



The Probation Journal
in conjunction with Liverpool John Moores University

Launch of ICCJ Monograph 12

Not quite the century

A personal journey across nine decades of change, challenge and development of the Probation Service

Christine Munn with Roger Statham, Nicola Carr & Steve Collett

Thursday 23rd January 2025
5.00pm - 6.30pm

(Light refreshments on arrival)

Student Life Building
Room 206
Liverpool John Moores University
Brownlow Hill
Liverpool L3 5AH



Probation
Journal
The Journal of Community &
Criminal Justice

Programme

5.00pm **Welcome & Introduction**

Nicola Carr
Trinity College Dublin and Outgoing Editor of the
Probation Journal
&
Steve Collett
Series Editor of the ICCJ Monograph Series

5.30pm **Reflection, research and publication:
Developing the probation evidence base from
a practitioner perspective**

Ester Ragonese
PQiP Programme Leader, LJMU
[Professional Qualification in Probation Training]

5.45pm **Using the past to identify lessons for the
future of practice, policy and professional
development**

Chris Munn
Author of Not Quite the Century – ICCJ 12

6.15pm **Concluding Reflections**

Jake Phillips
Sheffield Hallam University and Editor of the
Probation Journal

Contributors

Nicola Carr is a Professor of Social Work at Trinity College Dublin and Editor of the Probation Journal. She previously worked as a Probation Officer in London with both adults and young people. She is currently part of a research team on the project *Rehabilitating Probation*, which is exploring the impacts of the reversal of probation privatisation.

Steve Collett is a former probation officer and was the chief probation officer of Cheshire Probation Service from 2001 until his retirement in 2010. He is an adjunct professor within the School of Justice studies at LJMU and an Honorary Fellow of the University. He is also an honorary fellow at the University of Liverpool and is a member of the Probation Journal Editorial Board and series editor of the ICCJ Monograph series.

Ester Ragonese is the PQiP (Professional Qualification in Probation Training) Academic Programme Lead and is based within the School of Justice Studies. Through her lengthy career at LJMU, she has been the Associate Dean (Education) and a Senior Lecturer in Criminal Justice. Ester worked as a probation officer for a number of years and she has a wide and varying range of research interests but in the main these focus on the issue of social exclusion, particularly with regard to the homeless population and the management and treatment of people within the criminal justice system.

Christine (Chris) Munn's probation career started in 1971 at the age of 22 as a trainee probation officer at Newcastle University. She partly attributes the idea of becoming a probation officer to her uncle who started his probation career before the Second World War. Chris then followed qualification by working for the City of Newcastle as a probation and after care officer. She returned to her Devon home area in 1978 by way of Cleveland Probation and After Care Service, with two children in tow. For some 21 years she was a probation officer (adding a third child) before becoming a senior probation officer in 1993. Chris has experienced the gamut of probation work including two prisons, partnerships, programmes and quality development. Her main role has been, and still is, in sentence management as an operational officer. She has brought her *lived experience* to this monograph alongside an awareness of the criminal justice system over a period of some fifty years.

Chris retired from the Probation Service in March 2023.

Jake Phillips is Associate Professor in Criminology at Sheffield Hallam University. He has undertaken research in most criminal justice institutions with a particular focus on probation where he explores the intersection between policy and practice. He is currently undertaking research on staff wellbeing, emotional labour, parole oral hearings and is involved in a Leverhulme funded study comparing probation across England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.



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