

‘Valourising Cornish minority heritage: UNESCO and Performative Heritage’

I am a PhD student undertaking research in the Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences at Northumbria University. As part of my thesis, I am undertaking a research study titled ‘Valourising Cornish minority heritage: UNESCO and Performative Heritage’.

The aim of the study is to explore the different ways that people value heritage and if performances like Man Engine in 2016 and 2018 are providing alternative, unmanaged spaces for vocalising values. I would also be very grateful if you could forward a questionnaire to your members as I am trying to get a broad idea of how people value heritage and Cornwall as a WHS . This is the questionnaire link <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/JCUD3/>

I have attached an information sheet on the study but there is a summary at the beginning of the questionnaire.

Thank you so much for any assistance on this.

Kind regards

Jo Buchanan MA.

Information Sheet

We would like to invite you to take part in our research study. Joining the study is entirely up to you, before you decide we would like you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. The research investigator will go through this information sheet with you, to help you decide whether or not you would like to take part and answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to talk to others about the study if you wish. Do ask if anything is unclear.

Research project title: ‘Valourising Cornish minority heritage: UNESCO and Performative Heritage

Research investigator: Joan Buchanan

Contact details of research investigator:

E-mail: Joan.e.m.buchanan@northumbria.ac.uk or jobuchanan999@gmail.com

Telephone: 01503 230066

About the Project

In a wider context in cultural heritage studies, there appears to be questions asked about how heritage is chosen, managed and valued. In addition there is a disconnection

between what is said in cultural policy about engaging diverse publics and what is actually done in practice. The study therefore aims to enhance our understanding of the complexities of how heritage is valued and the political, social, economic and cultural dimensions that underpin these values. The study in particular is looking at the place of minorities within this process. The study will focus on Cornwall as a case study analysing UNESCO and EU processes of heritage designation, including the level of participation by the Cornish minority in spearheading and planning the heritage process. This research aims to contribute to 'rethinking national heritage' in the Cornish context. In addition the study will analyse the use of performance in Cornish heritage as a potential vehicle to express emotions, strengthen communities involvement in heritage and promote well-being. This project is supported by Northumbria University, although geographically distanced to Cornwall, there are some similarities with Northumbrian cultural heritage - border areas, post-industrial mining landscapes and a rise in tourism.

Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been chosen to take part in the study because you work and/or are a resident in Cornwall. Your opinions on how you value Cornish cultural heritage and the designation of the Cornish as a national minority are important to this study.

Will what I say in this study be kept confidential?

All information collected about you will be kept strictly confidential (subject to legal limitations) and confidentiality, privacy and anonymity will be ensured in the collection, storage and publication of research material. Your data will remain anonymous unless you choose to be attributed personally (through a consent form). Anonymity will be ensured immediately when storing the data – you will be given an alias and any data stored with this name. This will then be used for the whole project. Confidentiality will be ensured, by omitting any further references, which might identify you.

Who is responsible for the data collected in this study?

Joan Buchanan as research investigator is responsible for the data collected. The data will not be shared with other organisations unless you choose. Access to the data will be limited to Joan Buchanan, academic colleagues and researchers at Northumbria University with whom she might collaborate as part of the research process. The research was reviewed and passed by the Ethics Committee at Northumbria University on 22nd June 2017. The data will be stored in two password-protected repositories. Files from digital recorders or laptops will be permanently deleted after transferring into university storage. These university-stored files will be destroyed on completion of the study.

What is involved in the study?

You will have been invited to take part in either:

- A. A questionnaire comprising of closed and open-ended questions (so you can provide more detail). The questionnaire is anonymous, and an invitation to have a follow up interview will be provided if you wish to take part.
- B. An interview that will be one hour maximum. It will be audio recorded and would be conversational. Specific consent will be needed if you wish to take part in an interview.
- C. A focus group (5-6 people) will meet for one and a half hours maximum. Specific consent will be needed from you and you will be notified of the other participants in advance.

What are the risks involved in this study?

As far as possible your contribution will be kept confidential unless you choose to be attributed personally. We do not anticipate that there are any risks associated with your participation. Your rights as a participant are:

- Taking part in the study is voluntary.
- You may choose not to take part or subsequently cease participation at any time.
- You can withdraw your permission at any time
- You can ask to access the information at any time (please see the contact information at the end of this information letter)

What are the benefits for taking part in this study?

You will be providing valued insight into how you personally value heritage and how involved you are in this process. The barriers and success in participation in the case study may improve an understanding of how cultural value is chosen. In addition it may improve heritage management practices, supporting involvement of communities and strengthening communities by this involvement.

How will the information be used will be used?

All or part of the content of your data may be published in:

- academic papers, policy papers or news articles
- on our website and in other media that we may produce such as spoken presentations
- on other feedback events

Will I receive any payment or monetary benefits?

You will receive no payment for your participation. The data will not be used by any member of the project team for commercial purposes. Therefore you should not expect any royalties or payments from the research project in the future.

For more information

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Northumbria University Research Ethics Board. If you have any further questions or concerns about this study, please contact:

Name of researcher Jo Buchanan

Tel: 01503 230066

E-mail: jobuchanan999@gmail.com or Joan.e.m.buchanan@northumbria.ac.uk

You can also contact

Dr Susan Ashley, (supervisor): E-mail: susan.ashley@northumbria.ac.uk

Full address: Department of Arts, Design and Social Sciences, Northumbria University, Sutherland Buildings, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8ST.

What if I have concerns about this research?

If you are worried about this research, or if you are concerned about how it is being conducted, you can contact ethicssupport@northumbria.ac.uk

