



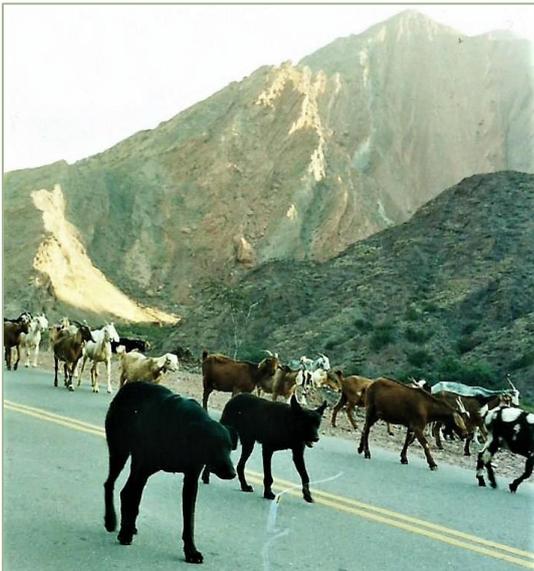
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University of Cardiff

Happy Summer! Tectonic shifts in rural geography recall two black dogs we met 17 years ago in



mountainous Salta Province of Argentina. Far from posh Buenos Aires, where the World Bank oversaw the death throes of Argentina's U\$-linked peso, the dogs focused on farm exports: 'We are dogs. We have jobs!' Their jobs were escorting goats between pasture and protective pens, at dawn and dusk – sans humans. In the 2000-01 economic crisis, WB funded my teaching weeks at Universidad Nacional de Tucuman, so in a civic debate I was asked my prescription: 'Link your peso to Europe's euro, not the dollar,' was my guess. But it was too late: Soon jobless Argentinians switched from a cash to barter economy.

The dogs kept their jobs. Nowadays, non-human robot milkers are replacing scarce migrant labour in USA and Europe, as economic nationalism side-lines multilateral trade pacts in the EU Single Market and World Trade Organisation (WTO). On his July 2018 visit to the UK, Pres. Trump mouthed platitudes on post-Brexit US-UK trade. Any such US-UK trade deal portends controversy on food additives, GMOs, animal welfare, and origins of food – rural issues which the EU would negotiate collectively. – *Editor*

1. RGRG Committee London, May 20, 2018. PhD concerns, etc.

* **RGRG held a committee meeting at RGS-IBG London HQ on 20th May 2018.** RGRG Chair Nigel Walford, Secretary Keith Halfacree and RGRG Newsletter Editor Bruce Scholten resolved to invite more newsletter content from postgraduate students. Happily, Daniel J. Casey reports on a Methods and Interdisciplinarity within the Geographical Realm Postgraduate Workshop Feedback Analysis July 2018. You could be the next contributor. Just ask.

RGRG also plans £50 subsidies for PhD students' conference attendance. Attend our AGM to have your say, at the Cardiff RGS-IBG annual meeting Weds 29th during the Plenary & lunch (13:10-14:25) slot (Main Building - Lecture Theatre 1.25).

➔ **RGRG AGM Agenda (29th Aug.) details on page 6.**



2a. DARG-RGRG mini-conf 11th July 2018 at RGS-IBG HQ London - Daniel J. Casey reports Methods and Interdisciplinarity within the Geographical Realm



Sasha Englemann's keynote on the Aerocene project.

Wednesday 11th July saw the third annual postgraduate methods day held at the RGS-IBG's headquarters in London. However, this year the event was led by the Postgraduate Forum (PGF) and had taken a turn away from focusing solely on qualitative methods towards thinking about how a variety of methods, both qualitative and quantitative could be used to make projects more interdisciplinary. This topic was welcomed given that geography's remit is so wide with so much interesting and diverse research going on within our discipline.

The event was kindly supported by the Developing Areas Research Group (DARG), Manchester-Liverpool DTP and yourselves, the Rural Geography Research Group (RGRG), one of the largest sponsors of the day, so thank you very much! It was fitting for the RGRG to be so involved given the number of postgraduates who attended who were focusing on themes related to rural and environmental governance. All in all, we had 20 postgraduates in attendance, from both master's level and PhD level studies. A nice number for getting to know people and their research.

The day kicked off with a welcome from the PGF's event facilitators (Nina, James and Hannah) and a fancy starburst icebreaker activity. Starbursts were plentiful, with everyone asked to pick four out of the bag, each colour corresponding to a different question. Following getting to know the starburst universe, we had our keynote speakers. Dr. Sasha Englemann from Royal Holloway, University of London presented her first ever keynote speech to us on her research project, Aerocene. Sasha spoke eloquently about her work with cultural artistic projects in atmosphere and environment. We learnt about

Aerocene Explorer sculptures - or, lighter-than-air, balloon-like entities that become buoyant using only the energy of the Sun and the wind. Sasha explained her methods and how she does not believe in disciplinary boundaries and methods being bound by 'where' and 'how' they should be used. This helped make an important case for researchers to become more interdisciplinary. This led nicely into our second keynote from Dr. Lena Jeha from the University of Leeds. Lena spoke about her own PhD research in conservation and current work in educational engagement. Lena highlighted the fact that we need to use a range of methods, both social and natural, as what might appear to be 'natural' may not actually be so. Talking about her participatory mapping work we were able to see powerful narratives emerge from her research which told an important social story. We also saw how the methods used in an entirely different topic, conservation, are now being used by Lena in her current post at the University of Leeds in education. This emphasised the power of an interdisciplinarian to bring together studies from multiple angles, yet to also be able to apply these skills to anything – whether it's a rural topic, geopolitical or economic.

Following lunch, we had presentations from the three organisers of the events day. James Brooks, University of Manchester, kicked us off by talking about his research with aerosols and how from previously being a geographer he has now technically left the discipline. However, he explained how what he does is still applicable to geography in many ways and he helped to bring quantitative scientific methods back into the discussion of interdisciplinarity. Nina Willment, Royal Holloway, followed, talking about her use of creative methods in her geographies of labour and work



Nina Willment discussing methods in her PhD project

research. Yet, Nina explained how her research fits into multiple fields of geography and how she's had to adapt her methods to fit the research, discussing her use of, netnography, photo elicitation interviews and autoethnography. Hannah concluded by talking about her PhD research in the Gambia. Hannah raised many interesting points about how during her research she had to overcome her bias towards using quantitative methods to triangulate her research. Moreover, how for a method to be 'innovative' it doesn't have to be a new invention, it can be a traditional method such as the common interview. However, what makes a method 'innovative' is the process you use in implementing that method. All three of these talks and our keynotes led to thought provoking discussions amongst the group.

Speaking in smaller groups, people discussed the role of interdisciplinarity in their own projects, what methods they are or thinking about using and the issues surrounding the implementation of these. In groups, many issues were problem-solved and many interesting and useful references were given to support others in the group with their questions. A whole participatory session was then centred around the topic of ethics. Groups discussed their projects' ethical issues and solutions to these. One common theme that seemed to emerge is the recently introduced General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and how we as researchers are meant to approach this, especially if we started research before the GDPR came into being.

Many new friendships were made on the day and it was a fantastic opportunity to network with

peers, especially with others who may be doing similar research. In true postgraduate style, the day ended with a trip to the Queens Arms, where England Vs Croatia was being shown. Despite the result being less than ideal a great time was had by all over a number of ice cold pints!

Thanks to the RGRG for all the support and encouragement you provided to help the methods day go ahead. Without this it wouldn't have been possible and such a success. Participants got a lot out of it and a great day was had by all.



Group discussions and activities fostering ideas

P.S. We hope to shortly have more reflective blog posts on the day, video recordings of speakers and images on the PGF website so keep your eyes peeled! These will also be shared with the RGRG group.

FEEDBACK BELOW!

2b. Feedback Analysis: Methods and Interdisciplinarity within the Geographical Realm PG Workshop July 2018: Total Registrations: 20. Feedback Forms Rec'd: 10 (50% completion rate).

Masters Students: 3. PhD Students: 7. DTP Students: 6.

RGS Membership Only 1 out of 10 (10%) of participants offering feedback were RGS members. However, many felt that they may join the RGS in the future and join research groups following the day. With one respondent replying "not yet" when answering whether they were a member of the RGS.

What did you think was the best part of the workshop?

- "The presentations by James, Nina and Hannah. But also enjoyed the keynotes"
- "**Group discussion** about **issues** relating to particular methods"
- "Opportunity to **Network**"
- "**Presentations** of different methods both in **physical and human geography** (5 speakers)"
- "**Sharing experiences** and **brainstorming** about **challenges** and possible methods for specific cases"
- "Keynote presentations"
- "**Interdisciplinarity** of the whole meeting/workshop"
- "**Meeting people** in this field"

Were you dissatisfied with any part of the workshop?

- "If there was a **better combination** of physical and human geography"
- Note: the workshop was interdisciplinary by nature but more targeted towards human geography with some physical geography brought in*

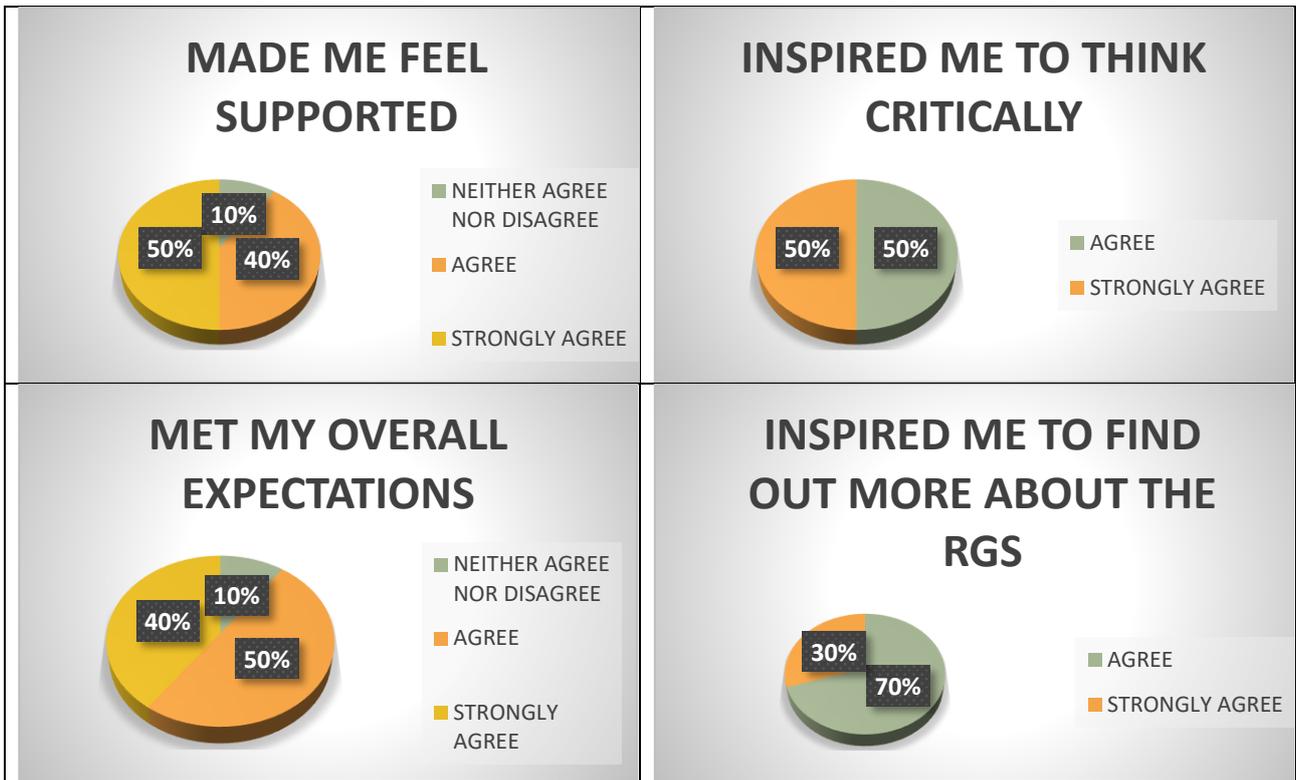
Would you recommend workshops of this type to others?

- 100% responded with a resounding **YES!** Commenting:
- "Good opportunity to get **feedback** on your ideas and methods. **Or learn more**"
- "Interesting group of people with opportunity to learn about other research"
- "To open up your research and be **challenged** by your ideas and concepts"
- "Is a useful workshop which helps me find more related methods"
- "It is always useful to **hear about other people's research** and how they go about it. **Interdisciplinary angle** very useful."
- "**Very friendly** environment to **test out ideas** in the **early stages** of research"
- "Great way to **meet** other researchers"

Do you have any suggestions for improving future workshops?

- "Providing some **hot water** would be better"
- "Would be good to have some **leaflets or printings** of presentations to take notes"





For more info on the DARG-RGRG 11th July 2018 London Workshop contact Daniel Casey <djcasey1@sheffield.ac.uk>

In Wales for the 2018 RGS-IBG conference? Old & gold music connoisseurs go to COB RECORDS...
 1/2/3 Britannia Terrace, Porthmadog, Gwynedd, Wales, UK. LL49 9NA: <https://www.cobrecords.com/>
 Just 108 miles north of Cardiff, near magic Port Meirion. *RGRG Newsletter* has more tourist lore on page 28.



3. RGRG AGM – Have your say! at the Cardiff RGS-IBG annual meeting, Weds 29th Aug. 2018, during Plenary & lunch (13:10-14:25) slot (Main Bldg - Lecture Theatre 1.25).



On Tuesday, 14 August 2018, 13:50, Halfacree K. H. <k.h.halfacree@swansea.ac.uk> wrote:

Hi everyone

Just to remind you about the imminent RGS-IBG annual conference which is this year being held in Cardiff 28-31 August (<https://www.rgs.org/research/annual-international-conference/>). Lots of RGRG-affiliated sessions at: <http://conference.rgs.org/Conference/Sessions/SearchResults.aspx?conference=AC2018&rg=RGRG>

As always, during the conference RGRG will be holding its AGM (as do the vast majority of Research Groups). Its on Wednesday 29th during the Plenary & lunch (13:10-14:25) slot but to give people time to get their lunch we probably won't kick-off until 13.30. Its in the Main Building - Lecture Theatre 1.25

The provisional AGM agenda is as follows:

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Chair's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Committee elections
7. Dissertation Prizes
8. Future events
9. RGS Research Groups Forum
10. Networking
11. Membership issues
12. Newsletter
13. AOB

I particularly draw your attention to no. 6. There are a number of positions on the Committee up for election this year. These are:

Secretary 2018-2021

Newsletter Editor 2018-2021

Ordinary Member 2018-2021

Ordinary Member 2018-2021

Postgraduate Rep. 2018-2019

Postgraduate Rep. 2018-2019

To stand for these posts you need to be a member of RGRG and to be proposed and seconded by two other RGRG members. Mostly, this is done in practice **during the AGM**. However, if you are unable to attend the AGM then you can of course still stand. If so, please can you send me your name, the post you wish to stand for, and the explicitly agreed names of a proposer and seconder by 5pm Monday 27th August please.

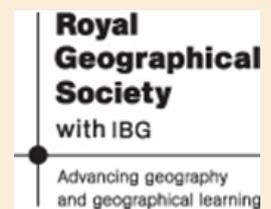
Please don't be shy if you'd like to commit a small amount of your time (really!) to keeping RGRG a very fine group within the RGS-IBG structure. We may not be rich... but we're very welcoming and sociable and let's make sure and keep it that way! J

Cheers, Keith



Here's the 2017 AGM in London. Join us at the 2018 AGM, Weds 29th Aug. during Plenary & lunch (13:10-14:25) slot in Cardiff Main Building - Lecture Theatre 1.25. (BAS pic)

4. RGS-IBG Cardiff 28-31st August 2018 conf: RGRG Abstracts trace our rural theory & practice.



Abstracts: <http://conference.rgs.org/Conference/Sessions/SearchResults.aspx?conference=AC2018&rg=RGRG>

Wednesday 29 Aug 2018. Rural Geography Research Group. OVERVIEW:

Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (1): Provisioning and Sourcing

Wednesday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room 0.85

Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (2): Food and Drink Collectives

Wednesday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room 0.85



Rural Geography Research Group AGM, Weds Plenary & lunch

(13:10-14:25) Main Building - Lecture Theatre 1.25

Bring your voice & vote! Info on socials discussed here!

Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (1)- Within the farming environment

Wednesday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50



Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (2) - Beyond the farming environment

Wednesday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50

Thursday 30 Aug 2018

Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies (1)

Thursday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Main Building - Council Chamber

Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies (2)

Thursday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Main Building - Council Chamber

New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Practices and Perceptions

Thursday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room -1.61

Friday 31 Aug 2018

Landscapes of Gentrification (1)

Friday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Main Building - Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre

Landscapes of Gentrification (2)

Friday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Main Building - Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre

Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (1)

Friday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Bute Building - Birts Acres Lecture Theatre

Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (2)

Friday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Bute Building - Birts Acres Lecture Theatre

Rural Geography Research Group – Individual Abstracts below...

Wednesday 29 Aug 2018

Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (1): Provisioning and Sourcing

Wednesday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room 0.85 [Click for session details](#)

17 Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (1): Provisioning and Sourcing

Affiliation Food Geographies Working Group
Rural Geography Research Group

Convenor(s) Eifiona Thomas Lane (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)
Rebecca Jones (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

Chair(s) Eifiona Thomas Lane (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

Timetable Wednesday 29 August 2018, Session 1 (09:00 - 10:40)

Room Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room 0.85

Session abstract Rural space has been traditionally recognised as spaces of food production and rich repositories of food and drink, traditions, heritage and provenance. Upon this foundation both well-known and newer forms of rural leisure and rural tourism offers have been developed. Experiences from gastronomy within food tourism to more technical ventures in micro-brewing, artisan and lifestyle markets exemplify this potential.

- How can these new forms of rural food and drink developments and experiences contribute towards and equitable and wider rural resilience in contrasting geographical contexts?
- Can such food and drink based development be mapped and trends understood? Should this be managed?
- How will these development offer responsible modes of innovation?
- Is there academic potential in considering craft scale food or drink production and challenges to growth?
- Can new food and drink innovation be made sustainable e.g. more localised supply chains or trading networks?
- What consequences may changing rural food and drink-scapes have on accessibility of local foods for all?

This session will explore both traditional rural food and drink heritage, current issues and future possibilities for responsible rural development and building of rural resilience through the use of food and drink and will invite a diverse range of speakers to discuss cases studies and academic analysis. Interdisciplinary, holistic and empirical case study based presentations are invited from speakers excited by the questions above linked to food and drink geographies.

Linked Sessions [Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development \(2\): Food and Drink Collectives](#)

Food Self-Provisioning in the Czech Republic - suburban and peripheral regions compared

Ilona Svobodova (Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, Czechia)

Daniela Spesna (Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, Czechia)

Milos Delin (Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, Czechia)

Food self-provisioning in the Czech Republic is motivated by a range of reasons, and practised by a significant proportion of the population across all social groups. The presentation summarizes the available statistical data on household food production in the Czech Republic and provides an assessment of the previous development of food self-sufficiency in Czech urban and rural households. Main attention is paid to contemporary rural gardening and also its perspectives. Most of the findings presented are based on the empirical survey of the IAEI (Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, Brno) conducted in two distinct rural regions of South Moravia (suburban and peripheral) in 2017. The objective of the presentation can be seen as twofold. First, we show the similarities and the differences between these two types of Czech rural regions, as well as among distinct rural communities and social groups. Second, we share our experience on research of food self-sufficiency among rural households - the mapping of the extent of the phenomenon involves monitoring a wide range of social and individual factors that often change over time, depending on the life cycle of families, the economic condition of society and other influences.

Picturing changes and resistance associated with food culture and the local environment in a rural area of Mexico

Rosa Hernandez Cruz (University of York, UK)

The rural productive systems of milpa (maize, squash and beans) and homegardens are the predominant source of staple food in rural areas of Mexico. Both are more vulnerable and exposed to urbanization, globalisation, and neoliberal policies that tend to drive industrial agriculture and transform the way food is produced and consumed. Nevertheless, local communities are not passive subjects in global socioeconomic processes. In this paper local responses and processes related to food (culinary practices, knowledge, values and beliefs) in specific rural contexts, such as ecotourism and organic production activities for a farmers' market, are explored. Qualitative methods such as photovoice and participant observation were used. Participants in the research stated the importance of their environment as a food source and mentioned environmental degradation as a predominant threat to food production. Participants also discussed the dilemma between consuming locally-produced food or food from the exterior and the accompanying changes in culinary practices. These shifts in culinary practices could be seen as a response to the diverse socioeconomic forces that influence rural communities.

Locational Influences on Resilience and Innovation in Welsh Horticulture Businesses

David Skydmore (Wrexham Glyndwr University, UK)

Horticulture techniques include the oldest in plant production systems. The traditions of horticulture in Wales have developed an industry predominantly comprising micro-businesses – some are specialists, others are parts of farm diversifications. These businesses make important contributions to local food supply and so are integral to food security and food supply resilience in the Principality. This paper examines the components of food resilience in the context of small horticulture businesses. The implications of a deterioration in resilience are explored when food supply chains, products or production capacity are lost. Hysteresis may occur when attempts are made to restore food resilience and this effect will be considered in relation to food policy formulation. The “Horticulture Wales” project surveyed horticulture businesses in Wales. The data collected are used to describe business characteristics. Their locations were mapped and it was found that these were related to a range of factors beyond market access. The locations and characteristics are discussed in relation to the benefits and limitations to those businesses and drivers for change. This paper uses two case studies to demonstrate factors in food supply resilience. The first shows innovation in the distribution and sale of traditional crops. The second utilises innovative crops and production technology in a way that contributes to the hospitality sector such that there is augmentation of local tourism. Mechanisms for the support, through policy, of horticultural innovation in small and micro-businesses are discussed using examples of finance, mentoring and the formation of geographical food clusters.

Delivering authentic Welsh produce to a global market

Rebecca Jones (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

Eifiona Thomas Lane (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

This research investigates the maintenance of food integrity and the importance and protection of provenance within Welsh produce on a global scale. Consumer trust within the food industry, production and distribution was threatened after the 2013 horsemeat scandal, leading to questions being raised surrounding extended supply chains. This research investigates food integrity within Welsh SMEs and how businesses manage these expectations while competing with the market drivers for cheaper but authentic produce. The values of provenance and protection are explored along with methods of delivery in relation to adding value and product differentiation, while maintaining consumer trust ultimately avoiding false assumptions over provenance and therefore protecting heritage.

Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (2): Food and Drink Collectives

Wednesday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room 0.85 [Click for session details](#)

47	Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (2): Food and Drink Collectives
Affiliation	Food Geographies Working Group Rural Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Eifiona Thomas Lane (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK) Rebecca Jones (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)
Chair(s)	Rebecca Jones (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)
Timetable	Wednesday 29 August 2018, Session 2 (11:10 - 12:50)
Room	Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room 0.85
Session abstract	<p>Rural space has been traditionally recognised as spaces of food production and rich repositories of food and drink, traditions, heritage and provenance. Upon this foundation both well-known and newer forms of rural leisure and rural tourism offers have been developed. Experiences from gastronomy within food tourism to more technical ventures in micro-brewing, artisan and lifestyle markets exemplify this potential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can these new forms of rural food and drink developments and experiences contribute towards and equitable and wider rural resilience in contrasting geographical contexts?• Can such food and drink based development be mapped and trends understood? Should this be managed?• How will these development offer responsible modes of innovation?• Is there academic potential in considering craft scale food or drink production and challenges to growth?• Can new food and drink innovation be made sustainable e.g. more localised supply chains or trading networks?• What consequences may changing rural food and drink-scapes have on accessibility of local foods for all? <p>This session will explore both traditional rural food and drink heritage, current issues and future possibilities for responsible rural development and building of rural resilience through the use of food and drink and will invite a diverse range of speakers to discuss cases studies and academic analysis. Interdisciplinary, holistic and empirical case study based presentations are invited from speakers exited by the questions above linked to food and drink geographies.</p>
Linked Sessions	Food & drink heritage, rural tradition or novelty? Challenges for responsible development (1): Provisioning and Sourcing

The Social Life of British Organic Biodynamic Wheat: Biopolitics, Biopower & Governance

Samantha Outhwaite (no affiliation)



This thesis unpacks the social life of an alternative food “thing”. It is empirically grounded in an intensive ethnography and draws on the conceptual resources of Actor-Network Theory (ANT) to narrate alterity as it is manifest in an alternative food network (AFN). Following and tracing British Organic Biodynamic (BOB) wheat, the research weaves through the seed (from breeding to certification), the grain crop’s cultivation, harvest and milling, and the final transformations from flour to real bread and its consumption. The storying of the BOB wheat’s social life, its social relations and subsequent transformations reveals a persistent blurring of formal distinctions separating ‘nature’ and ‘culture’, humans and nonhumans, and production and consumption. Most importantly, it disrupts the traditional categorization of food networks as either ‘conventional’ or ‘alternative’. The analysis of the BOB wheat’s social life betrays the imagined purity of alterity of this supposed alternative food network, unveiling a heterogeneous web of hybrid actants and multiple performances of wheats. The analysis reveals a conflict within the BOB wheat network, by demonstrating how performances that are presented as deeply incommensurable are nevertheless inextricably and intimately connected.

Consequently, ‘conventional’, and some ‘more-than-conventional’, performances threaten to undermine the BOB wheat networks’ legitimacy as an AFN. Further, they intimate an ontological impurity that threatens the very possibility of alterity. Accordingly, my analysis narrates the BOB wheat network’s efforts to stabilize alterity and expand the collective, through the purification of these incommensurable versions of the wheat. Ultimately, this process of purification works to persistently reconstitute modern ontological binaries, specifically the alternative-convention bifurcations of food networks. To conclude I suggest that this purification, the making and manifesting of alterity, is woven through the contemporary biopolitical dispositive - persistently circulating and remaking, Modern ontological framings of reality as well as the moral and ethical values therein.

Craft Cider Production and Community – celebrating traditional rural heritage and building new social capital

Luke Prosser (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

Rebecca Jones (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

Cider is one of the most iconic of rural beverages drinks and its global popularity is growing as is the numbers of micro-producers with at least 40 being produced in Wales. This paper is focussed on craft scale production of Cider and explores a range of different enterprise contexts for local production. With reference to a range of empirical detailed case studies an exploration into the place linkage or embedded-ness of the drink is presented along with discussion of the broader value of souring raw material and local supply chains as well as managing land for Cider making. Traditional modes of collective apple gathering continue within more novel contemporary settings where at craft scale, new and distinctive local products are carefully created, responsibly shared and locally consumed. It is suggested that such modes of production not only celebrate rural food and drink heritage but contribute towards also supporting the protection of natural capital and to growing new social and cultural capitals.

Defining and Trending Welsh Craft Beer

Dyfed Morgan (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

Eifiona Thomas Lane (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

David Styles (Prifysgol Bangor University, UK)

This paper examines the recent trends in craft brewing with particular focus on Wales. The accumulation of skills and knowledge of past methods of production have informed generations of beer producers a practice which has been used at micro scale to establish a wide range of new breweries and brewed products. Whilst the local sourcing of raw ingredients may no longer anchor the brewing only to local areas and supply chains. Questions may be asked about the provenance, ownership and sustainability of new beer heritage and craft culture which this study explores and which this paper will discuss in relation to craft brewing in Wales. This change has significance both in terms of bringing new product into the rural economy and as the source of fresh food and drink tourism experiences. It is also suggested that this growth evidences the support that traditional craft and artisan products claim and maintain within contemporary gastronomic experiences. Such opportunities have been identified as areas of opportunity within Wales F&D Strategy. Of greater academic interest is the need for a clearer definition of craft brewing and the product criteria as a baseline for both the sector and wider food and drink economy. This definition is described along with a preliminary discussion of the place embeddedness or otherwise of the craft brewing community in Wales as it currently exists.

Native breeds – food - landscape

Jane Ricketts Hein (Cynidr Consulting, UK)

The British countryside is currently being subjected to an intense level of scrutiny, as the UK gets closer to leaving the European Union and changes are anticipated in agricultural financial support, economic outputs and policy context. A large number of seminars, workshops and consultations have been undertaken in order to investigate the many aspects of the potential changes and likely scenarios that may affect rural areas. Farming, food, the environment and the economy have been concerns for many commentators, and the opening out of the interconnections between them continue to illustrate the complexity of rural spaces. This presentation contributes to this exploration by discussing the countryside through the lens of native farm livestock breeds. Many native and traditional breeds are now rare because they are felt to be uncompetitive and uneconomic in the existing agro-food system. Why are they still supported, then? What do they add to the farm, food production systems, the natural and cultural environments and the landscape? As an active member of a native cattle breed society, I will consider the history, present and future issues that these animals compel us to ask of our food and farming systems.

➔ **Rural Geography Research Group AGM. Let your voice & vote be known!**
Weds Plenary & lunch (13:10-14:25). Main Building - Lecture Theatre 1.25.



Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (1) - Within the farming Environment. Weds Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50

93	Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (1) – Within the farming environment
Affiliation	Rural Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Keith Halfacree (Swansea University, UK) Fiona Williams (University of Chester, UK)
Chair(s)	Richard Yarwood (University of Plymouth, UK)
Timetable	Wednesday 29 August 2018, Session 3 (14:40 - 16:20)
Room	Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50
Session abstract	<p>In a 2014 review of animal geographies, Henry Buller reasserted the importance of social scientific understanding and emplacing of animals going ‘beyond taking [them] as merely “signifiers” of human endeavour and meaning’ (p.308). Within rural geography, an especially pertinent illustration of this importance comes in respect of how we understand the production and reproduction of landscapes. Conventionally interpreted primarily as representations to be gazed upon, from when one is out in the countryside to being inside the art gallery, the recent turn towards the more-than-representational instead foregrounds the everyday lived materiality of these spaces. Landscapes are seen as exerting agency but also, through a wide range of terms, being (re)produced, assembled, networked, dwelt and so on in complex and often messy ways. Bluntly put, rural landscapes are not simply ‘wonders’ of nature and /or humanity to gaze upon but complex and hybrid productions.</p> <p>This session seeks papers that will tease out elements of how animals actively produce and reproduce rural landscapes with an emphasis on foregrounding the actions of the animals themselves. Of course, humans cannot be disentangled from much of this, so more combined Bourdieusian type accounts associating animals with humans through habitus, for example, are also welcome. The session seeks to centre animals through displacing more or less coherent rural spaces by the more selective representations, practices and lives... ..performed as sheep spaces, deer spaces, eagle spaces, and so on.</p> <p>An ‘animals perspective’ is especially valuable and even necessary in the context of a number of ongoing concerns regarding future rural landscapes. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss and significant decline of species biodiversity, including those essential for plant pollination and more general ecological survival; • Potential UK upland policy changes to agricultural support in the wake of Brexit; • The growth in interest in reintroducing top predators, re-wilding or nominally handing over large areas of land to non-human actors; • Omni-present pressures on rural landscapes from tourism and other forms of development, which can be both rooted in and have implications for animal landscapes.
Linked Sessions	Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (2) - Beyond the farming env’t

Upland sheep: a curse or vital tool?

Lois Mansfield (University of Cumbria, UK)

Sheep farming has operated in European uplands for nearly five thousand years using a range of agricultural systems. Over this time, various breeds have been produced that physiologically and behaviourally forage effectively in often harsh climatic, environmental and ecological conditions. The effects of this grazing have been a range of ecosystem services which include meat and wool production, diverse upland habitats which would not have existed without grazing animals, a cultural landscape which underpins protected area status and tourism, as well as sustaining local rural communities. Using the case study of the UK Cumbrian uplands, this paper aims to explore how and what sheep produce in terms of ecosystem services. At the same time it will critique their less desirable behavioural traits, which have caused a backlash within the general public and other polemical literature. With the launch of the DEFRA 25 year plan, the arrival of Brexit and the increased interest in re-wilding the role of sheep in uplands is once again being examined. What do upland sheep have to offer looking forward within these new institutional and ecological contexts?

Sheep-shaping in the (re)production of upland rural landscapes

Keith Halfacree (Swansea University, UK)

Fiona Williams (University of Chester, UK)

Brexit's consequences for the UK's EU agricultural payments, the Lake District's recent receipt of UNESCO World Heritage status, and rising activist calls for re-wilding have all placed the future of UK's broadly upland landscapes in the societal spotlight. However, so long largely taken-for-granted, at least by those living outside, it is imperative to gain better and fuller understanding of these landscapes if informed decisions about their future are to be made. Centrally, they must be recognised as complex environments shaped by numerous diverse factors. This paper focuses on one of the key immediate 'landscaping agents': sheep. In the early stages of a research project, its focus is the Shropshire-Wales borders, where a single animal is followed from birth through a farming year. The intention is to foreground the role of the sheep as a key agent in the landscape-shaping process. By focusing firstly on the animal rather than the closely connected farming humans, we hope to gain insights into aspects of the more-than-human 24/7 becoming of the landscape in an accessible and engaging manner that better appreciates the complexity at play than would a more predominantly human-centred emphasis.

Animal landscapes: new old risks on the small farm

Dominic Duckett (James Hutton Institute, UK)

Eirini Ioanna Vlachopoulou (The James Hutton Institute, UK)

Hilde Bjorkhaug (RURALIS – Institute for Rural and Regional Research, Norway)

'Taming wilderness' is an enduring farming myth. From predatory wolves to destructive deer or wildfowl, farming identities typically align with a perennial, almost primordial struggle against wild nature in which the control of wild species is essential to protect livelihoods. When questioned about constraints to the productivity of their land, small farmers throughout Europe and Africa, focused on predatory and destructive wild animals. Concurrently, we are living in an era of rewilding and reintroductions in which wider societal conservation and environmental values shape rural landscapes as never before. Farms increasingly intersect with modernity through a myriad of socio-technical and socio-economic practices. Farms are incentivised to participate in agro-ecological schemes and are penalized over traditional control practices. From Kenya's elephants and Norway's wolverines to ground-nesting birds on Scotland's western islands, conservation and environmental governance has colonized rural spaces. Rewilding, wildlife conservation, species reintroduction and a raft of policies promoting biodiversity, increasingly incentivise farming practices that increase rather than decrease the presence of select wildlife. Colonising influences are both urban and international with citizens in far off countries petitioning governments to protect iconic species or otherwise produce newly hybridized landscapes. These transgressive and transformative impacts of globalization are felt on the remotest of farms. Through Beck's 'Risk Society' lens the paper examines the lived experience of small farmers in animal landscapes across Europe and Africa and the rapidly evolving governance environment reshaping the farming world.

Philosophy, politics and technology morph dairyscapes

Bruce Scholten (Durham University, UK)



Many countries' dairyscapes have changed substantially since Peter Singer published *Animal Liberation* in 1975. Few cows are on U.S. pasture, as barns wintering 50 have morphed into 10,000+ cow confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs). Instead of pasture, feedlots incur lameness and infertility, halving cow longevity since 1950. In 2017, USDA denied a suit by Cornucopia.org, declaring Aurora Organic Dairy's 15,000 cow Texas megadairy 'in compliance' after a scheduled inspection. Evidence that Aurora's milk lacked grass-fed Omega-3 levels was rejected, as USDA had no nutritional requirement. It may be unsurprising, then, that Miles McEvoy, ex-director of the National Organic Program, told me the Trump administration is 'hostile' to animal welfare. In January 2018 it even discarded Organic

Livestock and Poultry Practices rules favoured by industry and consumers. And yet, many consumers reject Descartes' Error, agreeing with Henry Buller that animals are more than 'signifiers' for humans, whilst U.S. family-scale farmers also doubt corporate CAFOs meet 2010 USDA Organic Pasture Rules (min. 120 days grazing). My paper thus explores the prospects present trends could reverse as consumers both learn how spectroscopic technology can police the grassfed proportion of milk and begin to appreciate the significance of The Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness noting how 'Absence of a neocortex does not... preclude... affective states'. If consumers empathise with mammals' behavioural needs such as grazing, dairy scales could re-morph into more traditional landscapes...

More-than-human property relations in the reproduction of rural landscapes

Frode Flemsater (Centre for Rural Research, Norway)

Katrina Brown (The James Hutton Institute, UK)

Katrina Ronningen (RURALIS – Institute for Rural and Regional Research, UK)

The Norwegian outfields, uncultivated forest and upland areas, are subject to multiple established and newer land uses, including grazing, forestry, hunting, fishing, recreation, renewable energy and mining. The outfields are currently subject to major commodification processes, yet the outfields and user rights to them are also crucial for Sámi reindeer herding. The requirements of the reindeer and their seasonal movement between grazing areas and, consequently, any meaningful enactment of reindeer herding land rights are, however, not necessarily compatible with the rural diversification processes. Second home development, wind-turbines, micro-hydro power plants and diversifying recreational use increase the pressure on the reindeer and herders' abilities to co-produce rural landscapes as before. The Sámi reindeer herders have gained their legal use rights through historical herding practices, which they have developed in line with the animals' biological behavioural rhythms, and adjusted through related technological developments. In this paper we explore how non-human agency is central to understanding outfield conflicts and how to address them, including how to reconcile the dominant, fixed, individual notions of property central to commodification policy imperatives, and the more flexible, responsive modes of property enactment used by herders to incorporate animal geographies.

Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (2) - Beyond the farming environment

Wednesday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50 [Click for session details](#)

124 Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (2) - Beyond the farming environment

Affiliation Rural Geography Research Group

Convenor(s) Keith Halfacree (Swansea University, UK)
Fiona Williams (University of Chester, UK)

Chair(s) Fiona Williams (University of Chester, UK)

Timetable Wednesday 29 August 2018, Session 4 (16:50 - 18:30)

Room Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50

Session abstract In a 2014 review of animal geographies, Henry Buller reasserted the importance of social scientific understanding and emplacing of animals going 'beyond taking [them] as merely "signifiers" of human endeavour and meaning' (p.308). Within rural geography, an especially pertinent illustration of this importance comes in respect of how we understand the production and reproduction of landscapes. Conventionally interpreted primarily as representations to be gazed upon, from when one is out in the countryside to being inside the art gallery, the recent turn towards the more-than-representational instead foregrounds the everyday lived materiality of these spaces. Landscapes are seen as exerting agency but also, through a wide range of terms, being (re)produced, assembled, networked, dwelt and so on in complex and often messy ways. Bluntly put, rural landscapes are not simply 'wonders' of nature and /or humanity to gaze upon but complex and hybrid productions.

This session seeks papers that will tease out elements of how animals actively produce and reproduce rural landscapes with an emphasis on foregrounding the actions of the animals themselves. Of course, humans cannot be disentangled from much of this, so more combined Bourdieusian type accounts associating animals with humans through habitus, for example, are also welcome. The session seeks to centre animals through displacing more or less coherent rural spaces by the more selective representations, practices and lives performed as sheep spaces, deer spaces, eagle spaces, and so on.

An 'animals perspective' is especially valuable and even necessary in the context of a number of ongoing concerns regarding future rural landscapes. These include:

- Loss and significant decline of species biodiversity, including those essential for plant pollination and more general ecological survival;
- Potential UK upland policy changes to agricultural support in the wake of Brexit;
- The growth in interest in reintroducing top predators, re-wilding or nominally handing over large areas of land to non-human actors;
- Omni-present pressures on rural landscapes from tourism and other forms of development, which can be both rooted in and have implications for animal landscapes.

124	Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (2) - Beyond the farming environment
Linked Sessions	Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (1) - Within the farming environment

Animal landscapes: cultural geographies of honeybee health

Jacob Bull (Uppsala University, Sweden)

Media reports and scientific concern have recently engaged with the health of pollinating insects. Focus has been placed on the western honeybee, so-called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) and the dependence of agricultural systems on pollinating insects. As such, honeybees are positioned as precarious and operating as indicators of various 'catastrophes' – environmental degradation, habitat loss, pesticide loads, disruption to food supplies and economies and extinctions. However, more recent scientific studies have suggested that pollinator declines are less of a widespread phenomenon and increasingly understood as local, with specific causes likely to be a combination of multiple factors, many anthropogenic in origin. Indeed, thriving honeybee populations may even have negative effects on biodiversity. Given the hybrid and contested nature of these debates, there is considerable benefit to foregrounding the material and semiotic ways bees are implicated in contemporary landscapes. The paper argues that, while always entangled with human values and practices, bees set limits and open up potentials in the imagining of environmental presents and futures. Drawing on interview materials with beekeepers, it focuses on one key aspect of honeybee health, the parasite *Varroa destructor*. Paying particular attention to breeding for resistance to this parasite, the paper interrogates the ways that bees (and beekeepers) are responding to changing environmental contexts. In so doing it positions honeybee health (and death) as emergent from diverse cultural and natural relations, values and spatially differentiated practices. In so doing, honeybee health is less an indicator of declines, toxicities and impending doom and more as expressing 'ways of living' through changing animal landscapes.

Micro-habitats of insects and their effects on macro-landscapes

David Skydmore (Wrexham Glyndwr University, UK)

Insects generally have short life cycles and live in specialised micro-habitats where they form part of a balanced ecosystem. The activity of the individual is normally limited to its micro-habitat. However, this balance may be disrupted through damage to the ecosystem, or if the insect is introduced as an invasive species. Rapid and large increases in an insect population size multiply the effects of the individuals. The cumulation is visible as a change to the macro-landscape in which its composition and form are modified and limited by this animal activity. The introduction of the Dutch elm disease pathogen, carried by *Scolytus* beetles, led to the loss of English Elm trees and a dramatic change in the English landscape, away from that recorded in bucolic landscape paintings of the English Romantics. The shift in population size of the mountain pine beetle (*Dendroctonus ponderosae*) has caused the loss of thousands of hectares of forests in Canada. The tree species affected cannot be replanted because of the continued occurrence of the insect and so the landscape has been altered away from the quintessential, coniferous, forest cover. This paper discusses the threats and implications of the landscape transformations arising from insect outbreaks, on forest management and landscape conservation, ecosystems and tourism. The improvement of biosecurity policy and its implementation, including regulations post-Brexit, will be considered. As global trade removes barriers to insect migration, emerging issues of landscape-scale protections against rapid, animal-centred reshaping are increasingly pertinent.

Otter predation and the reproduction of rural landscape: conflict or consensus in the English countryside?

Daniel Allen (Keele University, UK)

Simon Pemberton (Keele University, UK)

There has been a growing recognition of the need to foreground the political in animal geographies and the development of a more radical politics that highlights the ways in which animals might 'belong' or 'pertain' to the countryside in a panoply of ways. However, little attention to date has been paid to foregrounding the actions of animals themselves in the production and re-production of the rural landscape. Through reference to the Eurasian Otter, this paper focuses on the inter-relations between the otter and a multiplicity of different rural actors that are re-shaping the English countryside in different ways. In particular, a temporal, spatial and territorial perspective is adopted to highlight the evolving practices and performances that are taking place in 'otter spaces' and the implications for the (in)coherence of different rural spaces.

Lost and hound: search dogs, people and the co-creation of rural landscapes

Richard Yarwood (University of Plymouth, UK)

This paper examines how rural landscapes are co-created by people and dogs in searches for missing people. While people largely experience and make sense of landscape through sight, dogs use scent to understand and move

through landscape. Thus, whilst a person might be out of sight and hence missing to people, their lingering scents mean that they continue to have a presence to animals. What might be an empty landscape to a person may thus be one that is brimming with activity and bodies to dogs. Drawing on interviews and observations, the paper shows how dog-teams co-create and experience rural landscapes in the performance of a search. In doing so it demonstrates that animals, in this case dogs, are central to understandings of rural landscapes.

Indigenous and Western knowledge systems in northern Manitoba: animals and humans in shared spatial territories

John (Jack) Lovell (University of Manitoba, Canada)

In the lived world of the Indigenous Cree people of Canada, animals have always held a primary space in the cultural and ontological imagination, particularly in the vast spatial region of northern Manitoba. The blurred distinction between different categories of animals and humans in these landscapes belies more than just shared physical occupation but are also woven as an etiology within Cree cosmologies. Researcher and ethnographer Robert Brightman documented Cree epistemologies suggesting cultural accomplishments of humans, such as food preservation, speech and clothing were originally those held in the possession of animals in a time before human co-existence in spatial construct. In Cree thought, animals are in fact, well-represented within Bourdieu's concept of Habitus, where symbolic, cultural and economic capital form reality in a field comprised of lived-in landscapes, where animals are primary cosmogonic co-inhabitants with humans. The activities of modern day resource extraction corporations have previously ignored Cree and other Indigenous concepts of shared spaces having equal value with animals as meaningless superstition. My research is directly involved with conducting Traditional Land Use survey interviews with Cree Elders and traditional harvesters, in conjunction with the Alamos Gold Corporation's intent to conduct mining operations in 2021. The concurrent inclusion of Elders' stories and legends of interrelationship to animals, with operational considerations of gold mining operations, represent a new and fresh potential of cooperation between the mining sector and traditional Cree and animal inhabitants; in spatial landscapes of the largely unknown region of remote northern Manitoba.

Thursday 30 Aug 2018

Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies (1)
Thursday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Main Building - Council Chamber [Click for session details](#)

139	Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies (1)
Affiliation	Energy Geographies Research Group Rural Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Matthias Naumann (Technical University of Dresden, Germany) David Rudolph (Technical University of Denmark, Denmark)
Chair(s)	Matthias Naumann (Technical University of Dresden, Germany)
Timetable	Thursday 30 August 2018, Session 1 (09:00 - 10:40)
Room	Main Building - Council Chamber
Session abstract	<p>Rural areas have increasingly gained importance for the successful implementation of energy transition, in particular as sites and resources for renewables, whilst low-carbon transition processes have emerged as a key driver for rural change. Regardless of the primary perspective, "new energy landscapes are forged when and where energy transitions meet rural transitions" (Frantal et al. 2014, 3). While Huber and McCarthy (2017, 665) have recently predicted "that any transition to such new geographies of energy production would necessarily involve powerful new claims on, struggles over, and massive new deployments of capital and labour in rural spaces in many locations around the world", such struggles have already become very real, as the vast research on the contested siting of renewables has shown (e.g. Fast 2013, Rand & Hoen 2017). However, the various dimensions of rural spaces and imaginations of rurality have rather remained underexplored in the geographies of energy transition. Likewise rural studies have only slowly started to consider the spatial manifestations of energy transition as an increasingly significant factor of rural change. This missing link particularly points to a need to discuss implications for energy democracy and justice in a rural context.</p> <p>This session seeks to explore rural energy transitions by bringing together rural studies focusing on energy and socio-technical transitions and critical energy geographies considering various aspects of the rural. We therefore invite contributions that elucidate and discuss various rural dimensions of energy transitions. Contributions may focus on but are not limited to the following three interrelated issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various expressions of the rural as the locational context of renewable energy production and supply, - Rural contestations over energy transition, e.g. related to the siting of renewables, uneven development, fears of stigmatization and injustice,



139 Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies (1)

- Emancipatory potentials of energy transition for rural areas, and the manifestations of energy democracy and energy justice in rural areas.

Fast, S. (2013): Social Acceptance of Renewable Energy: Trends, Concepts, and Geographies. *Geography Compass* 7, 853-866.

Frantal, B., Pasqualetti, M., & van der Horst, D. (2014): New trends and challenges for energy geographies: Introduction to the special issue. *Moravian Geographical Reports* 22, 2-6.

Huber, M. & McCarthy, J. (2017): Beyond the subterranean energy regime? Fuel, land use and the production of space. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 42, 655-668.

Rand, J. & Hoen, B. (2017): Thirty years of North American wind energy acceptance research. What have we learned? *Energy Research & Social Science* 29, 135-148.

Linked Sessions

[Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies \(2\)](#)

Introduction: Conceptualising Rural Energy Transitions

Matthias Naumann (Technical University of Dresden, Germany)

David Rudolph (Technical University of Denmark, Denmark)

While academic debates interested in spatial implications of energy transition and the realization of sustainable futures have predominantly focused on urban areas resulting in the notion of ‘urban energy transitions’, its non-urban counterpart, ‘rural energy transitions’, have remained rather underexplored. This is surprising, because the resources of renewable energies, one of the key elements of energy transitions, are variously linked to rural spaces. In particular, rural regions accommodate the majority of renewable energy infrastructures, such as wind turbines, solar and biogas plants as well as transmission grids. In that sense, urban energy transitions are simply impossible without rural energy transitions. Nevertheless, the ‘rural’ as the location and context for transformations of the energy sector has only been considered marginally, while the main focus of academic work has been on urban agglomerations. Despite the increasing attention energy issues are gaining from social sciences in general and urban studies and human geography in particular, rural studies have only slowly started to engage with energy transition as a field of research. The paper addresses this missing link between social science research on energy and rural studies. In doing so, it formulates three interlinkages between both strands of research: rural areas as locations for the materializations of energy transitions, contestations around energy issues in rural areas and the emancipatory potentials of rural energy transitions. We argue, that a mutual communication between energy research and rural studies would allow for a development of fruitful insights into the rural character of energy transitions as well as on the role of energy within rural change.

Securing energy, renewing accumulation: entanglements of renewable energy and authoritarian neoliberalism in contemporary rural Turkey

Burak Kose (York University, Canada)

Recently, the Turkish government has jumped on the bandwagon of renewable energy by introducing schemes supporting market strategies and actors for renewable energy generation. These plans, however, have been presented as part of a solution to the pressing problems of increasing energy demand and energy volatility and insecurity in the country, rather than as a response to the urging issues of carbon reduction and climate change mitigation. The recently devised policy of “National Energy” clearly reflects this understanding in that the policy defines renewable energy sources as locally available and abundant sources that can mitigate dependence on imported sources of energy production. In addition, most of the renewable energy development projects have spurred social unrest and opposition due to the associated environmental concerns and consequences as well as a lack of a promise of local development in these projects. To go further with them, however, the Turkish government has not refrained from making legal changes to exempt them from the processes of environmental impact assessment, depriving project development areas from legal protection to promote private investment or restricting the legal and political channels of opposition through even the use of police and military force to repress and silence local people and environmental activists. In this paper, I explore the entanglements of renewable energy transition and increasingly authoritarian neoliberal statecraft in Turkey by focusing on the politics of infrastructure and environmental government as they transform the socio-natures and politics of rural areas. First, I discuss and analyze how discourses and practices of renewable energy are adopted, reworked, and justified to fit the Turkish state’s discourses of energy security and rural development, with the aim of shedding light on the diverse techniques of appropriation and legitimation at work in the deployment of renewable energy. Second, through the lens of the projects and infrastructures of renewable energy, I explore the materialities of energy transition and authoritarian neoliberalism by looking at the specific ways in which they shape socio-environmental and political transformations in rural areas. Key to this conversation, I contend, is the persistent discourse of development, primarily understood as economic growth, and the attendant notion of “public good,” and its immediate failure to deliver its promises in the context of neoliberal restructuring and environmental crisis. In this light, I preliminarily argue that while the government has sought to build a new hegemony around the narrative of “strong Turkey,” neoliberal policies and projects related to energy infrastructures being one of its key components, this renewed attempt at hegemony building and nation-state formation in the neoliberal era has resulted in fragmented political geographies of consent and contestation, producing alternative imaginations of the rural. I conclude by a discussion of how we can imagine alternative paths for renewable energy transition in the face of converging crises of ecology and democracy at the contemporary moment of neoliberal capitalism through a focus on the example of energy cooperatives in Turkey.

Turbines of Trouble: A case study of Wind Energy Project in Gujarat, India

Siddhartha Dabhi (University of Exeter, UK)

Socio-ecological fix, as an emerging concept in the critical geography literature (Ekers and Prudham, 2017; McCarthy, 2015), informs us that capital, in order to overcome its political, economic, ecological and legitimacy crises, invests in new production of

spaces through so-called green investments. This paper explores energy (in)justice in rural spaces in the state of Gujarat through the socio-ecological fix literature. This paper studies Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) wind energy project in the state of Gujarat in India and analyses it in the context of its environmental and social impacts, its contribution to sustainable development and its place in broader discussions around energy justice and energy transition. For an analysis of the ONGC's project and to unpack its claims, the study draws upon the field data collected through ethnographic and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools, and supplement this with technical reports, project documents and other secondary literature. This paper aims at contributing towards the emerging literature on socio-ecological fix and energy justice by focusing on the importance of uneven geographic development in understanding the dynamics of socio-ecological fix in the Global South (Harvey, 2006).

Technological intrusion & communicative renewal in 2 rural communities: greening the public sphere through solar farm devts
Jack Nicholls (University of Bristol, UK)

The development of solar energy along with other forms of decentralised renewable energy is a primary mitigation response to climate change through the decarbonisation of electricity generation. The deployment of such technologies has been rapid and received significant academic interest, but localised social and political impacts associated with the decision-making process and public involvement have received less attention. This research contributes to this growing literature through the primary analysis of two rural solar farm developments that adopted different approaches to development; a commercial solar farm and a community backed solar farm. Comparisons are drawn between the decision-making process in each case through interviews with local residents and professional stakeholders. Various themes are considered, including; deliberative decision-making and micro-political shifts to the public sphere associated with Habermasian social theory; local resident narratives and the question of ownership; and the aesthetic impact on 'rural space'.

Rural Energy Transitions: Ruralising Low-Carbon Energy and Energising Rural Geographies (2)
Thursday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Main Building - Council Chamber [Click for session details](#)

124	Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (2) - Beyond the farming environment
Affiliation	Rural Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Keith Halfacree (Swansea University, UK) Fiona Williams (University of Chester, UK)
Chair(s)	Fiona Williams (University of Chester, UK)
Timetable	Wednesday 29 August 2018, Session 4 (16:50 - 18:30)
Room	Bute Building - Lecture Theatre 1.50
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Linked Sessions	Beyond mere signifiers: centring animals in the (re)production of rural landscapes (1) - Within the farming environment

Animal landscapes: cultural geographies of honeybee health

Jacob Bull (Uppsala University, Sweden)

Media reports and scientific concern have recently engaged with the health of pollinating insects. Focus has been placed on the western honeybee, so-called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) and the dependence of agricultural systems on pollinating insects. As such, honeybees are positioned as precarious and operating as indicators of various 'catastrophes' – environmental degradation, habitat loss, pesticide loads, disruption to food supplies and economies and extinctions. However, more recent scientific studies have suggested that pollinator declines are less of a widespread phenomenon and increasingly understood as local, with specific causes likely to be a combination of multiple factors, many anthropogenic in origin. Indeed, thriving honeybee populations may even have negative effects on biodiversity. Given the hybrid and contested nature of these debates, there is considerable benefit to foregrounding the material and semiotic ways bees are implicated in contemporary landscapes. The paper argues that, while always entangled with human values and practices, bees set limits and open up potentials in the imagining of environmental presents and futures. Drawing on interview materials with beekeepers, it focuses on one key aspect of honeybee health, the parasite *Varroa destructor*. Paying particular attention to breeding for resistance to this parasite, the paper interrogates the ways that bees (and beekeepers) are responding to changing environmental contexts. In so doing it positions honeybee health (and death) as emergent from diverse cultural and natural relations, values and spatially differentiated practices. In so doing, honeybee health is less an indicator of declines, toxicities and impending doom and more as expressing 'ways of living' through changing animal landscapes.



Micro-habitats of insects and their effects on macro-landscapes

David Skydmore (Wrexham Glyndwr University, UK)

Insects generally have short life cycles and live in specialised micro-habitats where they form part of a balanced ecosystem. The activity of the individual is normally limited to its micro-habitat. However, this balance may be disrupted through damage to the ecosystem, or if the insect is introduced as an invasive species. Rapid and large increases in an insect population size multiply the effects of the individuals. The cumulation is visible as a change to the macro-landscape in which its composition and form are modified and limited by this animal activity. The introduction of the Dutch elm disease pathogen, carried by *Scolytus* beetles, led to the loss of English Elm trees and a dramatic change in the English landscape, away from that recorded in bucolic landscape paintings of the English Romantics. The shift in population size of the mountain pine beetle (*Dendroctonus ponderosae*) has caused the loss of thousands of hectares of forests in Canada. The tree species affected cannot be replanted because of the continued occurrence of the insect and so the landscape has been altered away from the quintessential, coniferous, forest cover. This paper discusses the threats and implications of the landscape transformations arising from insect outbreaks, on forest management and landscape conservation, ecosystems and tourism. The improvement of biosecurity policy and its implementation, including regulations post-Brexit, will be considered. As global trade removes barriers to insect migration, emerging issues of landscape-scale protections against rapid, animal-centred reshaping are increasingly pertinent.

Other predation and the reproduction of rural landscape: conflict or consensus in the English countryside?

Daniel Allen (Keele University, UK)

Simon Pemberton (Keele University, UK)

There has been a growing recognition of the need to foreground the political in animal geographies and the development of a more radical politics that highlights the ways in which animals might 'belong' or 'pertain' to the countryside in a panoply of ways. However, little attention to date has been paid to foregrounding the actions of animals themselves in the production and re-production of the rural landscape. Through reference to the Eurasian Otter, this paper focuses on the inter-relations between the otter and a multiplicity of different rural actors that are re-shaping the English countryside in different ways. In particular, a temporal, spatial and territorial perspective is adopted to highlight the evolving practices and performances that are taking place in 'otter spaces' and the implications for the (in)coherence of different rural spaces.

Lost and hound: search dogs, people and the co-creation of rural landscapes

Richard Yarwood (University of Plymouth, UK)

This paper examines how rural landscapes are co-created by people and dogs in searches for missing people. While people largely experience and make sense of landscape through sight, dogs use scent to understand and move through landscape. Thus, whilst a person might be out of sight and hence missing to people, their lingering scents mean that they continue to have a presence to animals. What might be an empty landscape to a person may thus be one that is brimming with activity and bodies to dogs. Drawing on interviews and observations, the paper shows how dog-teams co-create and experience rural landscapes in the performance of a search. In doing so it demonstrates that animals, in this case dogs, are central to understandings of rural landscapes.

Indigenous and Western knowledge systems in northern Manitoba: animals and humans in shared spatial territories

John (Jack) Lovell (University of Manitoba, Canada)

In the lived world of the Indigenous Cree people of Canada, animals have always held a primary space in the cultural and ontological imagination, particularly in the vast spatial region of northern Manitoba. The blurred distinction between different categories of animals and humans in these landscapes belies more than just shared physical occupation but are also woven as an etiology within Cree cosmologies. Researcher and ethnographer Robert Brightman documented Cree epistemologies suggesting cultural accomplishments of humans, such as food preservation, speech and clothing were originally those held in the possession of animals in a time before human co-existence in spatial construct. In Cree thought, animals are in fact, well-represented within Bourdieu's concept of Habitus, where symbolic, cultural and economic capital form reality in a field comprised of lived-in landscapes, where animals are primary cosmogonic co-inhabitants with humans. The activities of modern day resource extraction

corporations have previously ignored Cree and other Indigenous concepts of shared spaces having equal value with animals as meaningless superstition. My research is directly involved with conducting Traditional Land Use survey interviews with Cree Elders and traditional harvesters, in conjunction with the Alamos Gold Corporation's intent to conduct mining operations in 2021. The concurrent inclusion of Elders' stories and legends of interrelationship to animals, with operational considerations of gold mining operations, represent a new and fresh potential of cooperation between the mining sector and traditional Cree and animal inhabitants; in spatial landscapes of the largely unknown region of remote northern Manitoba.

New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Practices and Perceptions

Thursday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room -1.61 [Click for session details](#)

244	New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Practices and Perceptions
Affiliation	Rural Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Fidel Budy (Aberystwyth University, UK) Andrew Maclaren (University of Aberdeen, UK)
Chair(s)	Fidel Budy (Aberystwyth University, UK) Andrew Maclaren (University of Aberdeen, UK)
Timetable	Thursday 30 August 2018, Session 4 (16:50 - 18:30)
Room	Glamorgan Building - Seminar Room -1.61
Session abstract	This annually held Rural Geography Research Group session looks to explore new and emerging ideas across rural geography by discussing the work of postgraduate and early career researchers. It is hoped to prompt lively discussion as research ideas and results are presented in a friendly and constructive forum. We hope this session can continue to be well attended, with discussion conducted in a friendly, welcoming and constructive manner, which is widely appreciated by all those attending. Papers are drawn from any area of rural research: empirical, methodological or theoretical, from rural development, to culture, economy, farming, nature and policy.

Contact the conference organisers to request a change to session or paper details: ac2018@rgs.org

Can community shares offer an alternative to public and private practice in rural places?

Justyna Prosser (Cardiff University, UK)

It has been widely acknowledged that socio-economic conditions of rural places in developed countries have undergone dynamic change and that new policy approaches need to be used towards the countryside (OECD 2006, 2017). The New Rural Paradigm frame recognised that a key element of this new approach should be more place-based solutions, which as some academics argue, ought to be realised by more re-localised economies (Marsden 2008, 2016). Whereas earlier experiments with such approaches, for example Local Exchange Trading Schemes (LETS), were short-lived and did not manage to have a wider impact, the recent (re)appearance of community shares models have been found to have the potential for more sustainable socio-economic rural development not least because of their ability to raise funds (Carbras 2011). Nonetheless, awareness and more in-depth study of community shares model is still very limited, and this paper offers insights into the role of community shares in rural places and to what extent this model offers an alternative to public and private form of organisation and service delivery. This qualitative study focused on cross-examining the process of development of six rural social enterprises with the community shares business model in Wales and England.

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Mobility, accessibility and transport disadvantage: older people in hybrid rural spaces

Adam Peacock (Keele University, UK)

Empirical research on the rural-urban fringe (RUF) as a distinctive space remains comparatively absent within Human Geography, despite a resurgence of interest in these spaces in recent years and a recognition of the prominence of such spaces in the UK. The RUF is a hybrid rural space, defined as being a products of mobility and morphologically developing around key arterial route ways, motorways and even residential road networks. These spaces seemingly offer greater opportunities to be mobile than in the rural - but to what extent is this true for different residents of the RUF? This research utilises qualitative research methods and a mobility and accessibility focus to explore the experiences, opportunities and challenges facing older residents in the RUF and thus examine this claim. By comparing these findings with similar studies in the rural and urban, the research seeks to situate the relative transport disadvantage that older residents are subjected to within these hybrid spaces.

Horizon Scanning Crime in Rural England

Kreseda Smith (Harper Adams University, UK)

Richard Byrne (Harper Adams University, UK)

Despite increasing levels of research addressing rural crime, this field of academia remains under-researched across the world, and the impact crime has upon rural communities continues to be underestimated. In particular, levels of rural crime research in England pale in comparison with the amount of research that is taking place in other developed countries such as the United States

and Australia. This paper provides a horizon scan of emerging rural crime threats in England. This study illustrates that there are a number of emerging crime trends affecting English rural communities. By identifying these evolving issues, this paper contributes to future research and guidance within the English rural crime arena.

Keywords: Rural; crime; geo-criminology; OCGs; emerging threats

Contested rural landscapes; contemporary entanglements of leisure and farming

Alison Caffyn (Cardiff University, UK)

Rural landscapes are under pressure from increasing global demands for intensively grown food. Local actors often contest the relative benefits and impacts from such developments such as jobs and income versus visual intrusion, noise, traffic, smell, pollution and loss of natural spaces or farmland. Tourism and leisure are becoming entangled in the rhetoric. In some locations tourism is directly impacted such as where algal blooms are caused by excessive nitrates from agricultural run-off. In other places communities are using tourism and leisure as a rationale for fighting perceived dissonant development such as mega dairies or extensive polytunnels; yet empirical evidence is scarce. This paper presents preliminary results from current research in Herefordshire, UK, where industrial scale chicken production is proliferating and local communities and visitor economy actors are increasingly contesting planning applications. The research is exploring how these issues are framed and what discourses and narratives are deployed by the actors during the planning process. Results from documentary analysis and interviews are revealing how relations of power are performed across contemporary rural networks. Also how sensory experiences of the materiality of factory farming are largely marginalised. Rural communities are becoming polarised between different future visions of sustainable development in the countryside, and differing levels of concern over potential hazards and uncertainties.

Keywords: Intensive agriculture, rural tourism, sustainability, contestations, power dynamics

Defrosting the Landscape? Improving Rural Heritage Engagement

Katherine Burlingame (Lund University, Sweden)

Historic – or heritage – landscapes are often criticized for being frozen in time. Not only is this an exclusionary practice for certain groups – especially those who consider these spaces ‘living landscapes’, but also for aspects of the landscape that have changed over time. The point in time a heritage landscape is frozen has traditionally been associated with aesthetically beautiful and sublime qualities, where visibility often overpowers intangible landscape characteristics. However, in more ‘ordinary’ rural landscapes valued for their heritage, dominant tangible features are often less prominent. This provides the possibility for more dynamic and creative visitor engagement opportunities that emphasize both tangible and intangible qualities of the landscape. Therefore, this paper seeks to develop a new model of rural landscape engagement that attempts to break away from traditional, visually-dominated perceptions. The model uses three themes (locale, story, and presence) to demonstrate how engaging with landscape change, history and folklore, and lived experiences should be considered in management and presentation of the landscape to develop more creative and multi-sensory experiences for visitors with different interests and capacities to be affected. Given that rural heritage landscapes are increasingly affected by the pressures of mass tourism, developing such an engagement model also aims at fostering a collective sense of belonging and stewardship through local engagement and support while creating more sustainable tourism conditions that will encourage more mindful and engaged visitors.

Going against the Grain: Examining the (re)production of Local Agricultural Knowledge in Tamilnadu, India

Anjana Ramkumar (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

Local Knowledge (LK) has been receiving increasing attention over the past few decades for its potential to inform environmental management. While literature on LK has largely dealt with pre-modern or modernising contexts, this paper investigates the (re)emergence of LK within the hegemonic landscape of industrialised, post-green revolution agriculture in the Southern Indian state of Tamilnadu. Focusing on the cultivation of traditional rice varieties (TVs), it positions LK as a vehicle of alternative development and explores how LK is used to inform sustainable agricultural practices as embedded within the socio-political systems governing agriculture in Tamilnadu. Using ethnographic methods, this exploration is operationalised in two ways. First, the socio-environmental impacts of using TVs are assessed using Adger’s concept of Social Resilience (Adger, 2000) at the level of the household. Second, interactions between key stakeholders in this return to TVs are mapped through a frame of Political Ecology as a means to understand how such alternative modes of development are legitimised by ground-up initiatives while speaking to the dominant state and market-driven changes in agriculture. While scholars of alternative development have predominantly characterized such return to tradition as market-averse, this paper argues that the cultivation of TVs in Tamilnadu comprises largely of, and is made possible by, farmers’ strategic engagements with the market. Studies on LK and its application in the contemporary could thus benefit by remaining open to the possibility of its multiple, dynamic and unprecedented interactions with institutions of mainstream development.

Work Cited:

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Friday 31 Aug 2018

Landscapes of Gentrification (1)

Friday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Main Building - Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

265	Landscapes of Gentrification (1)
Affiliation	Population Geography Research Group Rural Geography Research Group

265	Landscapes of Gentrification (1)
Convenor(s)	Martin Phillips (University of Leicester, UK) Darren Smith (Loughborough University, UK)
Chair(s)	Darren Smith (Loughborough University, UK)
Timetable	Friday 31 August 2018, Session 1 (09:00 - 10:40)
Room	Main Building - Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre
Session abstract	Landscapes have been "a central, if rather neglected, aspect of gentrification" (Phillips 2018), being both identified as amongst its defining (e.g. Davidson and Lees 2005) and persistently remarked upon features (e.g. Mills 1988, Ghose 2004, Patch 2004; Papen 2012, Ye et al. 2015), and yet also discussed in a taken-for-granted manner with little or no reflection on the how the term landscape is being interpreted. This is despite the term landscape being a long-standing subject of debate within human geography and many associated disciplines. A key aim of this session is to foster increased reflection on how various conceptions of landscape have and can be connected to studies of gentrification. Phillips (2018), for instance, identifies how gentrification studies have, largely implicitly, employed notions of landscape as a visually observable material/physical world, as a space of social life and social relations of power, as a symbolic text or way of seeing, and, in a few cases, as lived/affective space. He adds, however, that may be other senses of landscape, "lying within, between and beyond" these four sketched perspectives on landscapes of gentrification. Darling (2005) earlier argued for the possibility of identifying 'landscape-specific gentrification models', an argument not really been followed up within subsequent studies beyond Darling's own analysis of wilderness gentrification (see also Smith et al. 2018) and relatively isolated studies exploring gentrification within landscapes of agriculture (Sutherland 2002), the coast (Griffith 2000, Smith 2007, Freeman and Cheyne 2008, Colbourn and Jepson 2012, Thompson et al 2016) and islands (Clark et al. 2007; Jackson 2005). This session seeks bring together studies of landscape and gentrification in a more critically sustained and reflective manner, exploring material, imagined and lived geographies of gentrified landscapes and how processes of gentrification may not only transform but are conditioned, and even blocked, by an 'embedded landscape' (Patch 2004). The session includes papers exploring both urban and rural landscapes and gentrification within a range countries, plus encompasses studies exploring artistic, musical, migrant, residential, touristic and statistical modes of representation, as well as the role of memory in both facilitating and resisting gentrification. The significance of ecological and more-than human dimensions of landscapes are also considered, including the role gentrification in climate change adaptation.

Linked Sessions

[Landscapes of Gentrification \(2\)](#)

Artists' studios at the intersection of precarity, partnership and participation: a new defence against gentrification
Rhian Scott (University of Oxford, UK)

Artists' studios have practically evolved many times in London. My thesis contributes to a critical understanding of the changing geographies of studios and the working conditions that urban political economic change and precarity manifest. I examine these changes, from the perspective of those involved in the organisation and delivery of affordable creative workspace, including the city's largest and oldest studio organisations, cultural strategy officers in the city's regional governing authority, and crucially, from the perspectives of the visual artists who rent and occupy them. My research brings together these responses to develop a spatial vocabulary for understanding artistic practices in a creative city dominated by the requirements of capital. In doing so its output is a highly contextualised and empirically grounded account of the changing geographies and spaces of artists' studios in contemporary London. It is engaged critically with literatures on urban political economies, gentrification, creative cities, and artistic practices. One of its core empirical chapters is dedicated to the new spatial-material developments that have been happening across the studio sector since the mid-2000's; specifically a growth in purpose-designed, new-build studios being delivered through mixed-use property developments. The proposition considered, is that these new studios operate at the intersection of expanding landscapes of participation, partnership and precarity. Their growth has been synonymous with a broader changing landscape of participation within the arts, wherein studios are seen as important cultural producers of social/community and economic benefit. Ongoing efforts to democratise studios as platforms for community engagement and participation within the arts, have resulted in studios receiving investment and support, not just from the public sector, but from an increasingly diverse number of private and commercial partners. These changes are strategically significant for studio groups gaining access to permanent, low-cost workspace in otherwise unaffordable areas of the city and is effectively protecting sector from the precarities and pressures of urban development and gentrification that it faces.

Authentic Performance and Neighborhood Transformation: the case of Shanghai Music Valley, China

Shu-Yi Chiu (National Taipei University, Taiwan)

Wen-I Lin (National Taipei University, Taiwan)

This research project uses the example of the Chinese national cultural and creative quarter – the Shanghai Music Valley to explore the impact of the culture/creativity-led regeneration policies on revitalizing those old/traditional neighborhood and brownfield area. It particularly regards the changes of the authenticity of places and culture, and also the replacement of local dwellers'/businesses' daily life, street environment and social relationships. The conceptual framework of this project draws on Zukin's(1982, 1996, 2008, 2010; 2016) concept of "authentic urban places", and Arnould and Price's (2003) concept of "authenticating acts" and "authoritative performance" related to contemporary consumer behaviour to discuss how Shanghai public sectors, developers of the cultural and creative parks, and creative labour reinvent and perform the authenticating and authoritative authenticity of places and culture, in order to get their economic, political and cultural power. The contributions of this research will find out the specialties of the Shanghai Music Valley representing the East-Asian post-socialist city that

experiments the culture/creativity-led regeneration via using such centralized and quick experiments; as well as to help policy makers to see the Shanghai's strength and weakness regarding its policy making and practice.

Producing an ideal village: imagined rurality, landscape transformation, and rural gentrification in Mingyue Village, China
Stephanie Xueke Yang (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

In China, it is usually rural residents who migrate to cities for a better livelihood. However, the phenomenon addressed here is contrary to the above trend. Using Mingyue Village as a case study, this research argues that rural gentrification occurs due to the interplay of three factors: urban-rural migrants' and tourists' imagined rurality, local villagers' desire to develop tourism, and the local government's vision to construct a New Socialist Countryside. The urban-rural migrating artists and entrepreneurs, tired of hectic urban life and in search of a slower-pace rural life, catalysed this initial stage of rural gentrification. The migrants value the agricultural landscapes of tea, bamboo and paddy field, but dislike the modern architecture of village houses. Many thus rented abandoned houses from villagers, renovating them according to their imagined rural aesthetic and re-opening them as studios, restaurants, and inns. Over time tourists have been attracted to these 'rural-style' houses sited in scenic agricultural environs. In order to participate in tourism development and cater to even more tourists, some local villagers have also begun following the migrants' aesthetics, renovating their modern, urban style houses into traditional, rural style inns and restaurants. The local county government promotes such landscapes as 'ideal villages', requisitioning farm lands from villagers in order to attract even more migrants, spearheading rural tourism and development. This case moves gentrification studies in China beyond the overwhelmingly urban-focused spatial lens, and reveals the value of agricultural landscape and the agency of local people in the processes of rural gentrification.

The agencies of landscape in rural gentrification: impressions from the wood, the village and other rural landscapes

Martin Phillips (University of Leicester, UK)

Darren Smith (Loughborough University, UK)

Hannah Brooking (University of Leicester, UK)

Landscape have long been seen to be a central, even definitive, element of gentrification in both urban and rural contexts, although their significance is often reduced to a backdrop or to a passive surface onto which gentrification is written materially and/or symbolically. After briefly outlining how gentrification studies have adopted such perspectives, this paper explores arguments for giving landscapes more agency within interpretations of gentrification, including acting as a stimulant to or block on gentrification. Drawing on the notions of affect and 'baroque rurality' (Phillips, 2014), and research interviews conducted across a range of English rural landscapes, the paper explores the role of the materialities of the rural landscapes, including their physical spatialities, vegetation, sounds, liquids and more-than-human inhabitants in both attracting and deterring the gentrification. It also explores how gentrifiers come to reside "in the thick" (Wylie 2005, p. 239) of a landscape, highlighting the presence of a diverse range of affective atmospheres of gentrified rural landscapes, including those of wooded, village and open landscapes. The paper also explores the affective dimensions of displacement and marginalisation associated with landscapes of rural gentrification.

Landscapes of Gentrification (2)

Friday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Main Building - Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

295	Landscapes of Gentrification (2)
Affiliation	Population Geography Research Group Rural Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Darren Smith (Loughborough University, UK) Martin Phillips (University of Leicester, UK)
Chair(s)	Martin Phillips (University of Leicester, UK)
Timetable	Friday 31 August 2018, Session 2 (11:10 - 12:50)
Room	Main Building - Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre
Session abstract	Landscapes have been "a central, if rather neglected, aspect of gentrification" (Phillips 2018), being both identified as amongst its defining (e.g. Davidson and Lees 2005) and persistently remarked upon features (e.g. Mills 1988, Ghose 2004, Patch 2004; Papen 2012, Ye et al. 2015), and yet also discussed in a taken-for-granted manner with little or no reflection on the how the term landscape is being interpreted. This is despite the term landscape being a long-standing subject of debate within human geography and many associated disciplines. A key aim of this session is to foster increased reflection on how various conceptions of landscape have and can be connected to studies of gentrification. Phillips (2018), for instance, identifies how gentrification studies have, largely implicitly, employed notions of landscape as a visually observable material/physical world, as a space of social life and social relations of power, as a symbolic text or way of seeing, and, in a few cases, as lived/affective space. He adds, however, that may be other senses of landscape, "lying within, between and beyond" these four sketched perspectives on landscapes of gentrification. Darling (2005) earlier argued for the possibility of identifying 'landscape-specific gentrification models', an argument not really been followed up within subsequent studies beyond Darling's own analysis of wilderness gentrification (see also Smith et al. 2018) and relatively isolated studies exploring gentrification within landscapes of agriculture (Sutherland 2002), the coast (Griffith 2000, Smith 2007, Freeman and Cheyne 2008, Colbourn and Jepson 2012, Thompson et al 2016) and islands (Clark et al. 2007; Jackson 2005). This session seeks bring together studies of landscape and gentrification in a more critically sustained and reflective manner, exploring material, imagined and lived geographies of gentrified landscapes and how processes of gentrification may not only transform but are conditioned, and even blocked, by an 'embedded landscape' (Patch 2004). The session includes

295 Landscapes of Gentrification (2)

papers exploring both urban and rural landscapes and gentrification within a range of countries, plus encompasses studies exploring artistic, musical, migrant, residential, touristic and statistical modes of representation, as well as the role of memory in both facilitating and resisting gentrification. The significance of ecological and more-than-human dimensions of landscapes are also considered, including the role of gentrification in climate change adaptation.

Linked Sessions

[Landscapes of Gentrification \(1\)](#)

'Other' landscapes of rural gentrification: 'Go wild in the country'

Darren Smith (Loughborough University, UK)

Martin Phillips (University of Leicester, UK)

To date, most scholarship on gentrification has examined the definitional markers of the processes of transformation, such as displacement and social class change, within highly visible, human built landscapes with residential populations (Lees 2012, 2016). This is apparent in the widespread focus on urban gentrification, but can also be seen in the much smaller field of rural gentrification studies. Across both urban and rural spaces, taken-for-granted housing and population markers of gentrified landscapes (Smith 2002a), interspersed with combinations of retail, educational, industrial, welfare, state, religious and other buildings (e.g. Hubbard 2017), appear as intrinsic features in the very diverse geographies of gentrification (Janoschka et al. 2014). Yet, not only have some studies of urban gentrification emphasised how gentrification may have transformed open green spaces beyond buildings, including parks, public squares, landscaped verges and walkways (e.g. Davidson and Lees 2005), but some studies have highlighted how rural gentrification might critically involve spaces other than those associated with buildings, such as greenification (Smith and Phillips, 2001). Likewise, Phillips (2005, p. 1) argues for recognition that rural gentrification often occurs in what is seen as a 'space of nature', and that this contextualization is 'arguably one of the most rural, and least urban, aspects of rural gentrification'. In this presentation, we focus on 'wilderness' to consider 'other geographies' of rurality. We begin by considering the geography of the studies of rural and wilderness gentrification, highlighting how the study of the former has included a strong focus of attention within the UK, whilst the study of wilderness gentrification has been more significant in other countries, particularly Canada and the USA, although often not described explicitly using the term 'wilderness'. We then consider the salience of 'wilderness gentrification' in the UK. First, we present findings from an exploratory mapping of gentrification against a proxy of wilderness areas within England and Wales, using data from the Labour Force Survey (2011) and the UK Census (2011) to identify 'remote' areas that are relatively disconnected from large urban centres for commuting and employment, and which are also characterised by very low population densities. We then explore patterns of gentrification drawing upon a typology of rural gentrification created as part of a comparative study of rural gentrification in the UK, USA and France. The discussion concludes by outlining some possible directions of travel for cross-national comparative studies of wilderness and rural gentrification.

Exploring the use of an environmentally enhanced neighbourhood classification for characterising gentrification in urban landscape: a case study of Salford and Colchester

Nigel Walford (Kingston University, UK)

Richard Armitage (University of Salford, UK)

The characterisation of urban and rural landscapes can take many forms. Neighbourhood classification provides one approach to describing changing social characteristics of urban landscapes, and thus can be used to examine social aspects of gentrification. However, gentrification usually also involves changes to the physical landscape. Current neighbourhood classifications of residential areas, from the academic, governmental and commercial sectors, tend to ignore the physical environment and are based almost exclusively on demographic and socio-economic indicators or variables. This paper seeks to explore the extension of a neighbourhood classification to incorporate environmental and landscape variables, thereby offering the potential of examining gentrification in terms of both physical and social changes. In this initial exploration, the physical aspect of the landscape is characterised in terms of land cover/land use variables. We examine gentrification in respect of two contrasting local authorities, Colchester Borough Council in north-east Essex which has the potential to benefit from the social and economic development derived from its commutable proximity to London, and Salford to the west of Manchester City, where urban affluence rubs shoulders with more disadvantaged communities. Using the environmentally enhanced neighbourhood classification for different time periods we seek to explore gentrification in the two contrasting study areas.

Are resilient, green landscapes more secure landscapes? Assessing the uneven production of environmental protection from a climate gentrification lens

Galia Shokry (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain)

Isabelle Anguelovski (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain)

James Connolly (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain)

As resilience strategies have become a prominent orthodoxy in city planning, green infrastructure (GI) is much heralded as a win-win solution for enhanced social-ecological protection from climate risks and impacts. In this paper, we aim to understand whether "green" and "resilient" interventions protect and secure social groups traditionally most at risk of climate impacts and/or least able to adapt to them – or, if they result in maladaptive and inequitable outcomes (i.e. displacement or climate gentrification). Neighbourhoods with a higher proportion of lower-income and minority residents have already shown trends of gentrification when benefitting from new green amenities – a process known as green gentrification – but much remains to be understood about the role of resilience or climate adapted GI in climate gentrification. Drawing from but also moving beyond Anguelovski, et al (2016), first, we use a quantitative/spatial approach to identify sites of omission and sites of commission in green infrastructure plans and interventions, assessing overlapping landscapes of GI sites and socially vulnerable areas. Second, we consider issues of relocation, disinvestment/re-investment, and displacement (Keenan, 2017) through an analysis of demographic and real estate

changes around the GI sites to empirically test possible pathways involved in climate gentrification. A landscape approach allows us to examine the underlying conditions of uneven development upon which GI and resilience are produced and the new landscapes of new social-ecological conditions these interventions produce. The paper will also contribute to a deeper understanding of how issues of equity and security pan out across green and resilient urban landscapes.

Landscapes of Gentrification and Resistance Through Urban Memory

María Barrero (Universidad de Sevilla, Spain)

Jaime Jover-Baez (Freelance researcher & activist)

San Luis, Seville's historic district northeastern quarter, is witnessing a new wave of gentrification. Commonly known as the 'Sevillian Moscow' due to its long-standing working-class character and the resistance against the 1936 fascist uprising, the neighbourhood suffered from repression, abandonment and marginalisation during Franco's dictatorship (1939-1975). Once Spanish democracy had consolidated, the city implemented strategies to revalorise the quarter by transforming its urban landscapes, i.e., restoring historic buildings and symbolic public spaces, while surreptitiously forgetting its radically democratic memory. As a result, residential and retail gentrification took place during the 1990s and 2000s. In the wake of the economic recovery after the financial crisis, these processes have been reactivated with some different characteristics.

We depart from a conceptualisation of landscape as the understanding of a territory by those who inhabit and shape it everyday. Landscapes are therefore markers of process of gentrification in the context of the neoliberal city, which we test in San Luis case. We study the dialectical relations between the transformations on the quarter's material and social landscapes, and how they have reinforced one another. For instance, as the population is substituted, the quarter's social memory vanishes. Although apparently contradictory, some of the newcomers –mainly middle-class– have appreciated that memory and joined social movements that have recovered and maintained popular traditions and festivities. That is why our work also focuses on how social memory is being used to resist process of gentrification, specifically in regards to the contested character of urban landscape.

Rural landscape changes caused by gentrification: A focus on rural villages in the Black Isle, Scotland

Ryo Iizuka (Shumei University, Japan)

In the past few decades, areas of rural gentrification have expanded from large cities' suburbs to remote areas because of changes in mobilities. Areas of scenic beauty especially attract many incomers even to remote rural villages. In those areas, however, landscapes cause not only gentrification but also gentrification changes. Thus, this empirical study explores rural landscape changes caused by gentrification in rural villages in the Black Isle, Scotland, a remote area, where population has recently grown remarkably because of the influx of people from urban areas. The study employed a quantitative approach based on an analysis of the UK Census used to capture rural change's external factors, which are both demographic and social class related. Further, the landscapes' situation is captured from a village landscape survey. Furthermore, a qualitative approach based on survey interviews of residents captured landscape change's internal factors. Results reveal that both traditional landscapes, such as crofting and new landscapes embodied by rurality through gentrification, exist in villages of the Black Isle. Such a coexistence of landscapes becomes the area's appeal and stimulates not only population inflow but also attractiveness as a tourism destination. Overall, rural landscape change through gentrification has caused more intensified gentrification in the Black Isle.

Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (1)

Friday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Bute Building - Birts Acres Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

348	Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (1)
Affiliation	Rural Geography Research Group History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Owain Jones (Bath Spa University, UK) Daniel Keech (University of Gloucestershire, UK)
Chair(s)	Owain Jones (Bath Spa University, UK)
Timetable	Friday 31 August 2018, Session 3 (14:40 - 16:20)
Room	Bute Building - Birts Acres Lecture Theatre
Session abstract	The dwelling concept was set out by Heidegger in <i>Building, Dwelling, Thinking</i> (1959). It was an intrinsically geographic concept, exploring being-in-the-world through landscape, time, memory, culture, mortality, and the spiritual. Dwelling accounts for enfolded space and time in qualitative, experiential terms of becoming-through-experience – 'poetic habituation'. It challenged rationalism, modernity, scientism. Dwelling had an influence of the humanistic/ phenomenological geographies of the 1970s and 1980s and was further shaped by Ingold's 'taskscape', with foci on practice, relationality, non-human agency. This refreshed version, which left behind some of the more obscure/problematic aspects of Heideggerian dwelling, was taken up in new cultural geographies of the 1990s, which sought more performative and post-structurally infused accounts of becoming-in-place and landscape. Ingold latterly reconsidered his use of dwelling as a cornerstone of becoming, although it remains in use as a concept across the discipline. Interpretations of dwelling seem relevant in relation to the normalisation of socio-political and ecological turbulence. Geographical identities, (multiple-)belongings and ecological (co-)consciousness to be iteratively built up in lived layerings that are mobile. Papers are sought on dwelling and/as: landscape / place; mobility; tourism; gendered dwellings; in the Anthropocene; toxic dwelling; migration / conflict; displacement; rural / urban dwelling.
Linked Sessions	Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (2)

Red Thread Project: Gendered woodland space and collective stitching

Patricia Brien (Bath Spa University, UK)

Picture this, a day in October. Picture this, almost freezing cold weather. There's a group of women who have just completed their weekly Tuesday women's circle and have come to sit together to stitch and embroider their experiences of a privately owned but community focused re-wilded woodland on the edge of a Gloucestershire village.

This visual presentation will outline the Red Thread Project, a crafting initiative to insulate and embellish a yurt space used for women's time spent in the woodland. The materials that were used in the project - gifted woollen felt padding and red woollen thread echoed the artist, Joseph Beuys's notion of working with felt for 'spiritual warmth'. The project provides an opportunity to explore the idea of a gendered dwelling space that is 'held' within a community of women through regular ritual circles and other collective activities corresponding to the cosmological cycle. It indicates a collective, voluntary desire to create a physical space and alternative dwelling place away from regular built up environments and domestic homes. This 'home away from home' in a woodland supports the experience of 'regular wilding' as a form of female bonding and practicing a particular form of gendered eco-consciousness. The Red Thread Project was a crafted moment in an ongoing community practice of gendering a woodland as sacred female space.

'Blood in the Soil': Farming Men's 'Farmscapes' of Dwelling in the UK

Linda Price (Queen's University Belfast, UK)

Across the Developed World suicide amongst farming men over fifty continues to rise; farming communities are no longer anchored in agrarianism and the family farm has become technologically driven. The places to enact an identity as a farming man have become fewer. The gender relations underpinning farm survival and patrilineal succession has seen considerable focus. However, the emotional geographies of farming men and their dwelling place in this new cultural arena requires deeper understanding 'if' both positive and negative understandings of their 'blood in the soil' are to be more fully understood and addressed. Thus, the 'farmscape' conceptual framing is outlined and shown to extend beyond 'medicalised' and risk factor approaches to decimation of life/identity via firearm availability which is 'fragmented, reductive and circumscribed'. Building on the 'lifescape' approach of Convery et al, 'farmscape' foregrounds both the importance of temporal dynamicity and how farming is consubstantive with being in a locality with lifecourse 'scripts' that are embodied. Thus five thematic and spatial scales drawing on ideas of 'dwelling' and 'rootedness' are outlined. Here dissipation of the mind/body dualism within ideas of self, home, belonging and entrapment, senses, family, nature, geography are intertwined as follows: 1) the sensorial, subjective and internal male farming identity emotionally embodied in the land, soil, nature and weather as farmers 'who I am' rather than 'what I do' 2) men's roles as part of the past, present and future family story, often responsible for keeping the blood in the soil through marriage, succession, retirement and farm survival, 3) men's linking of farming practices i.e. management, animal husbandry/breeding to family heritage, 4) men's changing roles within rural communities as an increasingly isolated minority with agrarian, social hierarchies, community rhythms and seasonal rituals in decline and 5) the impacts of global agri-economic/environmental policies with increased bureaucracy and pressure on historical traditions of farming.

W e i r d Regionalism Rurality, Futurity, and the Displaced Locality of Rurally-Focused Digital Communities

William Nichols (Bath Spa University, UK)

Recently the politics of place in America became incredibly contentious as a narrative formed about the well-meaning liberal urbanites who lost the election and the malicious, forgotten, ignorant, blue collar and rural Americans who took it from them. At the same time as the reactionaries took over the Whitehouse, the radical leftists took to Facebook and formed a series of communities which revolved around decolonised and deanthropocentric ways of life in rural America. This political movement didn't arise from any expert culture; in fact, quite the opposite was true. These groups which elevated difference and precarity arose entirely out of the "commonplace" nature of place politics. Instead of creating lengthy documents or debating the nuances of identity politics, these groups began to create images of a rural America that made kin and Comrade with the more-than-human world. They did this by including possums, raccoons, Paw Paws (a mountain fruit), Corn, Aliens and the ominous prophetic Mothman in their production of memes. This movement, which I have termed W e i r d Regionalism uses the meme as a tool to produce knowledge at an everyday level. The presentation I propose examines these images alongside scholars of place, Bioregionalism and dwelling in general. In juxtaposing these themes I posit that digital-social life and theory are merging in uniquely optimistic and unexpected ways; namely that the cynicism of an overly historicised academia is undermined at the everyday level.

Vicariously Wild: Dwelling with wolves in conservation stories

Tracy Hayes (University of Cumbria, UK)

Into the wild I went. Searching for wolves, I discovered wolf-dogs and passionate people, dwelling together in centres designed for the tourists that the staff welcomed. The wolves/wolf-dogs were more wary...

The purpose of this session is to reflect on conservation stories by focusing on the way wolves are presented within them. Conservation stories are used in various ways – to encourage people to visit places, to help them connect with the animals and landscape, and to linger in memories (and photos) afterwards. The task of these stories is to illuminate, enhance and bring meaning to experiences. Conservation stories have a foundation in empirical science, yet embrace narrative, emotive methods to convey information in a manner that resonates with listeners and readers. These are more than just stories, they are peer-reviewed for robustness, with a strong evidence-base and aim to help '... bring conservation science to life'. I will share a story from my research exploring publicly-accessible conservation-education programmes in UK and Canada. I have utilised a fieldwork survey model, to capture my emotional response to my encounters, which I have explored through autoethnographical writing. I dwell alongside wolves in these stories as I reflect on the meaning of my experiences.



Landscapes of Faith: Religion, Dwelling, and Tourism in South Wales

Russell Re Manning (Bath Spa University, UK)

Richard Parry (Coleridge in Wales, UK)

The Welsh Government is one of the very few world governments to have created a Faith Tourism Action Plan (2013). Faith tourism in Wales is defined as referring “to places of faith and sacred sites (including the people and narratives connected to them and the landscape that surrounds them), which inspire and enhance visits to, and within, Wales.” The 2013 Action Plan includes the vision that by 2020 “Faith Tourism is recognised as an integral component of the visitor experience in Wales, adding significant value to the destination offer, contributing to the well-being of the visitor and host community and enhancing local, regional and national ‘Sense of Place’”. Landscapes of Faith is a collaborative project that seeks to develop and deliver this vision through building public, community and church confidence in faith tourism in South Wales. This paper articulates theoretical (philosophical/theological) underpinnings of the Landscapes of Faith project, through a combination of a ‘confluences’ account of religion as ‘crossing and dwelling’ (Tweed 2006) and a revised Tillichian theology of culture. From Tweed we derive an ‘itinerary theory’ of religion as embodied, positioned, and projective and with Tillich we affirm a participatory understanding of religion as the ‘substance of culture’ (just as culture is ‘the form of religion’). As such, we develop a distinctive approach to faith tourism that respects both the distinctiveness of religious sites and their integration into communities, both for those who dwell in and those who visit Wales’ landscapes of faith.

Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (2)

Friday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Bute Building - Birts Acres Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

376	Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond (2)
Affiliation	Rural Geography Research Group History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group
Convenor(s)	Owain Jones (Bath Spa University, UK) Daniel Keech (University of Gloucestershire, UK)
Chair(s)	Daniel Keech (University of Gloucestershire, UK)
Timetable	Friday 31 August 2018, Session 4 (16:50 - 18:30)
Room	Bute Building - Birts Acres Lecture Theatre
Session abstract	The dwelling concept was set out by Heidegger in <i>Building, Dwelling, Thinking</i> (1959). It was an intrinsically geographic concept, exploring being-in-the-world through landscape, time, memory, culture, mortality, and the spiritual. Dwelling accounts for enfolded space and time in qualitative, experiential terms of becoming-through-experience – ‘poetic habituation’. It challenged rationalism, modernity, scientism. Dwelling had an influence of the humanistic/ phenomenological geographies of the 1970s and 1980s and was further shaped by Ingold’s ‘taskscape’, with foci on practice, relationality, non-human agency. This refreshed version, which left behind some of the more obscure/problematic aspects of Heideggerian dwelling, was taken up in new cultural geographies of the 1990s, which sought more performative and post-structurally infused accounts of becoming-in-place and landscape. Ingold latterly reconsidered his use of dwelling as a cornerstone of becoming, although it remains in use as a concept across the discipline. Interpretations of dwelling seem relevant in relation to the normalisation of socio-political and ecological turbulence. Geographical identities, (multiple-)belongings and ecological (co-)consciousness to be iteratively built up in lived layerings that are mobile. Papers are sought on dwelling and/as: landscape / place; mobility; tourism; gendered dwellings; in the Anthropocene; toxic dwelling; migration / conflict; displacement; rural / urban dwelling.

Linked Sessions

[Landscape Becoming and Time. Past, present and future: dwelling in Human Geography and beyond \(1\)](#)

The ‘good step’ and dwelling in Tim Robinson’s *Stones of Aran*

Pippa Marland (University of Leeds, UK)

Tim Robinson’s *Stones of Aran* diptych is an extraordinary piece of place-based writing. Taking as its subject the Irish island of Árainn, it attempts what the cultural geographer John Wylie calls ‘the total description of landscape’. Its central motif is the ‘good step,’ a term Robinson uses to explore the relationship between humanity and the world. However, despite the work’s gradual recognition as one of the stand-out achievements of 20th century landscape writing, there is a lack of consensus about the exact nature of that achievement. Robert Macfarlane describes it as ‘an exceptional investigation of the difficulties and rewards of dwelling’. Wylie, by contrast, feels that ‘A clearer disavowal of dwelling, of a correspondence of land and life, is hard to imagine’. This paper suggests that these polarised views have arisen, in part, because of the prior expectations readers have brought to the text in terms of broadly Romantic traditions of landscape writing, resulting in a failure to engage with its more innovative aspects. I argue that *Stones of Aran* represents a hybrid form that enables the expression of a provisional, dynamic sense of dwelling, a ‘good step’ that, rather than either connoting a consistent, rooted correspondence between land and life or disproving the possibility of such a correspondence, effectively straddles the contradictions and disorientations involved in being-in-the world.

Confluence of Relations: An Auto-Ethnographic Account of Field Recording in the Anthropocene Age

Freya Zinovieff (Simon Fraser University, Canada)

In the age of the Anthropocene, all ecosystems, no matter how remote, are influenced by the relations between humans and technology. Field recording is a tool through which we are able to document the extent to which life forms associated with place are entangled with human technology relationships. This paper affirms the interaction between technologies, species, and

landscape via an auto-ethnographic account of a field recording taken from a cell phone tower in Bali, Indonesia. In the recording, we hear a confluence of relations where critter and technology meet. The electrical hum of the tower merges with the amaranthine throb of frogs and crickets, in such a way that it is hard to tell where technology begins and the voice of creatures ends. The outcomes of this venture present a framework for evaluating the sensorial relations within field recording. The framework calls for the soundscape to be understood as a multi-layered ontology through which there is a convergence of multispecies relationships, or entanglements, across time and geographic location. These entanglements are not necessarily obvious. Sometimes quiet, sometimes elusive, sometimes only audible through the mediated conduit of digital technology. I argue that to be aware of these entanglements is to open ourselves to a type of beauty that is firmly rooted in the present paradigm of extinction and loss. By virtue of this understanding, we are bestowed with an opportunity to embrace the grave reality of the current sixth mass extinction, and move forwards with what activist Joanna Macy calls compassionate action.

Dwelling in no-man's-land: Women and extreme mountaineering

Jenny Hall (York St John University, UK)

Being-in-the-now is place at the brink of the unknown, where female mountaineers feel unjudged and free from regulatory norms.



Being-in-the-now for a mountaineer is a place that annihilates the 'me,' it is a particular moment in time that strips away every day cares and what remains is the 'residual acting self'. These moments, created in extreme mountain 'weather-worlds' such as the Himalayan 8000m peaks, are places where women find an ultimate sense of wellbeing. However, mountain summits and mountaineering routes are predominantly created and regulated by men, mountaineering is thus a male space. This male space presents specific physical and psychological challenges for female mountaineers that I suggest they negotiate through the specific practices of exposure, silence and risk. I posit that women, when engaged in such practices, are able to transcend gender norms through a comingling of masculinities and femininities, which is generative of different ways to dwell in mountain places. Through experimental mobile video ethnography I explore how women mountaineers create and dwell in a no-man's-land within extreme high altitude landscapes. In doing so I aim to problematize dominant masculine representations of mountaineering to reveal new temporal and sentient understandings of how women mountaineer. This paper will contribute to the little known field of female 'hard' or extreme professional mountaineering, with implications for opening both a social and political voice.

Representations of rural dwelling: authenticity and time-deep ways of living

Alex Arnall (University of Reading, UK)

This paper explores how past notions of rural dwelling, and in particular the ways in which narratives and images associated with landscape, becoming and time, were mobilised and enacted during the implementation of the UK Land Settlement Association (LSA) scheme established in 1934. The LSA was a UK Government programme set up to resettle unemployed workers from depressed industrial urban areas, particularly in northeast England and Wales, to the countryside. Between 1934 and 1939, 1,100 smallholdings were established within 26 settlements across the country. These smallholdings were run as cooperatives, but many failed when relocated families complained of long hours, low pay and isolation. Recruitment to the scheme ceased at the outbreak of WW II, with the settlements being fully dissolved and privatised in 1983. By drawing on a unique archive housed in the Museum of English Rural Life (MERL), analysis centres on how the LSA was represented and marketed to farmers and the wider public via a range of textual and visual messages that invoked religious and political doctrines. These narratives were popularised through slogans, and publicised through films, posters, public decorations and monuments. The paper illuminates how these representations idealised rural dwelling and attempted to create 'authentic' and time-deep ways of living. In conclusion, it provides insights into how these are reworked today to address the supposed corrosive effects of modernisation on rural ways of life in the UK.

Ecstatic Dwelling and the Hospitality of the Unhoused

Kate Rigby (Bath Spa University, UK)

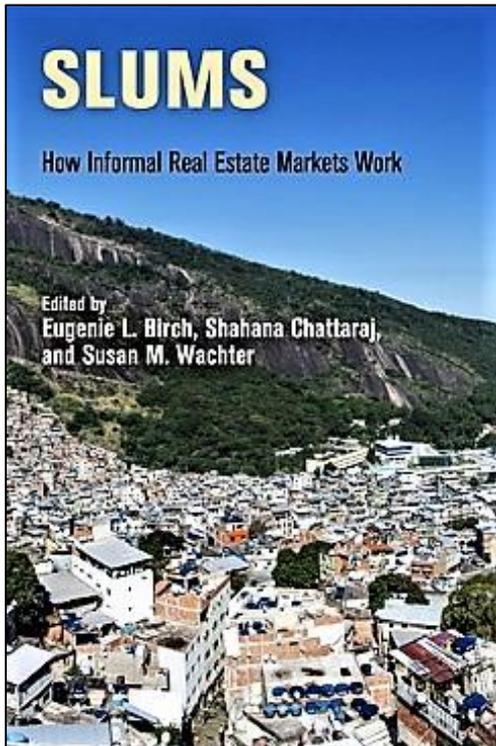
This paper responds to John Wylie's arguments against the construction of landscape as homeland by revisiting the concept of 'ecstatic dwelling' first framed by post-Heideggerian phenomenologist, Michel Haar. Countering "invocations of homeland as a site of existential inhabitation, as a locus of sentiment and attachment, and a wellspring of identity," Wylie advances a notion of landscape as "a kind of dislocation or distancing from itself." To the extent that it implies abiding, entailing eco-cultural practices of environmentally attuned inter-generational place-making, dwelling is affiliated with the pathos of homeland, and brings with it the ever-present risk of exclusionary and even fascist deployment. While Heidegger himself fell prey to this risk, his own philosophy of dwelling points a way out: for if to 'dwell' is to craft a modus vivendi that allows space for those more-than-human entities and processes with which your existence is entangled to unfold in their own ways, then every true 'homeland' is "adopted", and none is every truly or exclusively one's own. In dwelling, then, we make our home "in exile": which is to say, ecstatically. In this paper, I explore the counterpart to 'ecstatic dwelling', namely: the hospitality of the unhoused, entailing multispecies practices of co-becoming under conditions of growing dislocation. I conclude with some cultural geographical case studies of ecstatic dwelling/hospitality in practice: conservation initiatives in the UK and the US that involve refugee and migrant communities in creating habitat for migratory, displaced, or otherwise hard-pressed wildlife in urban spaces where they too are (relative) newcomers of minority and/or marginalised status.

End of RGRG Abstracts: See you at RGS-IBG 2018 Cardiff!

5. BOOKS – Asmita Bhardwaj on Slums & rural-urban migration.

Slums: Informal Real Estate Markets, State Governance and Agrarian concerns

Rural geographers asked why billions of rural dwellers migrated to urban centres without firm job prospects. Among many push-pull factors, Michael P. Todaro found rational expectations of eventual employment validated much rural-to-urban migration. Hernando de Soto found more order than chaos in slums (aka informal settlements or favelas). New research finds that, unlike cities ruled by formal 'laws', informal slums are partly guided by 'norms' akin to traditions in rural societies. Dr. Asmita Bhardwaj considers the urban informal sector in light of insights from the agrarian sector where most farmers are out of the ambit of formal banking systems. – Editor, BAS.



Slums: How Informal Real Estate Markets Work

Edited by Eugenie L. Birch, Shahana Chattaraj and Susan M. Wachter.
Published in 2016
University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, USA.

Reviewed by Dr. Asmita Bhardwaj

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The aim of the book is to place slums and informal sector real estate markets in a larger policy, governance and legal context, namely policies on public finance, land development regulations, and those governing property rights in different countries. The critical finding of the book is that the distinction between formal sector and informal sector/settlement is not black and white. Thus, when public policy intervenes in informal sector markets, that need not lead to formality, but there may be the creation of new hybrid forms of real estate, housing, and labour markets. The book also finds that informal sector markets are purposeful in developing rational, orderly, extra-legal processes to manage transactions.

Although the book seeks to fill a critical gap in literature about slums and informality, it neglects the reasons for generation of these markets themselves: that is rural to urban migration, and how the rural and the urban informal may be linked together. This theme is touched upon in Sai Balakarishnans' chapter which asserts that there is a need to bring in old categories of the agrarian class in analysis of informal land markets in peri-urban Bangalore (Chapter 6). Here she traces the creation of a new class coalition between low class local Dalits and higher classes of migrant 'coolie' workers, both of whom demand higher compensation for their land which rich industrialists want to acquire in Bangalore. Sai describes how Dalits have been selling their small parcels of unproductive drylands and entering the exploitative market-oriented economy.

This marks a turn from older agrarian [behaviour] in which small farmers held onto their parcels of rural land despite much distress. They do not want to do so anymore (Griffin 1974). Second, that low caste Dalits are selling the land parcels and being emancipated in return, (routine in old agrarian literature) amounts to the discontinuation of the older patron client relationships that existed between low caste Dalits and their land lords (Scott 1975).

References

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Griffin, Keith Griffin (1974) *The Political Economy of Agrarian Change: An Essay on the Green Revolution*. Macmillan.



- Dr. Asmita Bhardwaj

'Sai Balakarishnans' chapter... asserts that there is a need to bring in old categories of the agrarian class in analysis of informal land markets in peri-urban Bangalore.'

6. WELSH AGRO-TOURISM LORE

Wales is beautiful. Not just for dairy cows around Snowdonia, or how Dinah Williams worked with Lady Eve Balfour to



resist chemical farming by founding the Soil Association, as her family created Rachel's Organic Yogurt.



The demise of the steel industry makes tourism more important to Wales. One unique draw is Port Meirion near Porthmadog (p 5), an Italianesque resort village developed last century by architect Clough Williams-Ellis. Daughter Susan designed Botanic Garden dinnerware (above), still in homes around the world.

Ask your parents: What 1960s TV series was shot in Port Meirion? Better yet, visit Port Meirion Hotel some rainy weekend to watch it in your room before a fine dinner of locally sourced food. - BAS

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RGRG Newsletter invites your submissions for the Winter issue, deadline 15th November 2018.

NOTE: RGRG Newsletter is migrating from Durham University RGS-IBG HQ London HQ (details at AGM,). Meanwhile, highlight your work by sending news on events, fieldwork, books, etc. to Editor, RGRG Newsletter:

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