Heather Chappells

DEMAND’s role in reorienting European energy demand agendas has already been influential.

Conceptually rich and intensely collaborative environment facilitated by DEMAND

“an intense combination of serious discussion with an equal measure of hands-on fun”
The most memorable, useful, and remarkable aspects of a visiting research fellowship at the Demand Centre are intangible.

I conducted some fieldwork on charging mobile phones and laptops while in transit on trains.

At the DEMAND Conference I led an infrastructural walkshop.
The Windermere gathering was a kind of theory incubator.

The Summer School was a wonderful event. It excelled where summer schools shine, namely, in facilitating interactions among students and among students and faculty, most from different institutions.

There was also a memorable game of Twister as part of a future energy demand scenario.
Conor Harrison

A great opportunity for learning, thinking, and writing in an almost ideal atmosphere for those activities.

The different disciplinary backgrounds at DEMAND sparked new ideas and the potential for collaborations.

The combination of the DEMAND Centre staff, outside visitors, and numerous conferences made for an incredibly vibrant and engaging environment, all focused on examining the dynamics of energy demand.
The DEMAND Centre is a tremendously inviting and active academic community.

DEMAND researchers were extremely engaging, interested, and helpful. The overall sense of community at DEMAND made working extremely pleasant and productive.

I found my entire experience exciting, thought-provoking, and extremely rewarding.
Elspeth Oppermann,  
Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University

I have left with an infusion of deeper philosophical and theoretical engagement with the area I am engaged in.

I came to engage with Practice Theory approaches to the construction and maintenance of electricity supply systems.

The friendly PhD cohort made sure I was well watered (or rather, coffeed), fed (cheese) and exercised (floorball).
Yolande Strengers,
RMIT University, Australia

Visiting DEMAND was a whirlwind and jam-packed trip.

The intellectual alignment of so many people in one place made for an incredibly stimulating and rewarding experience.

In true DEMAND style, the workshop participants graciously allowed us to experiment on them with a range of demand management interventions.

A key activity was a workshop convened with Ben Anderson and Mike Hazas on ‘Shifting Routines, Changing Demand’.
Ruth Lane, Monash University in Melbourne, Australia

Janine Morley and Mike Hazas, in particular, broadened my understanding of energy demand and IT infrastructure.

My interaction with DEMAND Centre researchers helped me to comprehend the energy demand consequences of domestic IT and its supporting infrastructure of data servers and networks.
As a Centre, the DEMAND group have a comfortable and welcoming collegiality, and are generous with their time and ideas – making my visit useful, stimulating, and importantly, fun.

While at DEMAND I have completed local fieldwork for a comparative interview study exploring energy use when (variously) working from home.

Kimberley O’Sullivan, University of Otago, Wellington, New Zealand

My time at DEMAND was both fruitful and inspiring.
But make no mistake: This is a tribe

I applied a methodology called FFRO: Free fabulation based on random observations
Benoit Granier, Lyon Institute of East Asian Studies, France

My visit to DEMAND was very fruitful. I was looking forward to learning more about the social practice approach and the research conducted in DEMAND. I also particularly enjoyed the cheese tasting sessions following DEMAND seminars.
Marius Korsnes, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

All in all the stay was a great combination of personal and professional inspiration. I was particularly inspired by the diligence people at the centre showed in their work, and in their feedback to me as a visiting researcher. After talking with, and getting written feedback from colleagues at DEMAND, my thoughts on this concept changed and I am more motivated to critique and develop the approach and ideas.
Nicola Labanca, Institute of Energy and Transport of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission

What I appreciated most were the interdisciplinary exchanges I could have during the days following my seminar. These exchanges have been very inspiring for me, as the people I spoke with were able to indicate a series of research directions which allowed me to explore several additional relevant implications of the approach I am applying to study complexity.

During my stay at Lancaster University, I also highly appreciated the hospitality of people working at the Demand Centre.
This helped me to better understand and reflect on my original thoughts, which I have now dramatically re-framed, especially thanks to the professional and friendly DEMANDers I met.

Definitely an enjoyable formative visit

Reading group sessions, chats over lunchtime or later in a pub, even quick encounters while brewing a tea triggered stimulating conversations, suggestions of valuable readings, and names of experts to approach.
Benjamin Görgen, School of Sociology at the University of Münster, Germany

I would like to thank everyone who took part in my DEMAND seminar for their interesting and helpful critiques.

After a warm welcome I took part in a variety of different events inside and outside university, including DEMAND seminars, reading groups and of course the weekly floorball matches.

It was great to work for a while in the inspiring environment that is DEMAND.
Claudia Serwah Prempeh, Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS)

time did fly too quickly, I had a real opportunity to think about my fieldwork data from very different but interesting perspectives

I benefited a lot from the intellectual discussions with the DEMAND Centre researchers

Floorball was an invigorating experience
Hilmar Schaefer, Europa-Universitaet Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

I really enjoyed our discussions and it was a lot of fun, too.

I am looking forward to continuing the exchange - in one way or another - in the future.
Mandy de Wilde, Wageningen University, the Netherlands

A month in the UK has sparked a fascination for hedgerows, they come in so many shapes and sizes! After my presentation at the DEMAND seminar it was suggested that buildings can also be operationalized as practices. If so, what about hedgerows...?

I came here to learn more about the how, what, where and when of ‘practices’, and I left asking myself ‘why practices?’

Visiting the DEMAND centre has been such an inspiring and stimulating experience
Sanneke Kloppenburg, Robin Smale, Nick Verkade, The Netherlands

I was very fortunate to find my research period overlapping with the DEMAND Conference

The first day I was warmly welcomed by the present staff, and joined in the weekly floorball session – very enjoyable

instructive, fun, interesting and relaxing with nice exchanges with DEMAND staff

I came back to Wageningen with a lot of interview material and inspiration to turn our research into an article.
Mattijs Smits, Wageningen University

chatting with people in the corridor, playing floorball, attending seminars, tasting cheese, watching movies, cycling and hiking the area and sharing beers in pubs
DEMAND is composed by a warm and nice group of people.

I participated in several academic activities such as reading groups, group gatherings and meetings. These instances – along with the time I had a ramble to the library – gave me a very precious space for thinking about my current writing.

The third thing I did in DEMAND was learning to play floorball, which I enjoyed very much!