



# Association of Social Anthropologists

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## of the UK & Commonwealth

## Networks Report

### Overview

The ASA now hosts six networks, with the latest being the new *Anthropology of Time* network, established in February this year. The networks represent interests ranging from the thematic, to practice-oriented professional and solidarity networks. More information on the networks can be found on the ASA's website pages: <https://theasa.org/networks/>

The ASA supports its networks through its web pages and mailing lists, and has a budget to help with the organisation of events and initiatives, which is available to networks on application. This year the annual budget available for the networks was raised to £900, but no applications were received. Pandemic conditions have meant that most network activities this year have been cancelled or postponed.

### News from the Networks

#### Anthropology of Time

COVID put a damper on the convenors' launch plans, which were focused on an event at the ASA in August to launch the mailing list and website. Plans now are to set up a mailing list in August, newsletter and website to begin September 2020. Possible plans also to have a virtual event in October to introduce the network informally and set out goals for the coming year, taking COVID conditions into account.

#### UK Network for the Anthropology of Christianity

As the network was officially convened less than a year ago, the convenors have been putting their efforts into promoting it and signing people up to the mailing list through a combination of general social media advertising, and individual invitations to scholars in the field. Their section within the ASA site will go online shortly. Current plans for future activities include applying for networking grants to facilitate a workshop and/or student conference. Bloomsbury Press is launching a new Anthropology of Christianity series next year.

#### Museu Nacional Solidarity Network

Network to support the efforts of colleagues in Brazil working to re-establish the post-graduate programme in social anthropology after the fire at the Museu Nacional in September 2018. The pandemic has curtailed activities this year, and the network is hoping to re-focus efforts in the new academic year.

#### Network of Applied Anthropologists (APPLY)

New convenors took over since the last AGM, and have been revising the network's online material and social media presence. The APPLY LinkedIn page has been growing, with over 30 new followers. The page is being used to post calls for papers, vacancies, suggested reading, or announcements about webinars and courses.

The convenors have had a virtual meeting with Emma Crewe from the RAI's new applied anthropology committee to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

The editor of the applied anthropology journal **Anthropology in Action**, Professor Christine McCourt, stepped down this year after a long and productive editorship which saw the journal move to open access as part of Berghahn's *Knowledge Unlatched* pilot – a move which will considerably improve access for the wider readership of anthropologists working outside of academia. Professor Andrew Dawson, from the University of Melbourne department of anthropology, and Professor Simone Dennis, from the Australian National University, take over as new editors with the next issue, which will be a double issue of articles related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other network convenors and heads of department are encouraged to increase their current students' awareness of the journal so that they can continue to access articles relevant to public anthropology after finishing their courses.

### **Anthropology Matters (Post-graduate network and journal of the ASA)**

The editors are keen to encourage submissions for the journal, and reviewers for peer review of submissions. Papers presented at anthropological events form the bulk of the work received by the journal, with relatively few independent submissions, and the editors would appreciate information on forthcoming postgraduate and early career researchers' events, to ensure a relatively stable flow of incoming submissions. Editors of other publications are also encouraged to redirect some submissions that their journals cannot accommodate in the direction of Anthropology Matters. The ASA's committee has agreed that an AM editor should join the committee *ex officio* to bring in a postgrad/early career voice, and improve the ASA's communication with its postgraduate network.

### **Anthropology of Britain Network**

No news to report.

*Julie Scott*  
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