

This is a new initiative to support network members who wish to engage in further study. This may be in the form of:

- a discrete research project
- a doctoral study
- a publication

These may all be aspects of an individual's endeavour. For example, preparation for a doctorate may involve an exploratory study; an exploratory study may result in the publication of an article, an article may provide the text for a doctoral proposal, and so on.

Participants would derive support and expert guidance to enable them to achieve their own goals. Not everyone will want to register for a doctoral programme; some may wish simply to extend their scholarship and engage in academic activity. Participating would enable each group member to clarify their goal and pursue it at their own pace and in their preferred way.

### **How the group will operate**

David Frost and Amanda Roberts will facilitate group sessions. Key features will include:

- an initial exploratory session  
This will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 9.30 – 12.30 at Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 4UB. There is a private car park.
- 3 Saturday morning facilitated sessions each term
- a comfortable venue with coffee / tea
- agendas set according to interest
- one-to-one support where appropriate

There will be a balance between expert guidance on matters such as how to prepare doctoral proposal, how to get an article published etc., and mutual support through sharing and discussion of group members' goals and endeavours. The question of how to achieve financial support for a doctorate would also be addressed.

### **Partnership with UH**

It is not assumed that everyone will want to pursue a doctorate with UH. However, Amanda and David have discussed this with Dr Karen Smith (UH EdD Programme Leader) and can now offer a guided route through to application for EdD studies with UH. Group members will also be supported if they want to register elsewhere.

### **Costs**

Beyond the initial exploratory session, those who wish to proceed would be asked to pay a fee of £100 per term. This will cover the cost of facilitators' time and venue hire.

If you are interested in joining us for the initial exploratory session, please email Heather Walker at [hwalker@hertscamnetwork.org.uk](mailto:hwalker@hertscamnetwork.org.uk) for further details.