From the outset Collective Memory-Work was intended to be a method for research and emancipatory learning with a consciously open form. Over three decades the method has been successfully used in academic research in a variety of fields. It has been adapted and adjusted according to purposes of the applications, institutional frameworks, organisational necessities and methodological considerations, leading to further developments of the method. Narrative transformation, collective autoethnographic memory-work, mind-scripting, collective biography are some of the terms that reflect these developments. The symposium in August, 2021 in Maynooth is meant to:

- foster an exchange about the use of CMW (its timeliness, its variations, the potential fields of application, its value in teaching, learning, research, social activism);
- create an opportunity to build networks for cooperation and knowledge exchange across geographical and disciplinary boundaries;
- build bridges for an increased transfer of CMW into non-academic areas.

At the Symposium we have: Contributors not presenters …
Another academic conference, another presentation, another item for the CV, add points on the publish-or-perish scale—aaaaaargh!

Sure you know this: A session, 60 minutes, three presentations?

Presenters are given 15 minutes to put their stall out, afterwards 5 minutes of discussion…what sort of exchange is possible in such a framework?

As someone with a bit of interest in a given topic, neither will the presentation suffice, nor will the “discussion,” or whatever you wish to call it. Should it
happen that you are actually touched by a topic, or an aspect of the presentation, should you in fact start thinking about it in any meaningful manner...you are at the wrong place, sorry, this set-up is not suitable for such odd things.

Before you are at the point where you might have ordered your thoughts silently in your head, or (beware) had a chance to even do so in exchange with the rest of the people in the room...the time warden has already raised the red flag. Next presentation, next power-point, next doughnut, next, next, who’s next—remember the chipper in town at 2 a.m., do you?

**What we want is something different.**
Contributor, you will make a real contribution, one that is meant to incite thought, discussion, exchange, and that will connect with the participants in the room who came to hear what the contributors have to say, and to engage with them in a discussion that arises from the contribution.

Sure, you may call the contribution a presentation. But in the case of the symposium on CMW a presenter is first of all a contributor, laying out a path for others to engage in a meaningful manner.

**Participants**
The symposium tries to bring together people from different backgrounds who have a shared interest in CMW, regardless of their institutional or professional status, or their disciplinary affiliation.

If we only look at the academic disciplines in which CMW has been used we find, e.g., sociology, psychology, gender studies, cultural studies, business studies, sport and leisure studies, education and teacher training, arts education, political science.

Outside academia the method has been used in adult education, within trade unions, vocational education, political parties and social activist groups.

We hope this multiplicity of backgrounds can also be represented by the participants at the symposium, offering opportunities for exchanges that otherwise are rarely possible.

**Abstracts and Contributor Information**
By using the links via the names of contributors you can access the abstracts for the sessions planned at the Symposium, and also some personal information about the contributors. Please note that this is work in progress with some abstracts to be updated in due course.

**Nora Räthzel and Mary Hermes:**
Keynote speakers.

**Doris Allhutter:**
Memory, materiality and affect: researching society-technology relations

**Bianca Fiedler:**
“... when I realised I was getting stronger!” A research project with women who had to take refuge and the attempt to develop CMW as a creative work of expression.

**Kerstin Witt-Löw:**
Collective Memory-Work in teacher training

**Maria Vlachou:**
“Plea for slow science”
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS Symposium Collective Memory-Work

Jeff Hearn, Christina Hee Pedersen, Maria Vlachou, Ulla Forseth:
Panel discussion: Memory Work and some questions of time

Shabnam Syed Khan:
Collective memories: agents of change

Keitha-Gail Martin-Kerr, Colleen Clements, Erin Stutelberg:
Motherhood, otherhood, and the state: Being in academia

Carol Wexler, Trees McCormick, Jennifer Onyx:
Agents of their own well-being: Women sharing their experiences using Memory-Work with other older women.

Judith Kaufman:
Abbreviated use of Memory-Work with preservice teachers

Rob Pattman:
Promoting diversity through Collective Memory-Work in an historically White university in South Africa

Janette Tafoya Giles, Brian Ung:
“But we are all queer”: Collective struggles and the art of queer community building

Anna Schick, Ebony Adedayo, Denise Hanh Huynh, Emina Buzinkic:
From the land of 10,000 lakes: CMW revised

Tuula Jääskeläinen:
CMW in Human Arts Spaces: Project plan for implementing intercultural citizenship education at schools

Zorana Antonijevic:
CMW in Serbia

Linn Alenius Wallin:
Reflections of care in the concept of stellar-family

Corey Johnson, Yancey Needham Gulley, Anneliese Singh:
CMW as a social justice maneuverer: Creating change for LGBTQ2S+ communities

Corey Johnson, Yancey Needham Gulley, Anneliese Singh (2):
A moving methodology: Points of departure in Haug’s Collective Memory-Work

Christopher Michael Hansen:
Considerations of intersectionality in CMW: Intersections of gender/race and gender/ability creates privileging and de-privileging spaces for men elementary teachers.

Mary Travis:
CMW – Therapy or therapeutic research

Frauke Schwarting:
Reading tracks together – CWM in the development of critical biographical competences of social workers

Emina Buzinkic, Denise Hanh Huynh:
I am the bird not the ornithologist. A poetic inquiry into queerness, transnational feminism & collective memory
Robert Hamm: CMW as a method of learning, potential and pitfalls.

This information is up-to-date at the time of publication of the special issue of Other Education on Collective Memory-Work.

Please follow the updates on the Symposium webpage for further developments.