

### ***Elizabeth West, Professor of Applied Social Sciences***

Elizabeth West, longstanding SHOC member and beloved social science researcher, passed away on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Dr. West was most recently Professor of Applied Social Science at the University of Greenwich, where she was also the Director of the Centre for Positive Ageing, and Head of the Health and Society Research Group. Throughout her career, Liz focused on public health and social inequality, patients' experiences and evaluation of care, and professional and inter-professional issues. Her research took advantage of large existing datasets, including the British Household Panel Survey, Intensive Care National Audit and Research Data, Care Home and Quality data and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing to address new questions in health policy and health services change, particularly in relation to provision of care for older adults.

Liz and I first met while working on our PhDs in sociology at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, where we shared a focus on sociological models of organization behavior, social network analysis, and quantitative methods. Liz already had post-graduate training in psychiatric nursing from the University of California San Francisco, and had graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Edinburgh. After graduate school, she held postdoctoral positions at Stanford University and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Liz's doctoral research focused on long-term trends in ethnic conflict, reflecting her ongoing interests in sociological approaches to social change and social justice. It was in graduate school that Liz met and later married Professor David Barron, currently at Said Business School, Oxford University. Together they analyzed and published a number of exciting studies on professional networks, organizational change and health systems.

Liz' most recent academic positions at University of Greenwich reflect her dedication to academic service. She helped establish and grow Greenwich's Centre for Positive Ageing, which has brought together multiple collaborators from nursing and the social sciences to collectively improve Greenwich's research excellence in nursing. While she worked on a number of international research teams, she also worked tirelessly for NHS care staff in Kent, Surrey, and Sussex. At heart, she remained the Scottish lass who was raised in a family of fishermen on the north coast in Banff. Elizabeth West is survived by her husband, Dr. David Barron and her daughter, Sarah West Barron of London.