

BSA Leisure & Recreation Study Group

Annual Report

The Leisure & Recreation (L&R) Study Group has not staged or generated any events during the academic year 2023-2024. Plans were in place to reactivate the networks that underpin the activities of the Group but a combination of personal and professional factors have undermined the projected programme. These included institutional commitments and job changes, and the pressures of adapting to new employers at a time of volatility within the university sector and within sociological groupings within the sector.

More positively, as co-convenors, we, along with sociologist Gökben Demirbas, completed work on a Special Issue (SI) of the international journal *Annals of Leisure Research*, which was based on a L&R Study Group event held online in January 2022, on the topic of "Leisure for All: Formulating the Right to Leisure as a Radical Demand for Democratic Citizenship". Eight articles and an editorial overview make up the contents of Volume 27 Number 3 of *Annals of Leisure Research*, to be published in August 2024. The high quality of the articles owes much to those BSA members who contributed to the January 2022 event. The publisher Taylor & Francis may also publish a hard-back version of the collection.

With work completed – albeit over a longer period than anticipated - we are now planning two events, one face-to-face and one online, for the academic year 2024-2025. We are convinced of the continuing importance of the Group in the light of various course closures of university groupings and departments offering programmes in leisure studies and events/tourism, and the BSA model of Study Groups can provide strong support for the profile of leisure research not just in the national context but across international scholarly networks. Imminently, too, we will also have the support of a third co-convenor who is keen and enthusiastic to contribute to the planning and implementation of future activities.

Dr Mark Turner, Manchester Metropolitan University

Emeritus Professor Alan Tomlinson, University of Brighton

25 June 2024