

Café Scientifique

“Why are you here?": The experiences of men who work as midwives.



Thursday 23 February, 5 – 6.30pm
Workbridge Coffee Shop, Bedford Rd, Northampton NN4 7AD

We are delighted to announce a new venue for our next Café Scientifique, presented by John Pendleton, a registered midwife and senior lecturer in midwifery at the University of Northampton.

It is over 40 years since 28 men were tentatively admitted onto pilot schemes to train as midwives in 1977. Resistance to this radical change from female midwives was strong, with a fear that the advent of men into the profession posed a threat from ‘perverts’ or those seeking male domination by occupying senior posts.

John’s presentation will explore the gendered history of midwifery and present some initial data from in-depth interviews amongst 13 men who have practised midwifery, ranging from early pioneers, to those who have been practising for only a year, and seeks to understand their experiences and what can be learnt about how men are uniquely gendered when working as an extreme numerical minority.

Tea, coffee and cakes available to purchase. To attend February’s Café Scientifique register at bit.ly/CafeSciMidwives

cafescientifique.org.uk/northampton