

Editor: Dr James Robards

The British Society for Population Studies Newsletter

# Conference Edition: Welcome to Winchester!

Welcome to the September BSPS newsletter and conference edition!

As a new academic year beckons many of us are descending upon the University of Winchester for the 2016 Conference. At the conference you can look forward to two exciting plenary sessions: one from Professor Pearl Dykstra (Professor of Empirical Sociology at Erasmus University Rotterdam and Vice-President of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences) and one from Dr Katherine Rake OBE (Director of totalpolicy). Professor Dykstra will speak on 'Demographic change: Policy challenges for Europe'. Dr Rake will be talking on 'From aca-



demia to influencing policy: understanding population change'. I look forward to seeing many of you at the conference.

In this newsletter there is the regular column by PGR representative Ridhi Kashyap who will be stepping down as PGR rep. after the conference. In this edition we also have a number of calls for papers, a conference report on the 2016 Popfest conference, information on a new book 'Population Change in the United Kingdom' edited by Professor Tony Champion and Professor Jane Falkingham, our regular spotlight on research section and much more.

As always, do let me know if you have any suggestions for the newsletter — especially if you want to write an article. Enjoy the conference!

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# Postgraduate Student Representative: Ridhi Kashyap

The 2016 BSPS annual conference will mark my last one as your postgraduate student representative. It has been a great pleasure to be the representative for a diverse group of postgraduate research students with wide-ranging interests in population studies. In the past couple of years, the BSPS student membership has expanded to include increasing numbers of students who are at institutions across Europe who have participated in BSPS events and contributed to the newsletter. This promising development highlights the growing connectedness of our research community and I hope that we can continue to consolidate this trend. In addition to the expanding diversity and size of the BSPS student membership, recent conferences such as Popfest at Manchester, or BSPS conferences from Leeds have highlighted the high calibre of student research contributing to conference proceedings. I am certain this BSPS conference in Winchester will be no different. So who is going to be your next student rep? To find out I encourage all BSPS student members to attend the AGM on 13 September at 6.30 pm. We will have a meet and greet after dinner on Tuesday in the campus bar and I hope to see many of you there. Happy conferencing!



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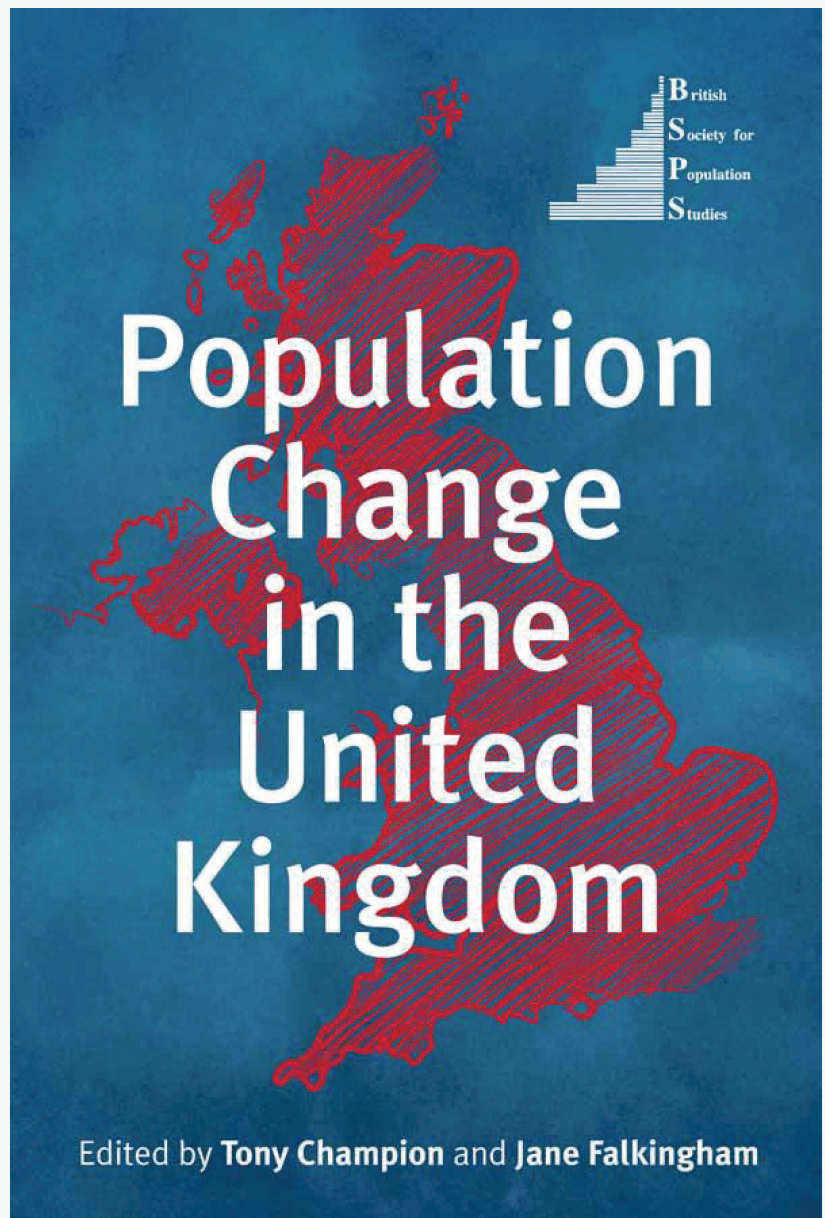
# New BPS book: 'Population Change in the United Kingdom' edited by Tony Champion and Jane Falkingham

*'This book documents the fundamental transformations of the UK's population that have major implications for the economy, society, politics and environment.'*

## Summary

A quarter of a century ago, Heather Joshi edited a landmark volume (sponsored by the British Society for Population Studies and the Centre for Economic Policy Research) entitled *The Changing Population of Britain*. In 2014-15, to mark the 25th anniversary of this book, the BPS teamed up with the British Academy to hold a series of events on population developments in the UK and the policy issues that they raise, and has built on these presentations to produce a new edited collection on the changing population of the UK. This book shows that the UK's population is increasing faster than at any point in the last 100 years, it is getting progressively older and it is becoming more diverse culturally and ethnically. More school leavers are going on to university. Cohabitation has been replacing marriage, more children live in one-parent families and young adults are finding it harder to get on the property ladder. Many women are delaying having children until their 40s. Cities have seen a resurgence in population but there is still pressure on the countryside, while the north-south divide is getting ever wider, as too are local socio-economic disparities. The contributors to this book document these changes, examine their causes and discuss future prospects and their policy implications.

<http://www.rowmaninternational.com/>



**Copies of 'Population Change in the United Kingdom' will be on sale at a discounted price at the 2016 BPS Conference**

# Call for Papers: The Fertility of Migrants and Minorities Hannover, Germany, 6-8 February 2017

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 28 November 2016.

In the current age of migration, immigrants substantially shape the size and age structure of receiving societies, but there is also the question to what extent their fertility and the fertility of subsequent migrant generations matter for future population developments. Traditional concepts of migrant fertility argue that this question is only of temporary nature. Differences between migrant and native fertility will disappear within around three generations, as subsequent migrant generations become increasingly assimilated.

However, the approach of rapid assimilation of reproduction is challenged by different arguments. Migrants adjust their fertility to the reproductive levels of their host societies, but complete alignment was hardly observed. The perspective of assimilation within three generations rests on a particular historic situation in the U.S. in the 20th century. Moreover, new forms of migration emerged. Chain migration, migration corridors, or the establishment of ethnic communities in receiving societies may lead to delayed or segmented assimilation as well as to persistent minority populations of migrants.

Up to now, the number of migrant generations emerging from these new forms of migration is too small in order to draw conclusions on long-term assimilation and fertility. In this situation a look at 'old' minorities, i.e. at minority populations that exist since several generations might be beneficial. Minorities are present in most societies and they substantially vary according to degrees of assimilation, integration, segregation, discrimination, ethnic identity, political autonomy, or the presence of minority-specific institutions. Research on the fertility of migrants might benefit from research on the determinants of minority fertility, as it provides insights into the consequences of longterm processes of ongoing, stopped, delayed, or regressing assimilation on reproductive behavior.

Given the fact that there is not much research on minority fertility up to now, studies in this field might benefit from insights into the determinants of migrant fertility as well. Many theoretical approaches to minority fertility are similar to the ones to migrant fertility, as they were developed within the context of subsequent migrant generations in the U.S. Thus, a critical evaluation is needed to which extent these approaches can be generalized and to which degree they are able to address minority fertility in other parts of the world. Moreover, theories of migrant assimilation and acculturation may also fruitfully be applied to minorities, which provides the opportunity to analyze migrant and minority fertility within a joint conceptual framework.

The workshop intends to bring together researchers working theoretically and/or empirically on the determinants of migrant and minority fertility in order to explore fields of potential cross-fertilization and of substantive differences.

Contributions to the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Theoretical approaches to migrant or minority fertility.
- Approaches to the analysis of migrant and minority fertility within a joint theoretical framework.
- Empirical analyses critically testing theories on migrant and minority fertility.
- Empirical analyses on migrant or minority fertility under a perspective of different forms and degrees of assimilation, acculturation, or segregation.
- Descriptive or explanatory analyses on minority fertility.
- Simulations on the fertility of subsequent migrant generations.

Application: Please send an abstract of one page to Karina Hoekstra-Wibowo (k.hoekstra@ish.uni-hannover.de) or Christoph Bühler (ch.buehler@ish.uni-hannover.de) by November 28, 2016. Notification of presenters: By December 7, 2016. Conference location: Leibniz University Hannover. Schedule: February 6, 2017, early afternoon, until February 8, 2017, noon. Organizers: The workshop is jointly organized by the Institute of Sociology, Leibniz University Hannover, and the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute, Budapest. Program committee: Christoph Bühler (Leibniz University Hannover), Zsolt Spéder (Hungarian Demographic Research Institute), Karina Hoekstra-Wibowo (Leibniz University Hannover). For further information and for information about accommodations in Hannover please visit the workshop homepage at: <http://www.ish.uni-hannover.de/mmf.html>.

# PopFest 2016 Report Manchester, July 4-6

PopFest  
2016

Right in the middle of the delightful British summer, less than 2 weeks after the EU Referendum, the population postgraduate squad met for the annual convocation to discuss the current affairs and success of the non-secret mission “PhD”. This time more than 30 delegates from 7 European countries, namely Sweden, Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Spain, and Belgium and 14 universities across the UK came to Manchester, the ‘Heart of the North’, to share their ideas and views about the future of social sciences, inequality, world peace and, of course, how to procrastinate and get your PhD done on time.

The 24th round of the conference was officially opened with an excellent talk from the inequalities specialist Dr Juho Härkönen, Associate Professor in Sociology at Stockholm University. His presentation was entitled “Educational divergence in family demography: what is it and what are its (potential) implications?” His presentation discussed how socioeconomic inequalities shape family formation and union stability as well as how divorce and single parenthood influence the socioeconomic outcomes for children. Two postgraduate sessions “Families, Fertility and Well-being” and “Migration, Mobility and the Life course” followed after lunch and the official programme for the first day concluded with a workshop on “Getting published”. This workshop was akin to a therapy session on how to “revise, resubmit and keep calm” tailored towards easily heartbroken postgraduate students. Experienced coaches Prof. Wen-

dy Sigle (London School of Economics and Political Science), an editor of Population Studies together with Prof. Cecilia Wong (University of Manchester), an editor of Town Planning Review shared their tips and secret editor knowledge on what is usually overseen and underestimated during the submission process. The first evening adventure began with a trip to Manchester’s one and only famous Curry Mile, a pleasant experience of bonding while enjoying Asian cuisine followed by a stroll along the “university mile” which led us to a pub generally frequented by University of Manchester social scientists.

The second day of the conference was organised into four parallel sessions, “Social and Economic Inequalities” and “Drivers of Health and Well-being”, “Data and Methods” and “Children and Maternal Health”, followed by the second workshop on “Careers outside of Academia”. A panel of five experts introduced the possibilities and prospects for postgraduate careers, and also discussed the challenges of stepping out of academia and meeting the brave new world of commercial and state research. Nicola Wildash from YouGov’s political and social team talked about her experience of getting into the company through an intern-



Prof Wendy Sigle opening the workshop “Getting Published”

# PopFest 2016 Report



Oliver Dormon promoting employment with the ONS. “Careers outside of Academia” workshop. Left to right: Oliver Dormon, Dr. Jackie Carter, Nicola Wildash, Dr. Rossella Icardi, Dr. Annika Smits, Adrian Byrne (conference organiser)

ship straight after finishing her undergraduate studies. Nicola shared her knowledge about the skills needed to manage projects, clients and the media as well as promoting an encouraging and friendly atmosphere within the energetic young team at YouGov. Dr Annika Smits travelled to us from the Netherlands, where she works as a senior researcher in the office of Research, Information and Statistics for the city of Amsterdam. Migration flows, housing shortages, gentrification, government regulation and the many factors to take account of when doing the population projections for the capital – sounds tough? Annika knows how! Next up, Dr Jackie Carter, director of Methods@Manchester, is a person who seems to know everybody who is anybody in the education sector! She introduced the Manchester Q-Step Centre that supports young scholars’ career development and helps them to transition into industry employment. Dr Rossella Icardi, researcher at NatCen Social Research, less than one year out of her PhD journey at the University of Southampton, explained the routines, advantages and disadvantages of working for an independent social research agency once you stop being your own manager. Last but not the least, Oliver Dormon from the Office for National Statistics promoted career opportunities within the ONS in such an enthusiastic manner. No doubt PopFesters will give his pitch some serious consideration once they are done with their PhDs. Participants could observe how ‘connecting people’ works in action, when Oliver and Jackie discussed the opportunities of bringing the ONS and Q-Step together. The evening continued with a walk through

the historical city centre of Manchester and an evening meal at a traditional Italian restaurant followed by a drink in a traditional Irish pub!

The third day continued with two sessions, “Families and Unions” and “Migration and Integration”. Consistent with the opening keynote, the closing one was given by Prof. Jan van Bavel, Professor in Demography at the Centre for Sociological Research of the University of Leuven (KU Leuven) with a presentation on “Demographic implications of the reversal of the gender gap in education”. Jan presented his big project dedicated to the reversal gender gap in education and its longstanding consequences for reproduction in Europe through changes in the mechanisms of assortative mating, following union stability and eventually, fertility.

At the end of the conference, a Presentation Award, giving exclusive privilege to publish research in the Demotrends blog as well as the traditional £50 amazon voucher, was given to two participants, as the judges simply could not decide between the two excellent presentations. Lena Imeraj from the Vrije University Brussel (Belgium) who prepared a talk about the intergenerational transmission of human capital among ethnic minority groups and spatial and parental inheritance factors, supporting the results of her advanced models with impressive clear visualisation using GIS. Kalwinder Sandhu from Coventry University delivered her presentation on British South Asian women’s lived experiences and consequences of choosing their own partner in a manner that simply could not leave anyone

# PopFest 2016 Report

indifferent; the judges noted the teary eyes around the room during Kalwinder's talk (and really, how often do you cry during a conference?). Cultural shock, attitudes towards violence, inequality, positionality, and much more; find out more with Lena's and Kalwinder's submissions to Demotrends very soon!

Organized by postgraduate students for postgraduate students, PopFest is an annual Population Studies conference with the aim to bring together researchers from different social science disciplines. This year's PopFest took place in Manchester, where it

was jointly organized by students from the University of Manchester and the University of Liverpool, who agreed during the last year's PopFest 2015 in Plymouth to bring it up North.

We are very thankful to all the participants for showing a great effort in preparing for the conference. This includes delivering engaging talks and excellently chairing the sessions with follow up discussions and summaries making sure no one left the session without a take home message. We had a great time in Manchester!

We also want to thank everyone who helped make this event not only possible but unforgettable so thanks to the CMIST administration team, the University of Manchester finance and media services teams, the product suppliers, the catering crews, the porter staff and the sponsors for making PopFest 2016 run so smoothly. We are delighted to announce that next year, for the second time in its history, PopFest leaves the UK and goes to Stockholm! A Swedish summer is a good bet. Good luck and hopefully see many of you next year!

After all, #netfriending is the new black

Sincerely yours, Organising Team – Adrian Byrne, Alina Pelikh, Somayeh Taheri, Angelo Moretti.



Discussion after Session 8 "Migration and Integration"



PopFest 2016 Organising committee (left to right): Will Shankley (University of Manchester), Adrian Byrne (University of Manchester), Alina Pelikh (University of Liverpool), Angelo Moretti (University of Manchester) – Additional Organisers: Somayeh Taheri (University of Manchester)

## Spotlight on Research:

### Nele Van der Wielen, University of Southampton

***Nele van der Wielen is a final year PHD student at the University of Southampton supervised by Dr Amos Channon and Prof Jane Falkingham. Before Nele completed her Masters in Social Statistics at the University of Southampton she studied partly in Germany and partly in the Netherlands. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Management and Social Science. Her research interest bridges the fields of social statistics and demography.***

Why do older adults in low and middle income countries who are often most likely to benefit from enrolling in a health insurance scheme not enrol? This is one of the questions I am trying to answer in my PhD.

In 2014, two-thirds of the 868 million global population aged 60 and over were living in low and middle income countries and it is projected that by 2050, 8 in 10 people aged 60 and over will live in countries that are classified as low or middle income countries. Population ageing is a serious challenge for healthcare provision due to greater prevalence of disabilities and morbidity in older age. The number of older adults in Africa will grow faster than in any other region in the world, yet the elderly have been marginalized by health policies there.

My work focuses on the crucial case of the Ghanaian National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS); first implemented in 2005. Ghana is a crucial case study for other developing countries as it is predicted to experience extreme population ageing along the lines of that predicted in the other countries and at the same time has been a pioneer in introducing a comprehensive scheme aimed at providing affordable healthcare to all.

I systematically assess motivations for enrolment in the NHIS by applying different advanced statistical techniques utilising survey data. While previous studies have mainly focused on demographic and socio-economic factors, my analysis allows investigation of geographical barriers by applying geo-spatial methods.

Despite qualifying to join the insurance system for free at the age of 70, older adults have to travel to a district office to apply. Those living in rural areas are unable to travel to the district offices as they are less mobile than younger adults in a country with poor road quality where lack of cars and public transport makes travelling difficult. My research so far shows that enrolment in the national health insurance scheme in Ghana is indeed a matter of geographical accessibility.

I have presented my findings to stakeholders and an NGO in Ghana and together we are working to improve the access to healthcare among older adults.

This research is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and I was recently awarded the University of Southampton 2016 Sustainable Action Awards as a runner up in the category outstanding student.

For further details, comments and feedback please do not hesitate to contact me at [n.van-der-wielen@soton.ac.uk](mailto:n.van-der-wielen@soton.ac.uk)





# Call for Papers: International Seminar on Urban Health Transformations

## Cambridge, 11-12 July 2017

Seminar organized by the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Historical Demography and Cambridge University.

Deadline for submissions: 30 September 2016

Health in urban areas has played a major role in determining trajectories of demographic growth, economic success and individual and community well-being across time. However the relationship between health and urban space has not been constant over either time or place. Before the early twentieth century, towns and cities suffered a probably universal urban mortality penalty, and in some periods acted as 'demographic sinks', characterized by high death rates largely due to air and water-borne infections. The improvement of urban environments, together with the development of better preventive and curative medical services which tend to be based in cities, means that urban areas today have lower mortality than their surrounding areas. Although the decline of mortality in urban areas has been studied, there is little consensus about how urban spaces were transformed from unhealthy to healthy places. Such changes are unlikely to have happened at the same time or stage of industrial, economic or infrastructural development in every place, but it has not been established whether there are any key developments which are necessary or sufficient for such transformations to occur. Attempts have been made to link declines in mortality to the introduction of sanitation and water supply, but with mixed success. The roles of housing, street paving, air pollution, and animal keeping in fostering a hostile disease environment have been addressed less often. Municipal governance and institutions have been linked variously to poorer and to better health. How migration contributes to observed mortality rates is also poorly understood: migrants seeking work or a better life are often selected for better health, but may lack immunities to specific urban diseases. Chronic conditions such as tuberculosis may be linked to return or health-seeking migration, and such factors make it hard to disentangle the ways that migration, as other possible influences, might be linked to health outcomes.

We invite any paper which investigates the transformation of urban health or demographic regimes and we hope to gather a programme which will allow comparisons of a range of places which experienced urban growth of different speeds and characters, or with different disease environments. We welcome papers addressing a wide spectrum of historical eras from the earliest cities up to the present day, and from all continents. We invite contributions from a variety of aspects including: the demographic risks of mortality and ill-health for individuals, groups and places, and the development of institutions and infrastructure and the health environment. Studies focusing on particular components of mortality (e.g. by age or cause) are encouraged as well as those which investigate less easily measured aspects of health. We welcome those who can examine the spatial details of urban health using GIS, and those who aim to shed light on the role of migration. Please read the full announcement for this seminar.

### Online Submissions:

The IUSSP Panel on Historical Demography invites researchers to submit online by 30 September 2016 a short 200-word abstract AND an extended abstract (2 to 4 pages, including tables) or a full unpublished paper for consideration. To submit an abstract please fill out the online submission form here: [ONLINE SUBMISSION FORM](#). Both short and detailed abstracts must be submitted in English. The working language of the meeting is English, and presentations and final papers must be in English. Submission should be made by the author who will attend the seminar. If the paper is co-authored, please include the names of your co-authors in your submission form (in the appropriate order). In addition to dissemination through posting on the member-restricted portion of the IUSSP website, seminar organizers will explore possibilities for publishing the papers as an edited volume or a special issue of a journal. Papers submitted should be unpublished and, as for a journal or an edited book, authors, by submitting a paper, agree they will not propose it for publication to another editor until the committee makes a decision with regard to its possible publication.

For further information, please contact Seminar Organizers: Alice Reid ([amr1001@cam.ac.uk](mailto:amr1001@cam.ac.uk)), Diego Ramiro ([diego.ramiro@cchs.csic.es](mailto:diego.ramiro@cchs.csic.es)), and Romola Davenport ([rjd23@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rjd23@cam.ac.uk)).

### IUSSP Scientific Panel on Historical Demography

Chair: Diego Ramiro Fariñas (Spanish National Research Council) Membership: Martin Dribe (Lund University, Center for Economic Demography); Mamadou Fall (Cheikh Anta Diop University); Rokhaya Fall (Universite Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar); Sotomi Kurosu (Reitaku University); Lucia Pozzi (Università degli Studi Di Sassari); Alice Reid (University of Cambridge); Ana Silvia Scott (Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP)); Hélène Vézina (Université du Québec à Chicoutimi).