Sali Hughes

Sali Hughes is a journalist, presenter and broadcaster, specialising in beauty, women’s issues and film. A former magazine editor, she has written extensively for Grazia, The Observer, Vogue, Elle, Stylist, Marie Claire, Cosmopolitan, Glamour, Shortlist, Woman & Home, Look, Good Housekeeping and Net-a-Porter. She is Contributing Editor on Red magazine and popular resident columnist on The Pool and Empire magazine (both of which have seen her twice-nominated for Columnist of The Year). She is also Beauty Editor on The Guardian, where she is known for her intelligent, straight-talking advice and honest product recommendations that are recognised across the beauty industry as having “the Delia effect” on sales.

Sali is a very experienced radio broadcaster, appearing frequently on BBC Radio 4’s Woman’s Hour (for whom she has also presented three in-programme series), Late Night Woman’s Hour, You & Yours, and The Today Programme. She has made many guest television appearances on Sky News, BBC2’s Newsnight, ITV’s This Morning, Good Morning Britain and Lorraine. She has appeared as beauty expert on a number of consumer shows, including BBC One’s The Truth About Beauty and BBC2’s What to Buy and Why. Her own popular YouTube series of “In The Bathroom With...” interviews has won three major beauty industry awards. Since 2015, Sali has also presented her own show on Soho Radio.

In 2017, Sali slept rough in aid of Centrepoint, raising over £40k for the homelessness charity. The following month, she wrote of her own experience of homelessness to launch the Guardian’s Christmas telethon campaign in aid of a variety of charities working with the homeless. In early 2018, she wrote and presented a film for BBC Wales on the homelessness crisis in Cardiff. Her experiences while filming in the city’s largest shelter inspired her to team up with colleague Jo Jones to launch Beauty Banks, a non-profit collective encouraging big brands, beauty professionals and members of the public to donate essential toiletries to people living in serious poverty. Beauty Banks now distributes shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, razors, sanitary protection and other basic toiletries to food banks, homeless shelters, family centres (and some comprehensive schools) in Liverpool, Cardiff, Newcastle, Milton Keynes, Nottingham, London, Birmingham, the South Wales valleys, and many more. In May 2018, Superdrug announced they would be partnering with Beauty Banks on a pilot scheme, installing dedicated donation bins in Manchester stores, with a view to rolling out nationwide.

Sali has hosted corporate events for a large number of brands and retailers. In 2014, she curated, talent-booked and presented a series of sell-out panel discussions and debates for the Selfridges Beauty Project, a major, two-month long celebration of diversity and creativity in beauty, held in London, Manchester and Birmingham, and has enjoyed a strong working relationship with the retailer since. She has hosted many high-profile events, videos, launches, seminars, beauty tutorials and public speaking engagements for major corporate clients, global brands, and all major UK literary festivals. In 2016, she accepted a prestigious invitation to address The Oxford Union, arguing that beauty, feminism and charity are not mutually exclusive.

Sali has written two bestselling books, Pretty Honest: The Straight-Talking Beauty Companion, and Pretty Iconic: A Personal Look at The Beauty Products That Changed The World, both published by 4th Estate. Her third is due for publication in 2019. She has a large social media presence, Tweeting and Instagraming from @salihughes. She lives in Brighton with her two sons and husband, TV comedy writer Daniel Maier.
Campbell Robb
@campbell_robb

Campbell joined the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust as Chief Executive in January 2017.

Before joining JRF and JRHT, Campbell was the Chief Executive of Shelter for seven years. As Chief Executive, he led the organisation through one of the most challenging periods in its history. This included building a sustainable, fundable model of integrated advice and support that is helping more clients than ever before, a growth in independent income and leading the organisation’s response to some of the biggest changes to housing and welfare policy in generations.

Prior to joining Shelter, Campbell was the first Director General of the Office of the Third Sector, an adviser to The Treasury and was previously Director of Public Policy at the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

Campbell is a Trustee of Care International UK - www.careinternational.org.uk.

In November 2017 he was awarded an Honorary degree from York St John University.

Suzanne is Professor of Housing and Social Policy in the Institute for Social Policy, Housing, and Equalities Research (I-SPHERE), Heriot-Watt University.

Suzanne completed her PhD on youth homelessness at the University of Glasgow in 1998. She subsequently held a number of posts in the Department of Urban Studies at the University of Glasgow, including ESRC Research Fellow in Housing and Social Exclusion and, latterly, Lecturer in Housing and Social Policy.

From 2003 to 2010 Suzanne was Joseph Rowntree Professor of Housing Policy and Director of the Centre for Housing Policy at the University of York.

Suzanne took up her Research Professorship in Housing and Social Policy at Heriot-Watt University in July 2010. Suzanne specialises in research on homelessness and housing exclusion, and much of her work has an international comparative dimension. Suzanne was until recently Editor of the International Journal of Housing Policy.
Kit was elected to Parliament in 2015 and is the MP for North West Hampshire. He is a Government Minister in the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). This is his first ministerial role.

The Minister’s portfolio includes: Cross-DWP House of Commons spokesperson; Workless families, relationship support and support for disadvantaged groups; Childcare and maternity benefits; Child maintenance; Financial support for housing, including within Universal Credit; Other social assistance, including supported accommodation; Support for Mortgage Interest, Cold Weather Payments, Bereavement Benefit and Funeral Payments Scheme, and Benefit Cap implementation and benefit uprating.

Kit has previously worked in local government. From 1998–2006 he was a councillor for Westminster City Council, and was Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance for two years. In 2008, he stood for election to the London Assembly and was appointed as the Deputy Mayor for Policing shortly after the elections in May. He was then appointed as London’s first Deputy Mayor for Business and Enterprise in 2012, and remained in this role until March 2015.

Before entering politics, Kit was a chartered accountant, founding a Midlands based finance company twenty years ago, which he now Chairs.
Chris is Deputy Director of Policy and Research at the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and a member of the Social Security Advisory Committee. He is a former social researcher at the Home Office and Cabinet Office. Chris has also been a cancer researcher in the NHS, a member of the UK Commission for Employment and Skills Policy Expert Group and a member of the Social Research Association Board. He has a MSc in social research methods from South Bank University.

Chris Goulden
@Chrs_Goulden

Rose is a Senior Adviser at the Local Government Association. She currently leads on welfare reform, social security and families, and has done so since the Coalition government instigated a programme of substantial reform to working age benefits in 2012.

Rose started her local government career in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. She joined the Improvement and Development Agency (which later merged with the LGA) as Community Cohesion Adviser in 2006, working with a wide range of councils to identify and share local approaches, as well as advising on emerging national policy. She has moved around a number of policy briefs since then (equalities, preventing violent extremism, public health, VCS engagement to name just some!) but she has always had a primary interest in how local partners, and councils in particular, understand and meet the needs of diverse communities, with a particular focus on improving outcomes for the poorest and most disadvantaged.

Rose Doran

Karen was the lead researcher on NPI’s Preventing Destitution: Policy and Practice in the UK. Her other recent publications include London’s Poverty Profile 2017, CPAG’s flagship policy publication, ‘Poverty the Facts’ and Redefining Neighbourhoods: A Future Beyond Austerity? for the Association for Public Service Excellence.

Karen Barker
@karenmbarker
Claire is a Service Manager at the British Red Cross Refugee Support Service in London. Prior to this she held various frontline positions within the service including as Coordinator for the Women in Crisis project which offers specialist support to female asylum seekers who have higher support needs as a result of gender based violence.

The London Refugee Support Service provides practical support and advice to refugees and asylum seekers across London. Resolving destitution is the core focus of this service. Claire manages the casework service which provides advice and support in the areas of community care, asylum support, welfare benefits and homelessness. Alongside welfare casework the service offers a day centre with shower and laundry facilities and provides emergency provisions such as limited hardship payments, food parcels and hygiene packs. The service works with partners to provide specialist projects including access to therapy for trauma and immigration and public law advice.

Natalie is Director of Research and Learning at The Legal Education Foundation - an independent grant making foundation with a portfolio of over 200 grants – where she leads work to better understand the ways in which people can be assisted to understand and use the justice system to secure their rights, protections and fair treatment.

She recently completed a PhD exploring the impact of cuts to civil legal aid on vulnerable individuals, focusing on the experience of Law Centres.

Natalie is passionate about improving public understanding of the legal system- in 2017 she was appointed to the BBC Expert Women Network and her research and writing have been featured in The Guardian, the New Statesman and the legal press.

Natalie sits on the Administrative Justice Council and the Civil Justice Council’s Litigant in Person Engagement Group.
Mark first became interested in practising law whilst undertaking an internship in Jamaica where he assisted prisoners on death row at the now ‘Independent Jamaica Council for Human Rights’. The internship formed part of his university studies as a volunteer with the University of Westminster’s ‘Death Penalty Project at the Centre for Capital Punishment Studies’. In Jamaica, Mark experienced first-hand the poverty, destitution and suffering of death row prisoners who could not afford legal representation. Mark graduated in 1995, before then obtaining a Master’s Degree in Criminal Justice in 1997. He completed his Legal Practice Course (LPC) in 2002.

After he completed his legal studies, Mark worked within social welfare law for over 11 years at Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), first as an adviser at Bristol CAB and then as a legal aid money advice caseworker and additionally a housing caseworker at various CABs in the Essex area. Part of Mark’s role at the CAB also included training and mentoring new advisers in housing and debt casework.

Mark also volunteered with a wide variety of local community groups delivering social welfare advice, including an Eastern European Women’s support group assisting women experiencing hate crime, marginalisation and isolation locally; the Offender Support Initiative, providing prisoners at HMP Chelmsford, HMP Bullwood Hall and HMP Holloway with advice on their rights to housing following release from prison; and the Debt Health initiative assisting patients in secure mental health units with money management.

Mark applied for the JFF because he wanted to be a social welfare lawyer. He wanted to be a lawyer who could help the most vulnerable in society – those who are destitute. The JFF will allow Mark to qualify as a solicitor while also undertaking a project to develop and implement a project that will advance access to justice.

Mark began his training contract/fellowship in January. Mark’s first seat is with the immigration department where he is working on non-controlled immigration, asylum and human rights cases under the supervision of HCLC immigration solicitor Sonia Lenegan.

Gráinne is a Professor of Law and Social Justice at Ulster University and Director of Ulster University Law Clinic.

She is the Associate Editor of the Journal of Social Security Law, a member of the Social Security Advisory Committee and Executive Director and Vice-Chair of Law Centre (Northern Ireland).

Gráinne has published extensively on social security and access to justice, including empirical research on tribunal reform, legal participation and litigants in person, funded by the British Academy, the Legal Education Foundation, the Nuffield Foundation and others.
Workshop 3

What are the effects of UK policy on destitution?

Helen is Head of Analysis at the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. She leads the team undertaking JRF’s analysis and data monitoring work, focusing on social, economic and public policy trends and changes affecting people and places in poverty.

Helen joined the Foundation in 2005 as a Policy and Research Manager. She has developed and led programmes of research and policy focusing on child poverty, labour markets, education, poverty and ethnicity, and destitution. Before joining the Foundation, she worked at BMRB Social Research and Opinion Leader Research, carrying out research on topics including benefits, tax credits and tax, education, and housing.

Glen is a Professor of Urban Studies based in I-SPHERE (Institute for Social Policy, Housing and Equalities Research) at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.

His research covers planning, housing need, affordability, local services, poverty, destitution, homelessness, and severe/multiple disadvantage. Recent publications include books on Poverty and Social Exclusion and Planning and the Housing Market.
Suzanne is Professor of Housing and Social Policy in the Institute for Social Policy, Housing, and Equalities Research (I-SPHERE), Heriot-Watt University.

Suzanne completed her PhD on youth homelessness at the University of Glasgow in 1998. She subsequently held a number of posts in the Department of Urban Studies at the University of Glasgow, including ESRC Research Fellow in Housing and Social Exclusion and, latterly, Lecturer in Housing and Social Policy.

From 2003 to 2010 Suzanne was Joseph Rowntree Professor of Housing Policy and Director of the Centre for Housing Policy at the University of York.

Suzanne took up her Research Professorship in Housing and Social Policy at Heriot-Watt University in July 2010. Suzanne specialises in research on homelessness and housing exclusion, and much of her work has an international comparative dimension. Suzanne was until recently Editor of the International Journal of Housing Policy.

Matthew is a respected economist and policy analyst, having spent well over a decade working in and around policy making in Westminster. Before founding WPI Economics Matthew held a number of roles including Chief Economist and Head of Financial Services Policy at the consumer champion Which?, and Head of Economics and Social Policy at the think tank Policy Exchange.

Matthew also led the Independent Review of Jobseeker’s Allowance sanctions that reported to Parliament in 2014, and previously spent eight years at the Treasury. Alongside WPI, Matthew is also a Senior Researcher at the Social Market Foundation.
Panel: How do we solve destitution in the UK?

Carmel McConnell MBE
@MagicCarmel

Carmel is the Founder of Magic Breakfast. Carmel’s background is a mixture of social activism and senior corporate roles.

While researching her first book ‘Change Activist’, in 2000, Carmel interviewed five headteachers in the London borough of Hackney who told her that many of their pupils arrived at school too hungry or malnourished to learn. Carmel started buying and delivering breakfast food to these schools, with remarkable results as children’s concentration, behaviour, punctuality and educational attainment significantly improved. As demand for her help grew, Carmel took time out from her City technology consultancy, setting up Magic Breakfast in 2003.

Today Magic Breakfast provides healthy breakfasts to around 32,000 children in England and Scotland during term time, in over 470 primary, secondary and Special Educational Needs schools, plus Pupil Referral Units. In March 2018 the charity, in partnership with Family Action, won a £26 million contract from the Department for Education to deliver the new National School Breakfast Programme, which is due to run until March 2020.

Carmel is a member of the School Food Plan Alliance, the All-Party Parliamentary Group on School Food and a range of U.K. food poverty campaigns. She was awarded an MBE for her services to school food in the New Year’s Honours 2016 and an Honorary Doctorate by the Open University for her work to improve access to education. She lives in London with her civil partner Catherine and two fairly well behaved spaniels.

Seyi Obakin OBE
@seyoba

Seyi is currently the Chief Executive of Centrepoint, the leading national charity working with homeless young people.

He is a chartered accountant whose extensive experience spans professional accounting with PriceWaterhouseCoopers, corporate banking with Citibank and BNP Paribas, and the whole spectrum of social housing provision.

His current focus is on enabling young people, including some who have been in custody, to have a stable home and a job. This means alleviating homelessness; improving access to skills, qualifications and employment; enabling access to appropriate health care; creating affordable homes; and influencing policy and systems locally and nationally.

In addition to his Centrepoint role he is a Non-Executive Director of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee for Her Majesty’s Prison & Probation Service, a member of the DWP Social Security Advisory Committee, Patron of Lifeforte International Schools and Chair of Tobi Adeyemi Foundation.

He was awarded an OBE in 2016 for services to youth skills, employment and homelessness.
Tim was made Bishop at Lambeth, Bishop to HM Forces and Bishop for the Falkland Islands in September 2017.

Prior to that, he had been Bishop of Truro since 2008, after spending seven years as Bishop of Sherborne. Tim has been ordained for over 35 years and has served in several dioceses and contexts. He was Principal of the North Thames Ministerial Training Course and served as Chaplain to David Hope when he was Bishop both in Wakefield and London.

He is Trustee of a number of organisations e.g. Bishop’s Forum, Transformation Cornwall and Volunteer Cornwall. He has responsibility for leadership programmes for senior clergy across the country and also serves on the Council for Christian Unity. He co-chairs the regular conversations between Anglicans and Roman Catholics in this country. He had been in the House of Lords from 2013 until he took up post at Lambeth. During his time in the Lords he co-chaired the inquiry that lead to the report Feeding Britain.

He has enjoyed working in Cornwall, where his priorities have been to discover God’s kingdom and grow the church. He is putting his energies into reshaping the church’s structure in order to meet these priorities.

He was born in Yorkshire and is married to Sian who is a Senior HMI and they have two grown up children, twin granddaughters and a grandson.