

## Engage Day Crowdsourced Poem

We're getting used to being back together  
a term that doesn't have a name yet  
now we're almost back to normal  
a lot has happened:

consistently challenging ourselves  
removing firewalls  
lots of coffee  
to explore participatory research  
with the public, with communities.

We look at the gaps  
missing data  
one of the hardest nuts to crack  
the whole piece around impact  
we're facing huge challenges in the future.

We're here to solve a problem:  
that science is for everyone.

The first thing we have to ask ourselves is why:  
and how the why informs us of what to do  
a question on every grant proposal:  
who needs to be involved and how?  
whose voice is amplified?  
who's viewpoint is front and centre  
who's is being suppressed?  
what's gone wrong in this engagement?  
who is here, and who is not here?  
how can we share power?  
I don't think I've answered your question.

We were using a method:  
people have to be involved from the beginning to the end  
being in dialogue with each other  
whose science is it anyway?  
None of us can be an expert  
as much as all of us can be an expert  
looking with them  
through their eyes  
through their voices  
helping them to tell their story  
at the heart, everyone participates  
the minutiae of people's lives  
how we bring those systems together  
they finished the experience and they were all best friends.

Push ourselves to go to the utmost frontiers  
the most extreme form of participation:

being more open to fail  
it's almost like there is no end  
it's circular  
people want to join the journey  
or leave the journey  
at different points  
no one's going to stop you doing a good feedback loop  
we are fluid as a community.

I'm going to answer your question now:  
we are in some ways all performers  
everyone is sitting in a circle  
welcome them  
encapsulate this enthusiasm:  
the whole is greater than the sum of its parts  
synchronise and blink with each other  
you've got to move at the speed of trust  
the magical world of storytelling  
and case studies that have been peer reviewed  
a whole spectrum of creative and participatory methods  
far-reaching, co-owned research  
process is as important as the impact  
understanding the balance between talking and listening.

What will we do with it now that we've built it?  
What is the end?  
We learn from reflecting on our experience  
the final question of the afternoon:  
I'd like to hear from you.

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