a two-year series of seminars and site visits our group met together with cohousing practitioners, activists and other academics from the UK and abroad. Six themes were explored to develop critical questions and identify gaps in knowledge:

- **SHARING:** What are the links between the experience of sharing and shared spaces, the social aims and values of sharing and collaborative housing, and spatial forms designed for communality or privacy? How can sharing reduce resource use?
- **MUTUALITY:** How can mutual self-reliance and care be supported, especially in communities consisting largely or entirely of older people?
- **AFFORDABILITY:** What does affordability mean in the cohousing context, and how does cost affect who can access this type of housing? How much does sharing reduce costs?
- **DESIGN:** How can design respond to ecological concerns, foster contact between residents and incorporate technical innovations?

¹ Cohousing belongs to the group of collaborative, cooperative, and mutual forms of housing covered by the umbrella term 'community housing'.

² 'Collaborative Housing and Resilient Communities', 2014-16 (<https://collaborativehousing.net/>), jointly organised by the universities of Newcastle, Sheffield, Leeds, Lancaster, Nottingham and the London School of Economics, together with the UK Cohousing Network: <http://cohousing.org.uk/>

- **MAINSTREAMING AND AWARENESS:** What needs to happen for cohousing to develop into a widely accepted housing option?
- **KNOWLEDGE:** What can we learn from other community-housing approaches and from international examples?

Our work highlighted the complex, deeply rooted problems of the wider housing system. This complexity, we argue, calls for solutions such as cohousing that harness collective capacity for behaviour change and innovation at all stages of design, build and occupation.

**PLACE**

PLACE_people linking art
community and ecology
Oakland, USA.
(Source: Helen Jarvis)

KEY FINDINGS

- In the UK, there is increasing demand for cohousing and other community-housing choices.
- Internationally, as in the UK, the diffusion of cohousing innovation from pioneers through early adopters into the housing mainstream (in some countries) has been a long and difficult process, often lasting decades.
- In the UK, many cohousing groups struggle to get off the ground. Newly forming groups tend to reinvent the wheel, particularly when it comes to procurement (including financial, legal, planning and development processes).
- By comparison with other mixed-market economies the UK is both late and slow to deliver even a modest supply of community housing. Comparisons can be problematic due to differences in terminology but it is revealing that there are only 19 established cohousing communities in the UK versus over 600 in Germany. In Denmark and Sweden, social housing providers have long supported options such as cohousing by providing communal facilities and promoting tenant participation and member control.
- Cohousing communities often perform better in economic and ecological terms than conventional speculative owner-occupied housing. These communities can be more affordable because facilities and resources are shared. They can reduce energy demand, waste and consumption by supporting sustainable practices.
- These socially connected communities also have undeniable though less tangible social benefits for members and society at large, such as increased well-being, shared know-how, and mutual care. We need to find ways of better evidencing these benefits.
- Cohousing could become much more widely adopted if planning, financial and institutional infrastructures were better designed to support it (as in the USA and many countries in Europe). Detailed agreements and models must define the roles and responsibilities of residents and other stakeholders at the outset so as to avoid confusion later on.
- Cohousing communities in many ways reflect the societies in which they are embedded and are not always free from inequalities based on gender, age, race and income. Recruitment processes, for example, can produce groups that are homogeneous in terms of any or all of these attributes.

Baborska-Narozny M., Stevenson, F., & Chatterton P. (2014). A Social Learning Tool—Barriers and Opportunities for Collective Occupant Learning in Low Carbon Housing. *Energy Procedia*, 62, 492-501.

Jarvis H. (2011). 'Saving space, sharing time: Integrated infrastructures of daily life in cohousing', *Environment and Planning A*, 43:3, 93-105.

Scanlon, K. and Fernández Arrigoitia, M. (2015). 'Development of new cohousing: lessons from a London scheme for the over-50s' *Urban Research & Practice*, 8:1, 106-121.

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

- How do group recruitment and participation play out? The tension between self-selection and inclusive diversity with respect to gender, age, class and minority populations is poorly understood.
- How important are features of sustainable ecological living to cohousing communities (existing or newly forming), and how can these be made more affordable and understandable?
- How can design features encourage and enable the mutual support that older people want?
- What are the differences in approach and outcome between new-build cohousing communities, adaptations of existing buildings and those retro-fitted in existing structures?
- How can cohousing and similar models help keep people active in the management of their own communities?
- What financial models would enable wider adoption of cohousing in the UK? How can affordability be ensured, now and in future?

Journal of Urban Research & Practice. Special Issue (2015). 'Taking apart co-housing: Towards a long-term perspective of self-managed collaborative housing initiatives' 8:1.



OUTDOOR SPACE

shared between cohousing and wider neighbourhood; Fullersta Backe (Municipal sponsored rental cohousing). Stockholm, Sweden. (Source: Helen Jarvis)

KEY ASKS

FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- Rather than providing housing *for* people, change the political and cultural framework to enable people to do it themselves;
- Improve legal mechanisms to enable/safeguard/develop shared ownership of goods;
- Engage more with cohousing initiatives and the Community Housing movement;
- Ensure that policy initiatives aimed at doubling custom- and self-build activity by 2020 work to improve access to funding and land for collective projects like cohousing as well as for individual custom builders.

FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Make more land available, especially in urban areas. In Germany, for instance, state and local authorities may provide preferential access to public land for *baugruppen* (self-builders/cohousing communities) at a fixed price. In some instances, the municipality will also put in sustainable infrastructure beforehand to create serviced plots;
- Facilitate the formation of intentional community groups and help them navigate the challenges of designing and building cohousing projects;
- Take account of quality of life issues and inclusive decision-making when formulating planning policies and decisions.

FROM SOCIAL AND PRIVATE DEVELOPERS

- Provide a common/communal space/building on every new housing estate;
- Integrate cohousing and other forms of community housing into mainstream housing and its funding structures. We heard for example about a development in Melbourne, Australia, that is 60% private and 40% common-equity rental cooperative.

FROM LENDERS

- Work with the sector to improve the financial products available to incipient cohousing communities and to exchange knowledge about what lenders and groups require from each other.

Sargisson, L. (2014) 'Utopianism in the Architecture of New Urbanism and Cohousing' in *Green Utopianism: Perspectives, Politics and Micro-Practices*, Routledge.

Chatterton, P. (2015) *Low Impact Living: A Field Guide to Ecological, Affordable Community Building* Earthscan: Tools for Community Planning, Routledge.

Sargisson, L. (2012). 'Second wave cohousing: a modern utopia?' *Utopian Studies*, 21: 1, 28-57.

Baborska-Narozny M., Chatterton P. & Stevenson F. (2015). Temperature in housing: stratification and contextual factors. *Proceedings of the ICE - Engineering Sustainability*. View this article in White Rose Research Online

FROM COHOUSING GROUPS

- Consider demographic balance in community activities and formation;
- Ensure that decisions about procurement are made inclusively;
- Look for ways to incorporate and support sustainable technologies in design, construction and operation.

THE RECOGNISED BENEFITS OF COHOUSING

- Recent post-occupancy studies of co-housing communities suggest that new social practices, technical processes, and collective learning can **reduce energy use** and improve housing performance;
- Because they share many common household appliances and functions, cohousing residents report a **more affordable cost of living**, in terms of food, utilities, goods and services;
- Co-housing can **increase the social and physical resilience** of residents and wider communities through the provision of shared facilities in addition to individual homes;
- Less tangible benefits include an **enhanced sense of place, increased self-awareness, compassionate caring and shared community knowledge**. These are often better captured through devices such as story-telling than through traditional metrics.

Chatterton, P. (2013) Towards an Agenda for Post-carbon Cities: Lessons from Lilac, the UK's First Ecological, Affordable Cohousing Community. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 37: 1654–1674.

Durrett, C. and McCamant, K. (2011). *Creating cohousing: Building sustainable communities*, Gabriola Island: New Society Publishers.

Baborska-Narozny M., Stevenson F. & Ziyad F. J. (2016). User learning and emerging practices in relation to innovative technologies: A case study of domestic photovoltaic systems in the UK. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 13, 24-37. View this article in White Rose Research Online

OUR VISITS: SEEING IS BELIEVING



FORGE BANK COHOUSING
in Lancaster, UK is an
intergenerational project with
high ecological standards
(Source: Dermot O'Reilly)

LILAC

LILAC (Low-Impact Living Affordable Community) in Leeds: a pioneering low-energy straw-bale development of 20 homes and a shared community house on the site of a former school. We saw how a shared commitment to sustainable living can have tangible results. This community development has been massively inventive, financially, socially and technologically. A major post-occupancy evaluation and various papers confirm its energy efficiency, resource efficiency and resilience. <http://www.lilac.coop/>



AT LILAC, social and physical design have been developed to foster community building and sharing while reducing carbon footprint. (Source: Melissa Fernandez Arrigoitia)

LANCASTER COHOUSING

Lancaster Cohousing: an inter-generational cohousing community with individual houses, flats, homes, community facilities and workshop/office space. It is built on ecological values that foster environmental sustainability with new buildings achieving Passivhaus standard and meeting the requirements of Code for Sustainable Homes Level Six. <http://www.lancastercohousing.org.uk/Project>



THE CENTRAL PEDESTRIAN AXIS
at Lancaster Cohousing.
(Source: Helen Jarvis)

SHEFFIELD

Sheffield: Three site visits showed how existing structures can be re-used and re-animated through determination and imagination--and also, inevitably, money. (1) The Open House Project is an urban-fringe farmstead being developed into seven dwellings, communal facilities and shared external spaces by a group of family and friends; (2) Fireside Housing Co-operative is a terrace of four Victorian houses that has developed organically into a communal living space by knocking walls and garden borders down to facilitate shared activities; and (3) Shirle Hill Ltd. is a 19th-century villa now occupied as cohousing by a long-time group of friends (11 people in the 50+ age range), with plans for five new homes with high environmental standard in the grounds.

Open House Project: <https://openhouseproject.wordpress.com/>;

Fireside Housing Cooperative: <http://www.diggersanddreamers.org.uk/communities/existing/fireside-housing-co-op/>;

Shirle Hill: http://www.studiopolpo.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=160%3Ash&Itemid=56



NEW-BUILD HOME

at The Open House Project,
Sheffield.

(Source: Bence Kemenzki)

LESSONS FROM ELSEWHERE

14

Fernández Arrigoitia, M. and Scanlon, K. (2015). Collaborative design of senior co-housing: the case of Featherstone Lodge In: Gromark, S. and Ilmonen, M. and Paadam, K. and Støa, E., (eds.) *Visions of residential futures: housing in transformation*. Ashgate, Farnham.

Jarvis, H. (2015). Towards a deeper understanding of the social architecture of co-housing: evidence from the UK, USA and Australia. *Urban Research & Practice*, 8:1, 106-121.

The seminar series invited renowned cohousing academics from Australia, the USA and Europe to tell us about experience in their countries. We learned that cohousing has great potential for mainstream acceptance, and that good liaison between nascent community groups and enabling organisations can integrate cohousing with existing structures and neighbourhoods. In the Netherlands, for example, we heard of communities of older residents where cohousing units are 'speckled' throughout non-cohousing apartment buildings, allowing both to benefit from a shared culture of health and social support. Other inspiring examples included:

CASE 1: MURUNDAKA

Murundaka is an intergenerational cohousing community of 18 self-contained units and two houses in the suburbs of Melbourne. This example of scaled-up collaborative housing was supported and funded partly by the Common Equity Housing Programme (CEHL) and partly by an Australian federal government stimulus package. CEHL is a non-for-profit housing association that aims to counteract the current affordability challenges (housing shortages, increasing energy costs, lack of government funding), social housing challenges (unsustainable delivery model; isolation and reduced rent assistance); and climate change challenges by developing multi-unit, mixed tenure, sustainable homes. Based on the principles of tenant control and management (all members are tenants and landlords), CEHL has a total of 113 coops, 2,200 cooperative units and 5,418 residents. Members' income must be below a certain threshold and rent is generally 25% of income. With half of the coops located in metropolitan Melbourne and the other half across Victoria, each community owns the company.

<http://www.murundakacohousing.org.au/>, <http://www.cehl.com.au/>



MURUNDAKA COHOUSING,
part of CEHL, Melbourne,
Australia, founded in 2009,
completed November 2011
(Source: Iain Walker)



FLOOR PLAN,
Murundaka,
(From Iain Walker's ESRC seminar
presentation).

CASE 2: BERKELEY COHOUSING

16

Berkeley Cohousing was created on a family farm dating back to about 1900. It now consists of 15 units, mainly cottages and duplexes, and offers one solution to the exceptionally high house prices and rents that characterise the wider San Francisco Bay Area. The group has a “limited equity” arrangement with the city that restricts price appreciation to area median income growth plus capital improvements, for 30 years from each resale; buyers have to earn less than 120 or 150 percent of area median income. As a result, prices are now around 50 percent below market, and turnover is very low, with only a single resale every 8-10 years. Sellers are free to select buyers subject to the above restrictions. After 18 years, half the founders still live in the community, sharing three meals per week, participating in cooking and cleaning rotas, taking part in monthly general meetings and working on a committee. Members of Berkeley Cohousing are closely involved in the proliferation of retrofitted cohousing and various forms of converted, tiny-house and hybrid live-work housing initiatives in the Oakland area of California and also across Oregon. A good example is SquareOne Villages which create self-managed communities of cost-effective tiny houses for people in need of housing: <http://www.squareonevillages.org/>



SHARED OUTDOOR SPACE
at Berkeley Cohousing, CA, USA.
(Source: Helen Jarvis)

WHAT PRACTITIONERS TOOK AWAY

'We found that the learning that I've taken back (from the seminars) both to our practice and to different groups that we've been working with as architects has been invaluable...whether for students or on ageing and mutual support...and the network that we've managed to establish as part of the (series) is fantastic in terms of grounding us in a group of people who really care about collaborative housing for the future... LILAC in Leeds is a fantastic example of a different model of housing finance, group finance, and we are actually trying to do the same in the south now as part of a group linked up from this seminar series.'

Charlie, Transition by Design

'There's something brilliant about going to see established projects (like LILAC, Lancaster etc.). Sometimes, just seeing how the meals are organised, whether you buy an industrial stove or a domestic one, these issues become real. When you only talk in abstract terms these things don't seem important but when you visit an established development it raises a whole set of questions and you can see really imaginative solutions.'

Andrea, Good Health projects and University of Sussex, Brighton

'I work in the technical department. What I learned today was that the technical way that I design buildings influences the way they might be used in the future and whether there is some kind of learning loop that we need to complete; as well as reviewing our designs aesthetically and performance-wise, could we engage with people who live in our buildings now to get that extra feedback loop? Also, the people that you meet at these (seminars) is really inspiring; a whole range of people from those setting up their own cohousing group, and getting to visit all the cohousing projects (in Sheffield)...I guess it makes you up your game as an architect.'

Zohra, Bernstein Architects

'I nearly didn't come because I wasn't sure it would be that relevant but I've had so many ideas from this morning that we could think about for our cohousing—mostly about standing back and thinking about strategic things, long-term planning and things we don't tend to talk about a lot...because we've been so bogged down with the day-to-day and the money in particular of trying to make things work. So being here helps me focus on the bigger picture rather than fixing on the minutiae all the time. Definitely ideas that I'll be able to use, and a really interesting mix of people here.'

Oliver, Shirle Cohousing, Sheffield

APPENDIX: SEMINAR PROGRAMMES

SEMINAR 1: 'NEW DIALOGUES ON COLLABORATION' 11TH - 12TH DECEMBER 2014, NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

Programme: Thursday 11th December

- 12.00 – Registration Including Buffet Lunch
- 13.15 – Helen Jarvis: Introduction to the seminar series
Chris Coates, President, International Communal Studies Association & author of *Communes Britannica* (also co-founder, Lancaster Cohousing)
'Looking Backward for Inspiration: Lessons from the history of intentional communities in the UK'
- 14.15 – Lidewij Tummers, Delft University of Technology, Department of Urbanism
'Self-managed co-housing across Europe: lessons on gender and environment'
- 15.15 – Tea/Coffee/ Refreshments
- 15.40 – Thomas A. Weber, Chair of Operations, Economics and Strategy, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
'Sharing rather than owning: intermediation and collaborative consumption'
- 16.40 – Open Forum discussion followed by poster presentation (submissions welcome for display)

Depart Castle Leazes by 17.15pm

*Evening event

- 18.30 – Doors open, Diggers & Dreamers Roadshow with Chris Coates and Catriona Stamp
- 19.00 – Supper, *'A Season Ticket to the Promised Land'*
- 19.30 – Play, Warning: may include song, poetry, readings, film clips and fun!
(running time: approx. 1 hr 15mins)
Tyneside Irish Centre, 43 Gallowgate Street, NE1 4SG

Programme: Friday 12th December

'SHIFTING THE DEBATE ON HOUSING: CHALLENGING WHO GETS TO BUILD WHAT, WHERE AND HOW'

- 09.00 – Rebecca Tunstall, Centre Director and Joseph Rowntree Professor of Housing Policy, Centre for Housing Policy, University of York
'Social need and housing providers: shifting the debate on housing'
- 10.00 – Jo Gooding (UKCN) and Catherine Harrington (UK CLT)
Greg Rosenberg (US CLT) via pre-recorded presentation
- 11.00 – Tea/Coffee/ Refreshments
- 11.30 – Panel discussion: Jo Gooding (Chair), with Paul Chatterton, Thomas Weber, Lidewij Tummers, and Catherine Harrington
Making the connections back to policy

Seminar ends at 12.45

SEMINAR 2:

CHALLENGING HOUSING SPECULATION AND COMMODIFICATION IN AN ERA OF AUSTERITY. PROSPECTS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR A MUTUAL LIVING REVOLUTION.

FRIDAY 17TH APRIL 2015, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

- 09.30 – Arrivals, welcome and complimentary buffet breakfast for those on the optional tour of Lilac cohousing project, Bramley
- 10.00 – Optional tour of Lilac – due to space restrictions please identify on the application form if you would like to go on the optional tour
- 11.30 – Transfer to Leeds University by complimentary group taxis
- 12.00 – Lunch and formal workshop registration at Leeds University Business School SR 1.06
- 12.30 – *The experience of Murundaka Cohousing (Melbourne) and the Sustainable Living Foundation: the Challenges of co-operativism and affordability.* Iain Walker. Followed by Q&A
- 13.30 – *The Lilac story and model. Building a low impact, affordable, community cohousing revolution.* Paul Chatterton
- 14.00 – *The Lilac Mutual Home Ownership Model.* Lilac residents and members of its learning and finance team. Followed by Q&A
- 14.30 – Refreshments break
- 14.45 – Mutual housing 'Innovations Showcase'
- a. *Leeds Community Homes* – a model for city-based transformation
 - b. *Radical Roots* and the Co-operative cluster model
 - c. *Students for Co-operation.* The potential for a student cooperative housing revolution
 - d. Other innovations invited from participants
- 16.00 – *Rapporteur's reflections.* Irena Bauman. Professor of Sustainable Urbanism, Sheffield School of Architecture. Director of Bauman Lyons Architects (confirmed)

Workshop ends at 16.30

OPTIONAL BOOK LAUNCH OF 'LOW IMPACT LIVING'
THURSDAY 16TH APRIL 19.00 - 22.00 LILAC GROVE COMMON HOUSE

The book 'Low Impact Living: a Field Guide for Affordable Ecological Community Building' written by the Leeds seminar organiser Paul Chatterton will be launched. Martin Wainwright, former Northern correspondent of the Guardian and long-term resident of Leeds, will be the host for the evening. The evening will include some short readings from the book, some responses and reflections from current residents of Lilac followed by an acoustic music set.

SEMINAR 3:
'BREAKING OUT OF THE BOX: INTERROGATING THE SOCIO-SPATIAL FORM OF COHOUSING'
26TH JUNE 2015, LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

- 09.00 - 10.20 – Arrivals, welcome and refreshments
 10.20 – *Tour of Lancaster Cohousing*, facilitated by Lancaster Cohousing.
 11.20 – *Introduction to the seminar* – Dermot O'Reilly, Helen Jarvis and Jo Gooding
 11.30 – Grace Kim, Schemata Workshop, *'Designing the Common House to be the nexus of community life'*
 12.30 – Buffet Lunch
 13.15 – Sue Heath, Manchester University, *'Exploring the spatial dimension of relational practices in shared housing contexts'*
 Helen Jarvis, Newcastle University, *'Sharing in cohousing: for progressive social architectures of conviviality'*
 14.15 – Tea/coffee/refreshments
 14.30 – Lancaster Cohousing panel – *Reflections on practices and spaces for collaborative living and communities*
 Provocation: Lucy Sargisson, Nottingham University, *Thinking about utopian visions and backcasting*

...leading into:

Open Space Workshop: *'Developing practices and spaces for collaborative living and communities: questions/suggestions for practice, research and policy?'*

Seminar ends at 16.30



SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS

discuss the cohousing research agenda

SEMINAR 4: 'COLLABORATIVE HOUSING, MUTUAL SUPPORT AND SPECIALIST CARE' 14TH SEPTEMBER 2015, NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY

10.30 - 11.00 – Registration and Coffee

Section one: **LIFE COURSE, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

11.00 - 11.15 – Introduction to the theme: Lucy Sargisson

11.15 - 11.45 – Shirley Meredeen & Rachel Douglas

Case Study: 'OWCH': Older Women's Cohousing

11.45 - 12.00 – Refreshment break

12.00 - 13.00 – Anne Glass, Professor of Gerontology University of North Carolina in Wilmington, USA: *'Opportunities and challenges for collaborative aging'*

Section two: **ENDURING THEMES OF MUTUAL SUPPORT**

14.00 - 15.00 – Graham Meltzer, from The Findhorn Foundation and author of *Sustainable Community: learning from the cohousing model*

15.00 - 15.30 – Public Policy and mutual support. Speaker to be confirmed

15.30 - 16.30 – Workshops – with refreshments!

What is to be done? Developing a research agenda.

16.30 - 17.00 – Closing Reflections

**SEMINAR 5:
'SHARING IN THE FUTURE: HOW COLLABORATION INFLUENCES ECOLOGICAL BEHAVIOUR'
28TH JANUARY 2016, UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD**

Visiting collaborative housing developments in Sheffield

- Fireside Housing Co-operative
- Leo Care's Farmstead
- Shirle Hill Co-housing
- Women's Housing, Heeley

10.30 -11.00 – Registration and Coffee

Section one: **COLLECTIVE LEARNING TO CHANGE BEHAVIOURS**

11.00 - 11.15 – General introductions: Helen Jarvis

11.15 - 11.45 – Lucelia Taranto Rodrigues, Associate Professor, University of Nottingham: *'Sharing community energy to build resilience'*

11.45 - 12.00 – Refreshment break

12.00 - 13.00 – Fionn Stevenson, Professor of Sustainable Design, The University of Sheffield: *'Collective learning in co-housing: barriers and opportunities'*

13.00 - 14.00 – Lunch

Section two: **EMPOWERMENT THROUGH COLLABORATIVE DESIGN**

14.00 - 14.30 – Betsy Morris and Raines Cohen (By Video) from Cohousing Coaches, USA *'Collaboration towards Ecological Cohousing Living'?*

14.30 - 15.00 – Intro to Workshops + 5 minute Thinkpieces

- Retrofit challenges: Mark Parsons
- Socio-technical resilience challenges: Lucelia Taranto Rodrigues
- Gender challenges: Jenny Pickerill
- Co-designing challenges:
- Co-developing for ecological living: Betsy Morris and Raines Cohen

15.15 - 16.30 – Workshops (tea and cakes to arrive 3.00)

What is to be done? Developing a research agenda.

Choice of above workshops (questions posed to each)

16.30 - 17.00 – Closing Reflections



DIGGERS AND DREAMERS
roadshow, Newcastle

SEMINAR 6:
MAINSTREAMING COHOUSING IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT – BARRIERS TO KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER
21ST JUNE 2016, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

10.30 - 11.00 – Arrivals, registration and refreshments

EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES

11.00 - 11.15 – Introduction to the seminar – Helen Jarvis, Kath Scanlon and Melissa Fernández

11.15 - 12.00 – Anna Dijkhuis, The Dutch Federation of Intergenerational Intentional Communities. *'Pioneering socio-material design in Dutch cohousing: lessons from Delft'*

12.00 - 12.15 – Refreshment break

12.15 - 13.00 – Michael La Fond, id22: Institute for Creative Sustainability
'Developing and maintaining Urban CoHousing: practice and policy lessons from Berlin'

13.00 - 14.00 – Buffet lunch

CAPTURING KNOWLEDGE, INFLUENCING POLICY

14.00 - 14.45 – *Finance: Ways to stop reinventing the wheel* Presenter TBC

14.45 - 16.00 – Panel: *Opportunities and challenges for developing urban co housing*

Jo Williams, The Bartlett School of Planning, UCL
Patrick Devlin, Pollard, Thomas Edwards Architects (PTEa)
John Killock, Independent researcher and architect
Maria Brenton, OWCH project consultant; UKCN board member

16.00 - 16.15 – Tea break

16.15 - 17.00 – Workshop discussion
Key messages for Parliament, closing reflections and moving forward

We wish to acknowledge support received from the Economic and Social Research Council, funding source Research Grant (Seminars) BH148250. Additional small grants are acknowledged from Newcastle University, School Research Committee, and the London School of Economics Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF5).

Sincere thanks to those who took part in the seminars, hosted visits, and generously shared their time and expertise.

ESRC Collaborative Housing and
Community Resilience
School of Geography, Politics
and Sociology
Newcastle University
Daysh Building
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE17RU
United Kingdom

Email: helen.jarvis@ncl.ac.uk
<https://collaborativehousing.net/>

The ESRC 'Collaborative Housing
and Resilient Communities'
(<https://collaborativehousing.net/>)
seminar series was a collaboration
of the following research
intensive universities in England:
Newcastle, Sheffield, Leeds,
Lancaster, Nottingham and the
London School of Economics,
jointly organised with the UK
Cohousing Network.

