

# School of Nursing & Health Sciences, University of Dundee Researchers' Information

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# Introduction

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Dear All,

This booklet presents information about our current research staff, their areas of interest, expertise and experience.

This booklet has been made to provide this information to potential students and collaborators. We hope you find it useful and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice Rattray". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and elegant.

Dr Janice Rattray

Reader

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## Admission Processes

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Thank you for your interest in studying for your PhD at the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. You can do this in a number of ways:

**Full-Time:** we offer both a 3 and 4 year PhD programme. The 4 year programme is mainly for international students whose first language is not English. The first year consists of working with your supervisors whilst undertaking modules related to your area of study. Included in this is bespoke English language provision.

**Part-Time:** a part-time option is available and this takes between 4 and 6 years.

**Entry Requirements:** Candidates for MPhil or PhD must hold a good honours degree (First class or 2.1) and/or a Master's Degree. Accredited Prior (Experiential) Learning (APEL) may apply. For more information about our PhD programmes see <http://nursingmidwifery.dundee.ac.uk/research-degrees>

### **Application process:**

Ensure that your area of interest aligns with our research programme (see <http://nursingmidwifery.dundee.ac.uk/research>). At this stage you may consider approaching a potential Supervisor or the Research Degrees Coordinator.

- All applicants must submit a 2000-3000 word research proposal that will incorporate:
  - Background to the study (this should be supported with contemporary literature)
  - Research aims/questions

- Proposed methodological approach including access and ethical issues
  - Congruence with our research programmes.
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- All applicants must apply via [UKPASS](#).
  - Once received, all applications are reviewed by a small panel of academics from the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. This will be done within a 3-4 week timescale.
  - All potential PhD students are invited for interview (Skype or other remote interviewing will be considered).
  - Before an offer letter can be sent, all applications must be approved by the Research Degrees Committee. This committee is responsible for ensuring that adequate supervisory arrangements are in place, funding to support the proposed study is in place and that the student has an acceptable English language score.

NB. All students must indicate how their studies will be funded and for overseas students, the minimum IELTS score is 6.5 (with a minimum of 6.0 in any component).

# Dr Joan Cameron

Associate Dean Quality and Academic Standards / Lead Midwife for Education

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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Reproductive loss  
Qualitative research methods  
Critical appraisal.

## **Methodological Expertise**

Systematic review

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Midwifery care and neonatal care

## **Current Research Projects**

Cochrane review – perinatal loss  
Perinatal loss – maternal satisfaction with care

# Prof Timothy Croudace

Professor of Applied Health Research and Health Technology Assessment



## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

(Birth) Cohort studies

Differential Psychology

Epidemiology (Cognitive, Developmental, Life-Course, Longitudinal, Social and Psychiatric)

Evidence Synthesis

Psychometrics (Contemporary and Translational)

Mental Health

Secondary Data Analysis

## **Methodological Expertise**

Social Science AQM (Advanced Quantitative Methods)

Health Services Research / Health Technology Assessment

Applied Psychometrics (Item Response Theory)

Latent Variable Modelling (Mplus)

Longitudinal Data Analysis (Growth and Development, “Trajectory/Trajectories”)

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

N/A

## **Current Research Projects**

Adaptive Testing

Applied Psychometric Epidemiology

Translational Psychometrics

Psychoinformatics

Patient Reported Outcome Measurement in the NHS

## Dr Elaine Lee

Associate Dean International / Head of Postgraduate and Post-qualifying Studies

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### **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Women in maternity care contexts, the experiences of marginalised groups of women, psychological wellbeing of women during the childbirth cycle, health inequalities, education

### **Methodological Expertise**

Qualitative Research  
Hermeneutic Phenomenology  
Unstructured and semi structured interviewing

### **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Midwifery

### **Current Research Projects**

No current active projects.



# Dr Stephen MacGillivray

Senior Research Fellow – Evidence Synthesis

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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Depression, Antidepressants, Schizophrenia, Physical Activity

## **Methodological Expertise**

Systematic Reviews

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

N/A

## **Current Research Projects**

Wellbeing of Women Charity. Investigating the relationship between disability, domestic abuse and access to primary healthcare: implications for health and wellbeing.

Joint funded (ESRC & Scottish Government) Doctoral Training studentship. For Mandy Cook (named candidate) to study a PhD titled: Forests as places of mental wellbeing: the meaning and use of urban forests by people with dementia and depression.

# Dr Alison McFadden

Research Fellow, Mother and Infant Health



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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Reducing health inequalities in maternal and infant nutrition and health

Midwifery and quality of care

Experiences of vulnerable and marginalised women and infants including those from diverse ethnic groups and those living in poverty

Culturally appropriate care and services

Evidence-based policy

## **Methodological Expertise**

Qualitative methods especially ethnographic approaches

Mixed methods to evaluate policy

Evidence synthesis (qualitative and quantitative)

Involving vulnerable/hard to reach participants in research

Engagement and participation

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Registered midwife

Midwifery skills especially breast feeding support

## **Current Research Projects**

Enhancing Gypsy/Travellers' trust: using maternity and early years' health services and dental health services as exemplars of mainstream service provision.

Identifying strategies to effectively influence political commitment to breastfeeding: a review of six country case studies

The Lancet Series on Midwifery

Evaluation of Healthy Start: Understanding the use of vouchers and vitamins

Cochrane review: Massage for promoting growth in preterm and/or low birth-weight babies

The relationship between breastfeeding and cognitive and behavioural outcomes (systematic review and meta-analysis)

# Dr Linda McSwiggan

Senior Lecturer



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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Inequalities in health, education, maternal and infant nutrition, neonatal care, addictions, user and carer involvement, long term conditions

## **Methodological Expertise**

Qualitative research, particular interest in focus group methods  
Clinical trials

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Registered General Nurse, Registered Midwife, District Nurse, Health visitor  
Experience in nursing, midwifery and education across hospital and community settings  
Experience as project manager for social work based service for older adults

## **Current Research Projects**

A qualitative exploration of carers' experiences of information sharing and knowledge exchange with respite care service for older people.

Cochrane review: Massage for promoting growth in preterm and/or low birth-weight babies

# Dr Janice Rattray

Reader, Postgraduate Student Advisor



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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Patient and carer recovery from intensive care;  
Patient and carer experiences of intensive care and the relationship between this and subsequent outcomes;  
Acute and critical care.

## **Methodological Expertise**

Quantitative Research  
Questionnaire Design  
Surveys

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Experience in many aspects of acute and critical care nursing.

## **Current Research Projects**

A longitudinal qualitative study exploring the needs of patients following intensive care discharge (RELINQUISH).

IPEC (Improving Patient Experiences of Care). This study is evaluating two interventions designed to improve in-patients experiences of care.

EPIC (Engaging Patients in Understanding and Improving the Critical Illness Journey (EPIC). This study is developing a web based resources for survivors of critical illness.

# Professor Mary Renfrew

Professor of Mother and Infant Research Unit



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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Maternal and Infant Nutrition, Midwifery,  
Organisation of Maternal Services,  
Addressing Inequalities in Health Care,  
Evidenced-based Policy and Practice.

## **Methodological Expertise**

Mixed methodology  
Systematic reviews  
RCT's of complex interventions  
Qualitative studies and surveys

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Acute and Critical Care Nursing

## **Current Research Projects**

Lancet series on midwifery (Gates Foundation)  
  
Economic incentives for breastfeeding (MRC)  
  
Evidence-based practice at scale (DH – recently completed)

# Dr Karen Smith

Nurse Consultant Cardiology/Clinical Research Fellow

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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Cardiovascular care, evaluation of clinical models for the delivery of nursing services, cardiac rehabilitation, patient and family experiences

## **Methodological Expertise**

Mixed methodology

RCT's of complex interventions

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Experience in cardiovascular nursing and education across acute and primary care

## **Current Research Projects**

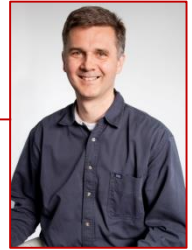
Assessing patients' cardiac related beliefs, motivation and mood over time to predict non-attendance at cardiac rehabilitation.

Evaluating an on line learning activity 'supporting patients following Internal cardiovertor defibrillator (ICD) implantation'

# Dr Andrew Symon

Senior Lecturer

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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Models of antenatal care and the impact on perinatal outcomes. Alcohol use before and during pregnancy. Maternal quality of life. Risk, and medico-legal issues.

## **Methodological Expertise**

Qualitative Research  
Mixed methodology

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

General midwifery, neonatal care

## **Current Research Projects**

Models of antenatal care  
Alcohol in pregnancy

# Dr Heather Whitford

Lecturer in Midwifery, Deputy Postgraduate Student Advisor

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## **Research Area of Interest and Expertise**

Maternity care,  
Individualised care,  
Use of social media,  
Infant feeding

## **Methodological Expertise**

Quantitative Research  
Mixed methodology

## **Clinical Skills and Experience**

Midwifery

## **Current Research Projects**

Economic incentives for breastfeeding  
Breastfeeding and attachment in neonatal units