

EDITOR'S NOTE

*We are proud to be presenting the newest volume of *Ethnographic Encounters*!*

Welcome to this year's special edition of *Ethnographic Encounters*!

A major aim for this issue of *Ethnographic Encounters* was to widen the scope of the journal. We announced a theme of "ethnographic storytelling", encouraging contributors to explore the anthropological spaces between narrative, analysis and interpretation.

While our primary purpose has always been to publish what we feel is the best work produced by second-year students at the University of St Andrews as part of their assessment for our namesake module, this time we opened submissions to undergraduate students at any stage of their studies. Not only that, but for the first time we are proud to have invited submissions from anthropologists beyond our own university, with submissions for this issue being sought from anthropology departments around Scotland.

The issue begins with an ethnographic account of the spoken word poetry scene in Aberdeen. Hanna Louise, of the University of Aberdeen, presents an engaging exploration of how the scene approaches performance, revelation and the formation of community.

From the University of St. Andrews, Laura Lindsay-Smith presents two analytical approaches to contemporary anthropological issues. In the first, she explores the commonalities and disparities between ideas of the "virtual" and the "physical" in current ethnography. Following that, she considers the potential

role of the anthropologist in debates about global public health, asking what ethnography can contribute to the handling of public health crises.

Two further articles from our own department here in St. Andrews contribute to an examination of the theme of disgust. First, in a powerful work of autoethnography, Sarah Latimer explores the role of feelings of disgust in current discourses around sexual assault. Ruby Bell, meanwhile, explores her own disgust for London's "mega-pole" in another engagingly personal piece.

Finally, the University of Aberdeen's Emilie Maja Kellmer takes us to the University of North Carolina to provide an ethnographically-grounded analysis of how gender (and gender bias) informs the experience of spectators at college basketball games.

As always, the standard of submissions for this edition of *Ethnographic Encounters* was very high, which made the selection process as difficult as ever. We would like to extend our thanks to all of our contributors, and our congratulations to those whose articles we have chosen to publish. We hope you enjoy reading them as much as we did.

On a bittersweet note, this edition will be our last as Co-Editors in Chief (we say goodbye this year as well to Katharine, our wonderful Director of Printing, who is also graduating!) and we would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to our truly amazing team – Christina, Emily, Louisa, Lucy and Verity – for all their work. We have no doubt that their passion and capability will ensure that *Ethnographic Encounters* continues to grow and prosper.

Thank you for reading, and we hope you enjoy the issue.

Luke & Rikke