

Ancient History Contemporary Belonging

REPORT FOR
PARTNERS
DECEMBER 2023

This report is an update to all project partners on Manchester Metropolitan University activities and outputs for the *Ancient History, Contemporary Belonging* project.

1st September 2023: Presentation at the Royal Geographical Society Conference

Mariam presented alongside Sarah & Jina at the Royal Geographical Society conference in London. The presentation was entitled: *Mapping entangled mobilities: Using participatory counter-cartography to explore the migration of objects and people across (neo)colonial spatialities*. This presentation is now being developed into an academic journal article.

27th October 2023: Connected Sociologies event for teachers and students

Senna and Caitlin attended the Connected Sociologies: Who do we think we are? event at Lancaster University, sharing our work with teachers and students and facilitating activities based on project methods. The workshop focused on how historical research, family histories, personal biographies, and lived experiences can help explore race, migration and belonging, including through creative and visual methods.



10th November 2023: Podcast 'Beyond the Headlines'

Senna and Caitlin recorded a tour of the AHCB exhibition with Professor Michaela Benson and Dr Ala Sirriyeh from Lancaster University for their podcast 'Who do we think we are: Beyond the headlines' which dissects the major global news stories about migration. You can listen to the podcast [here](#).

November 2023: Institute of Community Studies Report

Ancient History, Contemporary Belonging is featured in a [report](#) produced by the Institute for Community Studies (ICS) sharing learnings about experience and ethics of co-production from projects funded through the UKRI citizen science scheme.

April – December 2023: Follow-on funding from UKRI Education resource and event

The follow-on fund from UKRI has supported an impact project co-created and led by four members of the youth team, employed as Research Assistants. The youth team have focused on making the exhibition accessible and interactive for school-age children and have developed a Key Stage 3–4 school resource with support from Manchester Museum Curator of Learning Hannah-Lee Chalk, filmmaker and project mentor Clive Hunte, and Sarah Linn from MMU. The resource explores the question: *Where do these objects belong?* The education resource will be made available on both the AHCB website and the Manchester Museum website and will be promoted through social media channels.

The team have built a relationship with [Debate Mate](#), who will be hosting an event at Manchester Museum in February 2024. The event will include trialling the resource with invited schools in Greater Manchester, followed by a debate hosted by Debate Mate, centred around the resource's key provocation.

Forthcoming 2024

Youth Research Assistants are working with university researchers to produce a resource providing **guidelines for co-production with migrant-background young people**. Based on our learnings from AHCB, we hope this resource will support organisations in creating ethical and effective collaborations.

The academic journal *Museums and Social Issues* will shortly be **publishing an article** written by Sarah Linn, Caitlin Nunn, Jennifer Cromwell, and Olivia Hall, one of AHCB's project interns, which reviews academic literature on museum projects with refugee-background young people. A number of other academic articles related to the project are underway.

Thank you and good luck to Sarah Linn!

The official funding period of the project has now ended, including our follow-on funding. While project-related activities will continue, sadly this means that Sarah will now leave the project. Sarah has been pivotal to the success of Ancient History, Contemporary Belonging, and the main driving force behind the education resource with the Museum and Debate Mate event. Jenny and Caitlin sincerely thank Sarah for all her energy, hard work, and enthusiasm for the project and the care she has shown all its participants, and wish her the best of luck for the future.

If you have any updates to share about the project or any queries about this document, please contact Caitlin Nunn (c.nunn@mmu.ac.uk) or Jennifer Cromwell (j.cromwell@mmu.ac.uk)