



**BSA Ageing, Body and Society
Study Group Conference 2016:
Ageing and Culture**

FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2016
MICRA, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



The University of Manchester

Map

**JEAN MCFARLANE BUILDING, MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY
OXFORD ROAD
M13 9PL**



The University of Manchester

AGEING AND CULTURE

BSA Ageing, Body and Society Study Group Conference 2016
Jean McFarlane Building, Manchester University
Friday 26th February 2016

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Welcome

Welcome to the 7th **BSA Ageing, Body and Society Study Group Annual Conference: Ageing and Culture** that we present in collaboration with MICRA (Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing). We are especially delighted to welcome our Keynote Speaker, Professor Andy Bennett from Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, who will speak on **Music Scenes and Ageing Bodies**; and the participants of our Plenary Panel on *Cultural Gerontology*: Professor Julia Twigg (University of Kent), Professor David Amigoni (Keele University) and Professor Chris Phillipson (University of Manchester). We welcome all delegates to the conference, particularly those travelling from overseas.

The focus of this conference is **Ageing and Culture** and builds on significant and vibrant writings on Cultural Gerontology that have emerged in the last decade. Reflecting the wider Cultural Turn, cultural gerontology has expanded the field of gerontology beyond all recognition. No longer confined to frailty, or by the dominance of medical and social welfare perspectives, gerontology now addresses the nature and experience of later years in the widest sense. Drawing on diverse areas of study that encompass the arts and humanities – novels, painting, music – that extend into new areas of life – clothing, hair, travel, consumption, gardening – and that draw on new methodologies – visual, narrative, material – these developments have located the study of later years within a larger and richer context. This one day conference brings together academics and researchers whose work focuses on ageing and culture and we present a diverse inter/national programme that includes one keynote address, one plenary panel on *cultural gerontology*, 16 oral presentations and a drinks reception.

We have especially welcomed our collaboration with MICRA, which has resulted in this excellent opportunity to present our research and ideas at the University of Manchester, and to work with colleagues at MICRA, a centre for ageing that is internationally recognised for its cutting edge and multidisciplinary research. In particular, we thank Professor Chris Phillipson, Director, and Jill Stevenson, Project Administrator, for making this a successful and engaging collaboration.

We would also like to thank **Rachel Chismon**, Events Officer at BSA, for her excellent and patient administration and organisation of the conference. The BSA office is committed to supporting study groups, and we always enjoy the opportunity to collaborate and work with our BSA colleagues.

There will be refreshments available in the Foyer at break times throughout the conference, and a drinks reception at the end. We welcome any comments you may have on the format or organisation of this or future conferences. Please let us know your views either by speaking to one of the conference organisers, or via email after the conference.

We would like to thank everyone who is presenting their work, chairing a session or contributing to the organisation and success of the conference. We hope that you enjoy the day.

Wendy Martin and Julia Twigg
BSA Ageing, Body and Society Study Group Convenors

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are very grateful for the considerable support of MICRA (Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing) in hosting this conference.

We welcome feedback from delegates about the conference facilities on the conference evaluation form

Information Digest

REGISTRATION

The conference office will be open in the foyer of the conference centre from 09:30 on Friday. Please note that delegates should wear their conference badges at all times, otherwise they may be refused access to conference sessions and service of refreshments and meals.

MESSAGES

During the conference please direct all telephone messages to the British Sociological Association office on +44 (0)191 370 6639 or the BSA Events Team Mobile Phone on +44 (0)7825 157 068. Please make reference to the BSA Ageing, Body and Society Study Group Conference, as the office staff will need to know how to direct your call.

PROGRAMME CHANGES

There will be a conference notice board for programme changes, general messages and announcements. It will be situated in the foyer.

PLENARY SESSION

A Plenary Panel on 'Cultural Gerontology: Key Themes, Future Directions' chaired by Dr Wendy Martin will take place in the foyer at 14:10 with Professor Julia Twigg (University of Kent), Professor David Amigoni (Keele University), and Chris Phillipson (University of Manchester).

DRINKS RECEPTION

Delegates are invited to enjoy a glass of sparkling wine or a soft drink after the conference in the foyer.

REFRESHMENTS AND LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available during the times advertised in the programme in the Foyer. Lunch will also be served in the Foyer area. Water will be available throughout the conference. Please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the organising committee if you have any special requirements which we have not met.

POWERPOINT

All meeting rooms will be equipped with a screen, powerpoint and laptop. Presenters should bring with them a copy of their presentation file on a CD or USB memory stick. Presenters should access session rooms 15 minutes before their stream starts or during lunchtime.

Outline Programme

Friday 26th February 2015

09:30 – 10.00 **Coffee and Registration** (Foyer)

10.00 – 10:10 **Conference Welcome** (Room B)

Professor Chris Phillipson, Director, MICRA
Professor Julia Twigg, Co-convenor of the
Ageing, Body and Society Study Group,
University of Kent

10:10 - 11:10 **Keynote Address: Professor Andy Bennett, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia** (Room B)

Music Scenes and Ageing Bodies
Chair: Julia Twigg

11:20 - 12:20 **Paper Session 1**

	STREAM 1 – ROOM A <i>Chair: Dr Jackie Reynolds</i>	STREAM 2 – ROOM B <i>Chair: Dr Kate Hamblin</i>
11:20 – 11:40	Robin Hadley Fictive grandfatherhood: the experiences of older involuntarily childless men.	Alexandra Hillman Letting go of coherence: The challenge of representing dementia
11:40 – 12:00	Siewpeng Lee Growing the "shahbazim": making the Green House Project work in Britain	Katsura Sako Dementia in Children's Picture Books
12:00 – 12:20	Kori Novak The Case for Narrative Medicine in Prison Hospices	Sarah Campbell The embodied narratives of men living with dementia in care settings.

12:20 – 13:15 **Lunch** (Foyer)

13:20 - 14:00 **Paper Session 2**

	STREAM 1 – ROOM A <i>Chair: Dr Alexandra Hillman</i>	STREAM 2 – ROOM B <i>Chair: Dr Sarah Falcus</i>
13:20-13:40	Allison Inkster Picking roses on the borders of the impossible: Space, place, habitus and growing older through adventure sports.	Pat Mahon-Daly Too old to give... thoughts of older donors about giving blood today
13:40 – 14:00	Niamh Moore Ageing, mobility and moving through life with the Alexander Technique	Ramona Marinache Daydreams and motorcycles

14:10 – 15:10 **Plenary Panel: Cultural Gerontology: Key Themes, Future Directions** (Room B)

Professor Julia Twigg, University of Kent
Professor David Amigoni, Keele University
Professor Chris Phillipson, MICRA, University of Manchester
Chair: Dr Wendy Martin

15:10 – 15:30 **Break** (Foyer)

15:30 – 16:30 Paper Session 3

	STREAM 1 – ROOM A <i>Chair: Dr Robin Hadley</i>	STREAM 2 – ROOM B <i>Chair: Sarah Campbell</i>
15:30 – 15:50	Wendy Gallagher Coffee, Cake & Culture	Jason Danely The doctor dancing in diapers: lessons from Japan on the importance of foolish vitality
15:50 - 16:10	Kate Hamblin The UK's Ageing Population: Challenges and opportunities for museums and galleries	Mia Shamea Family Transmissions – Intergenerational Relationships, Bangladeshi Parents and Daughters
16:10 - 16:30	Nuala Morse Exploring the impact of museum activities on health and wellbeing outcomes for Older Adults living with dementia: a mixed-methods approach	Li Sheng The Cultural Representations of Chinese Urban Damas in Netnews

16:30 - 17:30 Drinks Reception

(Foyer)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Professor Andy Bennett
Griffiths University, Queensland Australia
10:10 – 11:10

ROOM B



Music Scenes and Ageing Bodies

Professor Andy Bennett (Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia)

During the last two decades there has been increasing interest in the phenomenon of the ageing popular music audience (Bennett and Hodkinson, 2012). Although the spectre of the ageing fan is by no means new, the notion of, for example, the ageing rocker or the ageing punk has attracted significant sociological attention, not least of all because of the what this says about the shifting socio-cultural significance of rock and punk and similar genres – which at the time of their emergence were inextricably tied to youth and vociferously marketed as ‘youth musics’. As such, Initial interpretations of ageing music fans tended to paint a somewhat negative picture, suggesting a sense in which such fans were cultural misfits (Ross, 1994; Weinstien, 2000). In more recent times, however work informed by cultural ageing perspectives has begun to consider how so-called ‘youth cultural’ identities may in fact provide the basis more stable and evolving identities over the life course (Taylor, 2012; Bennett, 2013; Hodkinson, 2015). Starting from this position, the purpose of this keynote is to critically examine how ageing members of particular music scenes, including rock, punk and dance, might be recast as a salient example of the more pluralistic fashion in which ageing is anticipated, managed and articulated in contemporary social settings. Drawing on empirical data collected in the UK and Australia over a four-year period, the keynote will consider how ageing members of particular scenes negotiate a place for themselves in through evolving a series of discourses that legitimately position them as ageing bodies in cultural spaces that also continue to be inhabited by significant numbers of people in their teens, twenties and thirties.

Andy Bennett is Professor of Cultural Sociology in the School of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences at Griffith University in Australia. He has authored and edited numerous books including *Music, Style and Aging*, *Popular Music and Youth Culture*, *Cultures of Popular Music*, *Remembering Woodstock*, and *Music Scenes* (with Richard A. Peterson). He is a Faculty Fellow of the Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University.

PLENARY PANEL

Plenary panel:

Professor Julia Twigg, University of Kent
Professor David Amigoni, Keele University
Professor Chris Phillipson, MICRA, University of Manchester

Chair: Dr Wendy Martin

Cultural Gerontology: *Key Themes, Future Directions*

Over the last decade, Cultural Gerontology has emerged as one of the most significant and vibrant parts of writing about age. Reflecting the wider Cultural Turn, it has expanded the field of gerontology beyond all recognition. No longer confined to frailty, or by the dominance of medical and social welfare perspectives, gerontology now addresses the nature and experience of later years in the widest sense. Drawing on diverse areas of study that encompass the arts and humanities – novels, painting, music – that extend into new areas of life – clothing, hair, travel, consumption, gardening – and that draw on new methodologies – visual, narrative, material – these developments have located the study of later years within a larger and richer context.

In this plenary panel we will explore some of the territory that has been opening up by Cultural Gerontology, showing how the cultural lens brings new perspectives in ageing into view, identify some of the key themes and future directions. The panel will celebrate the publication of the *Routledge Handbook of Cultural Gerontology* (2015) edited by Julia Twigg and Wendy Martin.

Julia Twigg, University of Kent



Julia Twigg is Professor of Social Policy and Sociology at the University of Kent. She has written widely on age and embodiment, recently focusing on the role of dress in the cultural constitution of age. In 2013 she published *Fashion and Age: Dress the Body and Later Life* that looked at the role of dress in the lives and experiences of older women. With Christina Buse, she undertook a study of Dementia and Dress, exploring issues of personhood, embodiment and memory. She is currently working on masculinity, dress and age. She is actively engaged in debates around cultural gerontology, and is co-editor with Wendy Martin of the *Routledge Handbook of Cultural Gerontology*, published in 2015. Her website related to dress and age is www.clothingandage.org.

David Amigoni, Keele University



David Amigoni is Professor of Victorian Literature at Keele University where he is also Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise. A literary scholar by training, he has worked with Professor Miriam Bernard since 2009 on the NDA-funded Ages and Stages Project, in partnership with the New Vic Theatre, North Staffordshire. He has developed interests in cultural gerontology which have informed his collaboration with Professor Gordon McMullan (King's College, London) on the AHRC-funded network, 'Late-Life Creativity'. Amigoni and McMullan have jointly contributed to the 'Routledge Handbook of Cultural Gerontology'.

Chris Phillipson, MICRA, University of Manchester



I joined Sociology at the University of Manchester in November 2012 and took up my role as Director of the Manchester Institute for Collaboration on Research into Ageing (MICRA) in January 2013. Before coming to Manchester I was Professor of Applied Social Studies and Social Gerontology at Keele University where I had founded the Centre for Social Gerontology. My research concerns social, political and economic issues associated with ageing populations. I have been especially interested in studying questions relating to family and community life in old age, problems of poverty and social exclusion, social theory and ageing, and the impact of globalization on later life. I have held grants in a number of ESRC and cross-research council programmes. My work on theory applied to ageing has focused on developing a critical gerontology which explores and challenges some of the dominant social and cultural assumptions made about ageing and ageing societies. In my empirical and policy work I have become especially interested in the relationship between population ageing and urbanization, exploring questions about the impact of cities on older people.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

The Embodied Narratives Of Men Living With Dementia In Care Settings

Campbell, S., Keady, J., Ward, R.
(University of Manchester)

This paper presents emergent ideas from an on-going doctoral study which is exploring everyday embodied life for men living with dementia. The paper discusses key challenges within dementia studies to find methods and ways of working that attend to the voices of those who may no longer use words or hold structured conversation. This study draws on data taken mostly from ethnographic field notes from within care homes and dementia hospital wards. Here I spent time sat alongside residents living with dementia in corridors, day rooms, and when permitted in bedrooms and bathrooms. The focus of the paper will be to explore the notion of 'embodied narrative analysis' using this data. Whilst in the main I used traditional participant observation methods to collect data in these spaces the analysis attempts to expand 'narrative analysis' to look at stories told through the diverse individual and collective bodies of participants. I am exploring how the atmospheres of these environments are felt through the entanglements of collective bodies in the material and sensory spaces of dementia care. Narrative analysis has been enhanced through close attention to affect and atmosphere to consider how collective bodies perform together the small stories of everyday life. This paper will discuss the importance of innovative approaches to research in order to explore the embodied, felt and intangible aspects of care settings that can have truly tangible and bodily consequences for the people who occupy these spaces and their relationships with those who care for and support them.

The Doctor Dancing In Diapers: Lessons From Japan On The Importance Of Foolish Vitality

Danely, J.
(Oxford Brookes University)

Japanese welfare institutions adopt a paradigm of "successful ageing," wherein individuals are encouraged to manage their own ageing process through preventative mental, physical and social activity. Participation is taken seriously, and age-related decline is viewed as irresponsible and even immoral as the country struggles to support its super-aged population. This paper argues that humor can challenge this paradigm and imagine other ways of ageing that support what Sarah Lamb has called "meaningful decline." Using examples from fieldwork with older people in Japan, I illustrate what I call "foolish vitality," a sometimes wacky, often transgressive mode of humor that embraces the comic realities of ageing. Foolish vitality is neither self-deprecating nor does it seek to escape ageing in laughter. It did not shy away from the bodily vulnerability of frailty or intimate revelation. In this way, older Japanese adults were more likely to compare this humor to a spiritual awakening, and found it to be a powerful way to both enjoy the present and face death. This paper looks at how culture can both inhibit or support this kind of vitality in the context of current Japanese society.

Coffee, Cake & Culture

Gallagher, W., Winn, A.
(University of Manchester)

Arts for health programmes and initiatives are being rolled out in museums and galleries in a number of countries, with networks and partnerships developing between museums and galleries and the health care sector. As Museums and galleries continue to strive to improve access to their collections and provide programmes that promote wellbeing through engagement, evidence is beginning to emerge of the benefits to people's health, wellbeing and quality of life with participation in cultural activities.

Coffee, Cake & Culture is devised and delivered by the Manchester Museum and Whitworth Art Gallery for people living with dementia and their carers. It is a monthly programme of activities for older adults living in care homes, supported housing communities and participants in community support groups. The programme provides a forum dialogue through museum's exhibitions and collections and gallery artworks.

People with dementia need cognitive stimulation, along with opportunities to interact meaningfully with their physical and social environments on a regular basis. Museum and gallery staff and artists, through a partnership with the Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation trust and the dementia and ageing research team at the University of Manchester, are working in collaboration with advanced nursing practitioner's to pilot activities in the Museum and Gallery and in acute hospital settings as well as in community venues.

Fictive Grandfatherhood: The Experiences Of Older Involuntarily Childless Men

Hadley, R.
(University of Manchester)

The global trend of a declining fertility rate and an increasingly ageing population has been extensively reported. Gerontological, psychological, reproduction, and sociological research have mainly focussed on family and women, with the fertility intentions, history and experience of older men being overlooked. Infertility research has shown that failure to fulfil the status of parenthood may lead to a complex form of bereavement and a significant challenge to identity. A qualitative study examined the experiences, attitudes, and behaviours of 14 involuntarily childless men aged between 49 and 82 years. The study used a pluralistic framework drawn from the life course, biographical, feminist, and gerontological approaches. The broad thematic analysis highlighted the complex intersections between men's experience of involuntary childlessness and agency, socio-cultural structures, and biological and social clocks. This study challenges research that reports that men are not affected by the social, emotional, and relational aspects of involuntary childlessness. The participants' narratives demonstrated the diverse elements that affected the men's experience of involuntary childlessness: upbringing, economics, timing of events, interpersonal skills, sexual orientation, partner selection, relationship formation and dissolution, bereavement, and the assumption of fertility. The importance of relationship quality was highlighted in the social networks of both those with and without partners. The search for meaning for four of the men, as they aged, was seen in their negotiation of a form of 'grandfatherhood' role: Adopted, Latent, Surrogate, and Proxy. Awareness of 'outsiderness' and a fear of being viewed a paedophile were widely reported.

The UK's Ageing Population: Challenges and Opportunities For Museums and Galleries

Hamblin, K.
(University of Oxford)

Older people are key stakeholders in the museum and gallery sector as visitors, staff, volunteers, members, donors and trustees. A clearer understanding of population ageing and its impacts will allow the museum and gallery sector to both embrace these opportunities and prepare for any challenges ahead. This presentation will examine not only issues related to the fact that people living longer, but also to the changes in pension arrangements and resources, health and caring responsibilities which too will impact on the role of older people in the museum and gallery sector. It will also consider the changes within this sector and how they too will affect the way museums and galleries can and will engage with a population that is changing. Both population-level changes and the shifts within the museum and gallery sector in terms of focus and funding present challenges but also opportunities for creative and innovative work, involving a wider range of partners and social actors. Throughout this presentation, examples of programmes and projects from cultural organisations from across the UK will be included to demonstrate how these challenges have been embraced and turned into opportunities.

Picking Roses On The Borders Of The Impossible: Space, Place, Habitus and Growing Older Through Adventure Sports.

Inkster, A., Beard, C., Miles, B.
(University of Central Lancashire)

The past ten years has seen a growth in age-related studies, yet the concept of a social gerontology of the outdoors is yet to take root. However, with the maturing of the baby boomer generation, those born between 1946 and 1964, and a spectrum of reasons driving increased participation in adventure sports by older adults, we argue that the time is right for increased scholarship in this area. Consequently, the aim of this continuing investigation is to develop a platform to understand how older adult rock climbers, mountaineers and sea kayakers aged between 65-74 (Av=71.6) perceive their relationship with the natural environment to have changed over the period of their involvement with adventure sports. The sample was both convenient and purposive, with the researchers adopting insider or opportunistic roles. Data was collected in two phases; focus groups followed by semi-structured targeted interviews, and organized around three concepts, the social, psychological and physical. Rather than increased environmental docility with age, our evidence suggests that the dynamic interplay between ageing, adventure sports and the natural environment creates a strong sense of habitus and well being, and points to the value of further research in this area.

Letting Go Of Coherence: The Challenge Of Representing Dementia

Hillman, A.
(Cardiff University)

This paper draws on data from the ESRC funded 'Improving the experience of dementia and enhancing active life' (IDEAL) study. It explores a sociological response to the 'turn to personhood' in research with people with dementia. This 'turn' (built largely by patient and carer organisations) recognises the voice of the person with dementia, and has led to a methodological focus on the development of strategies to mitigate the practical difficulties of doing research with people with dementia. These important contributions focus on ways to adapt the qualitative interview to help those for whom recalling events and reflecting on their meaning poses a challenge. This paper suggests that a focus on adaptation fails to recognise that methods, including the qualitative interview, are imbued with a politics of selfhood in which individuals give coherence to experience and emotion. Such a politics jars with representations of dementia as a gradual decline in capacity, including a capacity to speak. The problem of representation in dementia research therefore requires us to re-think method and methodology in a number of ways: firstly, to re-assess our expectations of the research encounter; secondly, to think differently about what constitutes the products of research; and thirdly, to develop alternative interpretations of meaning in research which support difference in social and temporal frames, rather than seeking to eliminate them. Such an endeavour may shape new ways of knowing that question existing politics of selfhood, and could help overcome the challenge of representing dementia.

Growing The "Shahbazim": Making the Green House Project Work in Britain

Lee, S.
(Brunel University)

Objectives:

1. Examine the Green House Project model
2. Explore the role of the "shahbazim" and their training

In contrast to the 'grey house syndrome' in traditional nursing homes where routines are designed for the convenience of the staff, the Green House Project is an American invention, usually consisting of eight to twelve self-contained homes ranged around a communal area, where residents can participate in a convenient and intentional community outside their own private front door. Providing a complete continuum of care, it ensures that residents are familiar with the staff and physical surroundings.

This paper will briefly explore how elderly nursing home are now a last resort for the elderly. In contrast to minimum-wage carers, elders in these alternative communities are supported by their "shahbazim", a made-up word from the Persian root "shahbaz" meaning the sultan's hunting falcon. "Shahbazim" are the versatile and eagle-eyed care managers who would notice every need of their residents, rather like butlers with specialist training on geriatric care. Elders continue to do as much or as little as they could, maintain control of their own home but at the same time have a ready community to provide company.

There are nearly 200 of such homes in USA and many are planned, but none yet in the UK, although a private company is raising funds to build the first one here. This presentation will raise issues about training these "shahbazim", how these communities might be formed, and how these schemes can be funded.

Too Old To Give... Thoughts Of Older Donors About Giving Blood Today

Mahon-Daly, P.
(Buck New University)

Over the age limit: older age constructions of blood donation and deferment: Old blood ?

This paper presents a critique about the age limit and being an active blood donor.

Using data from blood donor sessions before the recent age limit restrictions limits were removed, the donors' talk about being over the limit, having blood which is too old and no one wants, this is relayed through the sociology of ageing, and the theory of losing face Mauss 1990, and how older donors construct them selves and their blood as being not good enough, and therefore be effectively banned from a once perceived civic duty in relation This leads to tensions between those older people who want to donate, and are refused the choice of doing so simply on being old. Being too old to give is a form of deferment which sits at the heart of constructions of the self as donor in a world .

Daydreams And Motorcycles

Marinache, R.
(University of Bucharest)

Over the past three decades, sociology reclaimed the field of sleep and dreams dominated by works from medicine, psychology and philosophy. In sociology, sleep and dreaming are researched separately. On the one hand the current sociological knowledge on sleep is rapidly expanding, consolidating the foundation of the sociology of sleep; on the other hand, dreams and dreaming are researched almost exclusively in relation with the physiological state of dreaming (REM). Few studies on sociology of sleep and dreaming mention daydreaming, but few attempts have been made to investigate its social importance. Studies made by researchers from sleep science, psychology, anthropology and social historians, suggest that daydreams could be a new way of studying individual and collective social reality and that we daydream three times more than we dream.

In this paper I present a sociological approach of daydreams through motorcyclists' daydreams. The researches made so far show that motorcycling starts with a daydream triggered by a photo magazine, a street icon, a motorcyclist friend, or passionate parents. The research questions are: What could daydreams tell us about riders and their community? How does the motorcyclist body get constructed and reconstructed in the state of daydreaming? To answer to these questions, I am conducting a qualitative research - analyses of social documents such as travel books, diaries, articles written by motorcyclists. The data collected suggest the existence of three types of daydreamed bodies: the natural body, the social body and the emotional body.

Naturalness, Unnaturalness And The Human Exemplar – The Development Of Cultured Red Blood Cells For Transfusion

Mia, S.
(Goldsmiths' College, University of London)

This paper suggests some ways in which studying the growing population of Bangladeshi migrants in London may contribute to a more engaged understanding of the concepts of integration and identity. This paper will investigate notions of migrant influence and intergenerational dialogue on a sense of self for young women of second generation. Through the narratives of my respondents, I explore how they come to be situated in spaces between the community and a sense of self from which they are able to speak. This is discussed in relation to the work of Bhabha's (1994) third space. In this paper, I will also explore psychoanalytical concepts of whether and how migrant parents might somehow 'live' through their daughters and what this might mean for the memories that are carried and are transmitted within the family. This will be analysed in relation to the work of Erikson, (1997). I argue in this paper that daughters borne of the first generation carry memories of migration, which in turn affect communal boundaries they feel they cannot cross. This can be understood through intergenerational dialogue in relation to particular familial and cultural memories that are carried by specific young women.

The Body In Blood Donation

Moore, N., Lewis, C., Miles, A.
(University of Edinburgh)

Despite apparent differences, dominant biomedical and cultural narratives about ageing tend to be about decline, if with different drivers. The emergence of apparently alternative accounts of an active third age risk merely temporally deferring very old age. In this context it remains difficult to produce more diverse stories of the experiences of ageing, particularly accounts which offer counters to the inevitability of frailty, or on the contrary, injunctions to active ageing, which are so easily assimilated into neoliberal demands to remain productive and avoid being a burden on the state.

This paper reports on findings on experiences of ageing which have emerged as part of a larger qualitative longitudinal project on mobility, travel and transport (www.changing-mobilities.org), which focused on mobility in the context of everyday life. As we grew interested in our respondents' anticipated reduced mobility in later life, we sought to explore how a group with a particular expertise around mobility might describe aging. This paper reports on a distinctive substudy of the larger project which turned to interviews with those involved in the practice of the Alexander Technique as a site for possible different expertise on mobility. In particular we focus on how the Alexander Technique works as an 'embodying practice' (Williamson 2015), offering an alternative experience of embodiment, undoing mind/body dualisms which often underlie decline narratives. We also discuss how participants recount a shift from movement as involving actual or anticipated pain, discomfort or limitation, to the (re)discovery of movement as a site of joy and pleasure.

Exploring The Impact Of Museum Activities On Health and Wellbeing Outcomes For Older Adults Living With Dementia: A Mixed-Methods Approach

Morse, N., Chatterjee, H.
(UCL and the Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester)

In the UK, a growing number of museums and galleries are exploring how they can use their collections and buildings to make an impact on the health and positive wellbeing of their audiences. However, the evidence-base for this work is still in its infancy and there is need for more robust, rigorous and ethical methods to explore the impact of this work (especially when vulnerable people are involved).

The central aim of this poster is to present an appropriate methodological approach for exploring a complex, dynamic and creative practice and its impact on health and wellbeing outcomes for older adults living with dementia.

The research is part of a wider project entitled 'Not So Grim Up North' (2015-2018), in partnership with two museum services in the North of England: the Whitworth Art Gallery and Manchester Museums, and Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums. The research will examine the contribution of museum activities to health and wellbeing for a wide range of audiences, including adults with mental health problems; adults in addiction recovery; stroke patients; and older adults living with dementia.

This poster will present a brief outline of current literature in the field of museums engagement and older adults; present the mixed-methods (qualitative and quantitative) approach; and provides initial reflections on some of the challenges of measuring such impact (both theoretically and methodologically), which cut across research in the field of museums in health, and outline future directions.

The Case for Narrative Medicine In Prison Hospices

Novak, K., Mavrommatis, M.
(University of Cambridge)

An ageing population is a significant topic of discussion within both the healthcare and correctional communities in the US. Convicted offenders receive longer prison sentences due to increasingly severe sentencing structures; this has created a large portion of elderly prisoners within the system. It has been shown that incarcerated individuals age 10-15 years faster than their non-incarcerated counterparts. The premature aging process of inmates often brings the earlier onset of age related disease such as various forms of Dementia and Parkinson's Disease. The US has begun examining different ways to deal with natural disease states and deaths of offenders. One such way has been to provide end-of-life programs or hospice and palliative care inside prisons. The current limited provision of end-of-life care exacerbates the problems within the prison healthcare system. Additionally, the dominance of the medical approach to care offers limited consideration to a possible connection between exposure to the adversity of carrying a long term prison sentence with premature ageing and illness process.

Dementia In Children's Picture Books

Sako, K., Falcus, S.
(Keio University)

As population ageing continues, children are very likely to encounter dementia in their families, local communities and in the media, and there is a small but growing field of children's books designed to introduce dementia to children. Manthorpe (2005) argues that there was little information for children affected by dementia until the 80s and 90s, when many therapeutic, practice-based publications, in particular, began to emerge to respond to 'growing attention to the expressed needs of families for information, support and advice' (Manthorpe, 2005: 306). There has been a growing awareness of this need in more recent years, with more and more children's books being published since 2010. We will present some of the findings from our survey of these books which focuses mainly on English-language, North American and British publications. We'll offer a brief overview of our findings so far, and then look in more detail at some aspects of the ways in which these texts represent dementia, care and familial relationships. Manthorpe (2005) and, more recently, Sakai et al. (2012), have approached these books from sociological and psychological perspectives and assessed the accuracy and the comprehension of their representations of dementia. Instead, we take a literary approach in our analysis and ask how the generic features of children's literature shape the narratives in these books, how text and visual image work together, and how these books introduce children to dementia in a loved one.

The Cultural Representations Of Chinese Urban Dramas in Netnews

Sheng, L.

(University of York)

This presentation focuses on the online images of urban damas (middle-aged and older women) in present-day China. Recently, there has been a growing interest in the Chinese online news industry. The total annual number of reports about damas on Baidu (the largest search engine in China) has increased dramatically, from 86,000 in 2010 to 229,000 in 2014 (Baidu, 2015). The considerable attention damas received from media exposure has led to numerous online comments and debates. This raises a question whether these reports challenge the myth of Chinese older women and establish a positive image of ageing women in mainstream media or they are reinforcing existing stereotypes. In my research, I use an interpretive semiotic approach to investigate a wide range of photos of damas obtained from the articles in Chinese major news websites (e.g., Chinanews.com, Youth.cn). Firstly, I would like to explore how Confucian tradition, Maoist ideology and the westernisation of post-Mao China shape damas' construction of ageing femininities in the public domain. Damas' participation in community affairs and voluntary work as well as their high consumption are discussed in relation to the changing gender roles of ageing women. Although some damas are still constrained by the pressure of 'ideal femininity' and the burden of domestic duty in the age/gender hierarchies, the increasing 'visibility' of damas in today's online media reveals the rising power of older women both economically and politically in contemporary Chinese society.