



Convened by: The University of Sydney

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e-Mail Bulletin – June 2007

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to send you the June e-mail bulletin on our developments in the last month and plans for the Ageing Well Research Network. If you have items that you wish to be included in future bulletins please do not hesitate to forward them to us. Please feel free to forward this bulletin on to anybody else who may be interested. If you have received this bulletin via secondary sources and would like to be added to the distribution list please e-mail your request to ageingnet@usyd.edu.au.

Inside this issue (click on the links provided below):

- [Research Theme activities](#) Details of recent *Food and Independent Living for Later Life* and *Longitudinal Methods for Discrete Outcomes* workshops held in June
- [State & Central Hub activities](#) Details of recent events in Sydney and Melbourne
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- [Recent publications](#) Details of recent publications in the AJA and from the AIHW, ABS and OECD
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Research Theme activities:

Healthy Ageing - The Transport and Social Inclusion Committee (TASIC), Monash Research for an Ageing Society (MonRAS) and the Healthy Ageing Theme are proud to present a special seminar by Sandra Rosenbloom (Professor of Planning and an Adjunct Professor in Natural Renewable Resources, Gerontology, and Women's Studies at the University of Arizona) who will speak on: *Meeting the Mobility Needs of Older People; If You're Not Part of the Solution, You're Part of the Problem*.

Professor Rosenbloom is internationally recognised for her scholarship on the implications for transportation and community development of societal trends—notably, suburbanisation, the ageing of society, the increased role in the labour force of women with children, and the growth of groups with special needs. The seminar will take place on **Wednesday 25 July from 4 - 6 pm**, at the Monash University Staff Club, followed by drinks and nibbles and an opportunity to meet with the speaker. Places are limited. If you wish to attend this special event please contact Julie Suker (03 9902 0189 or monras@adm.monash.edu.au)

Independent Living and Social Participation and Healthy Ageing – Two of our Network Themes joined forces to host a workshop on *Food and Independent Living for Later Life* on 26 June. The workshop was organised by the Australasian Centre on Ageing at the University of Queensland and was supported by Aged Care Queensland. Leading Australian gerontology and nutrition researchers from 4 states along with a Federal Government representative were brought together to formulate and prioritise a research agenda on nutrition and ageing and to undertake the groundwork for the development of significant funding proposals to the NHMRC, ARC or other funding sources.

Gaps were identified in current knowledge on what older people are eating and why they make their food choices; what influences food consumption in residential care settings; and managing obesity in older people. Three potential research projects were thus identified: Food and Nutrition in Community-Dwelling Older People; Food Wastage and Nutrition in Residential Care Settings; and Obesity and Healthy Ageing Outcomes. Methodological outlines were produced and potential sources of funding, collaboration and partnerships were identified. The way forward for each study was also considered with collaborative leadership roles allocated. A summary of the workshop will be provided on the Network website in due course.

Population Research Strategies – Kaarin Anstey and Judith Healy from the PRS Theme hosted a small workshop on longitudinal methods at the Australian National University on 27-28 June. The Longitudinal Methods for Discrete Outcomes course, presented by Dr Adrian Barnett, Senior Lecturer in Biostatistics from the University of Queensland, was a great success with 19 attendees on the first day of the workshop, which covered terminology, statistical modelling, and methods for handling missing data. Following the workshop, Dr Barnett along with a dozen workshop participants, enjoyed a 3-course dinner. Some of the workshop participants returned for the practical course on the second day to work on specific problems analysing their data sets. Workshop participants expressed their appreciation, finding the course useful for their own research and for more effective collaborations in the future.

State and Central hub activities:

NSW – the summary report on *The Research and Aged & Community Care Collaborations Workshop* run by the NSW State hub in collaboration with Aged and Community Services NSW & ACT on 6 June 2007 is now available at www.ageingwell.edu.au/links_resources_2.htm along with copies of presentations from the day.

Victoria - On Wednesday 16th May 2007, the ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well Victorian Division and Monash Research for an Ageing Society (MonRAS) hosted a special seminar on *Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Depressed Older Adults* by the eminent geropsychologist Associate Professor Gregory Hinrichsen. Dr Hinrichsen is the former director of psychology training at The Zucker Hillside Hospital, North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System in New York. He is currently on the voluntary staff of Hillside Hospital, a consultant, and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York. The lively seminar was attended by a multidisciplinary audience from across Victoria.

Australian Association of Gerontology - RM Gibson Grants:

The closing date for the 2007 RM Gibson Grants has been extended, until **27 July 2007**. Designed specifically to support emerging researchers in all fields of ageing, interested applicants are encouraged to learn more and download application forms from www.aag.asn.au/research/gibson_intro.htm

Senate Inquiry into the cost of living pressures on older Australians

The Australian Senate Community Affairs Committee is holding an Inquiry into the costs of living pressures on older Australians. The Committee will report by **13 September 2007** and is inviting written submissions by **20 July**. More information is available at www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/older_austs_living_costs/index.htm

Recent publications in ageing:

The Australasian Journal on Ageing (AJA) is a multi-disciplinary peer reviewed journal and the region's premier journal on ageing. The journal is published quarterly and is the official journal of the Australian Council on the Ageing (ACOTA), the Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG), Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA), and the Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine (ANZSGM). The list of research publications in the AJA is provided below. Click on the titles below to access the PDFs of each document:

Australasian Journal on Ageing June 2007 - Vol. 26 Issue 2 Page 58-101

Review Article

[Distinguishing dementia with Lewy bodies from dementia occurring in Parkinson's disease: A literature review](#)
Anne PF Wand. Pages 58–63

Research Articles

[A survey of the frequency and impact of Behaviours of Concern in dementia on residential aged care staff](#)
Katrina Cubit, Gerry Farrell, Andrew Robinson and Marion Myhill. Pages 64–70

[Determining priorities for research in ageing: A community survey](#)

Julie Byles, Lynne Parkinson, Balakrishnan (Kichu) Nair, Jane Watson and Megan Valentine. Pages 71–76

[A study of two sitting positions in frail, older, non-mobile and totally dependent residents of aged care facilities](#)

Jennifer C Nitz, Susan R Hourigan and Marie E Steer. Pages 77–80

[The demographics of loneliness among older people in Perth, Western Australia](#)

Lyndall Steed, Duncan Boldy, Linda Grenade and Helena Iredell. Pages 81–86

Brief Reports

[Validating an Australian version of the Time and Change Test: A screening test for cognitive impairment](#)

Balakrishnan R Nair, William Lee Browne, Ling-Ern Chua, Catherine D'Este, Ian O'Dea and Kingsley Agho. Pages 87–90

[Visual impairment in an aged care ward](#)

Katherine Rush, Louise Dillon and Simon Scharf. Pages 91–93

[Social capital among older residents of a coastal resort: A survey of social resources and vulnerabilities](#)

Felicity Barr and Cherry Russell. Pages 94–96

Conducting Longitudinal Research: Practical lessons from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. This special issue of *International Journal of Multiple Research Approaches* (vol. 1/2) will help both novice and experienced researchers, from academia, government departments, private and public sectors to establish and conduct a longitudinal study. Offering direction and advice concerning the efficient conduct of longitudinal research studies, *Conducting Longitudinal Research* fills a gap in the research methodology literature. More details and a copy of the order form are available at <http://mra.e-contentmanagement.com/archives/vol/1/issue/2/marketing/conducting-longitudinal-research-practical>

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare publications

Hospitalisation due to falls in older people, Australia 2003-04 - This report examines Australian hospital data pertaining to fall injuries in people aged 65 and older in 2003-04. A copy of the report is available at www.nisu.flinders.edu.au/pubs/reports/2007/injcat96.pdf

Current and future demand for specialist disability services - This publication reports on levels of unmet demand for specialist disability services funded under the Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement. A copy of the report is available at www.aihw.gov.au/publications/dis/cafdfsds/cafdfsds.pdf

Residential aged care in Australia 2005-06: a statistical overview - Provides comprehensive information on residential aged care homes and their residents. The report contains information on the capacity of residential aged care homes, their residents and resident characteristics, levels of dependency among residents, and admissions and separations. A copy of the report is available at www.aihw.gov.au/publications/age/raca05-06/raca05-06.pdf

Aged care packages in the community 2005-06: a statistical overview - Presents key statistics on the levels of service provision of the Australian Government funded aged care packages. The programs providing these packages are the Community Aged Care Packages (CACAP) Program, the Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) Program and the Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia (EACH Dementia) Program. A copy of the report is available at www.aihw.gov.au/publications/age/acpic05-06/acpic05-06.pdf

Australian Bureau of Statistics publications:

Older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: a snapshot, 2004-05 provides an overview of the health and social circumstances of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Topics covered include family and community, culture and language, health status, long-term health conditions, disability, health risk factors, immunisation, service use, hospitalisation rates and mortality. A copy is available at www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/mf/4722.0.55.002?OpenDocument

Census of population and housing 2006 - According to the 2006 Census, the median age of the Australian resident population was 37 years, up from 35 years in the 2001 Census. The first figures are now available with more reports on specific topics due out over the coming months. More details are available at www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/Home/census

Trends in severe disability among elderly people - This OECD paper assesses the most recent evidence on trends in disability among the population aged 65 and over in 12 OECD countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. A copy is available at <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/13/8/38343783.pdf>

Scholarship Opportunity:

Postgraduate Scholarship in Healthcare Services for Older People – University of Sydney

Available for candidates with an Honours degree, or equivalent, in health related discipline to undertake research studies leading to a PhD in Healthcare Services for Older People. \$22,000 pa is available for up to 3 years and applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents or NZ citizens. The closing date for applications is **30 July 2007**. See www.usyd.edu.au/ro/training/index.shtml for more information (select 'Current research scholarships' and search under Research Scholarships in "Show Me" and by title in "Optional Keywords").

Upcoming symposia:

The next Eastern Australia Dementia Training and Study Centre (EADTSC) Guest Lecture will take place on **24 July 2007**. Professor John Keady, Professor of Older People's Mental Health Nursing, University of Manchester, UK, will present a lecture on "Partnerships, Relationships and Family Voices: A Lived Experience of Dementia". The lecture will be held in the Auditorium, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Wollongong from **4:00-5:30pm**. Details of lectures for the rest of 2007 can be found at <http://dementia.uow.edu.au/events.html>

Reminder - The Dementia Collaborative Research Centres will be offering their first National **Dementia Research Forum** in Sydney from **17-18 September 2007**. This unique conference will bring together researchers, clinicians, service providers and consumers. The guest speaker, Professor Ken Rockwood, is one of the foremost researchers and clinicians in the world and is being sponsored by Alzheimer's Australia. Other plenary speakers include Professor Jenny Abbey, Professor Henry Brodaty and Professor Marc Budge. For a copy of the program and registration go to www.dementia.unsw.edu.au/DCRCweb.nsf/page/Forumu

Conference reminders:

Mars and Venus: Does Gender Matter in Ageing	9 – 10 July '07	www.ageingwell.edu.au/news_start.htm
Australian Social Policy Conference 2007	11 – 13 July '07	www.sprc.unsw.edu.au
Ageing Brain IBRO Satellite Meeting	10 July '07	http://ibro2007.org/satellite.html
Cognitive Ageing Conference – Down Under	12 – 15 July '07	www.cos.gatech.edu/cac/cac_du.htm
2007 HILDA survey research conference	19 – 20 July '07	www.melbourneinstitute.com/hilda/
Regional Congress of Gerontology & Geriatrics	22 – 25 October '07	www.aog2007.org
APS Psychology and Ageing Interest Group	1 – 3 November '07	www.groups.psychology.org.au
Geriation National Conference	11 – 12 November '07	www.geriation.com.au/conference
New Zealand Association of Gerontology Conference	12 – 16 November '07	www.gerontology.org.nz
6 th Emerging Researchers in Australia (ERA) Conference	20 November '07	www.ageingwell.edu.au/era2007/
The 40 th National Aust. Association of Gerontology Conference	21 – 23 November '07	www.aagconference.com
World Congress of Health Professions	March '08	www.worldhealthcongress.org/
IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics	5 – 9 July '09	www.gerontologyparis2009.com

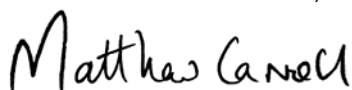
General reminder – Stay in Touch:

To stay in touch with the broad range of ageing-related activities in Australia we encourage you to go to the websites of the Australian Association of Gerontology and the Ageing Research Online. Links to the relevant sections are provided below:

AAG recent news www.aag.asn.au/recent_news/about_news.htm
ARO newsletters www.aro.gov.au/aro/NewsletterFiles/ARO%20Newsletter%20June%202007.pdf

Network News:

That's all for last month,



Matthew Carroll
Senior Project Officer
6 July 2007