

## **Masterclasses Sunday 5 March 9.00 – 10.30am**

We have asked some of the conference participants who follow specific research methods to share their working practices with others and this will take the form of informal workshops on the Sunday morning. By nature of the content some are more active than others so please choose carefully what you would like to do and dress appropriately!

You have three options to consider.

### **A: Telling Our Stories – an interactive session engaging in creative practice through film and performance**

Led by: Teresa Brayshaw, Jenny Granville, Carol Simmonds and Lorenza Garrino

A chance to explore the use of film in life history research that will gently guide you towards participation. After outlining the approach by showing extracts from films on health and ageing (*Swans are not the only birds*, a moving film about 'deafness' and 'loss', and *The Armchair*, a film featuring one of the participants), the leaders will start to apply the methodological approach.

Firstly you will be asked to take part in a writing/spoken response exercise before engaging creatively with playful exercises around remembering, imagining and writing a letter to your 16-year-old self. This will offer an embodied understanding of the creative process, giving you real insights into how the researchers actually go about their methodology through making stories with their senior students.

### **B: Knocking Down Walls in Order to Build Bridges: A Sentient Approach to Activism**

Led by: Skyller Walkes and Helena Oikarinen-Jabai

This masterclass will explore aspects of autoethnographic research and the use of performance to make public private experiences in ways that are richly emotional but also rehearsed and polished to make them powerfully evocative.

You will be treated to both demonstration and participation so will be able to fully explore the process as both observer and as an active participant. Please wear comfortable clothing so that you can take part freely.

### **C. Researching women's lives: exploring the approaches and sensitivities that make this a distinctive genre**

Led by: Dorothy Morissey, Anne Chant, Rebecca Suart, and Christina Stead

Four experienced researchers draw on their distinctive practices to demonstrate why it is sometimes important to view women as a group apart.

With different interests (some directly study gender discourses and identity, others particular aspects of women lives) they offer the opportunity for participants to consider the commonalities and differences in approach when researching women in varied contexts, the chance to consider discourses of gender and feminism through top-down and bottom-up approaches.