



RGRG Newsletter * Summer * 21st July 2021

Email news to outgoing Editor bruce.scholten@btopenworld.com or Aimee aimeemorse@connect.glos.ac.uk

Images: D. Agol, E. Anderson, C. Howie, A. Morse, BA & MYS Scholten, RGS-IBG, Unis, Wiki & CC BY-NC

=> **RGS-IBG 2021 London virtual conference, Tues 31 Aug to Fri 3 Sep 2021 (AGM 1.10 pm Wed 1 Sep.)**

*RGRG sessions 2021 [HERE](#) * Also: <https://rgrg.co.uk/rgs-with-ibg-international-conference-2020>

Chaired by Prof Uma Kothari, on the theme [Borders, borderlands and bordering](#)

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1. Editorial: Editor Dr. Mark Riley, Liverpool, passed the pen to me at Durham Geography in 2009.

Over the next 12 years, more colour pix graced articles from Algeria, Brazil, the EU, India, Kenya, Libya, UK, Malaysia, Vietnam, and 2019 Brit-Can-Am-Oz Quad in Vermont, USA. In 2020 *RGRG Newsletter* migrated to London (rgrg.co.uk/). Its Archive & Bibliography pages need *your* ongoing input.



Now, the infamous newsletter highlights the mostly virtual London conference 30.Aug.-2. Sep.2021. Complete information is on the new RGS-IBG Cisco System: <https://event.ac2021.exordo.com/>

This issue proudly features Dorice Agol's stirring tales of food entrepreneurship in Nairobi's Covid-19-hit informal settlements. Ecologist Charles Howie reviews *Plantsman's Travels in Northern Vietnam*. Ewan Anderson writes on trees in rural geography with his drawings of the original True Service Tree.

After years in Germany and decades in, now, Brexit Britain, I'll return to USA in 2022. Thanks to rural stalwarts P.J. Atkins, Philip Lowe, David Harvey, Terry Marsden, Henry Buller, Jo Little, Carol Morris, Matt Reed, Georgina Holt, Michael Wood, Guy Robinson, Moya Kneafsey, Richard Yarwood, Keith Halfacree, Nigel Walford, Damian Maye, Geoff Wilson, Martin Phillips, Megan Palmer-Abbs & all. Meet at American Association of Geographers confs? I'll be pursuing dairy subjects in the 21st century like this Vacche Rosse parmesan cow in Reggio Emilia. Yellow mean girl bling suggests she prefers field research to barn confinement. Don't we all?

Stay safe! Visiting Seattle? Look me up. – Bruce A. Scholten

2. RGRG NEWS: Secretary Dr. Megan Palmer-Abbs from Norway, May 2021

Dear RGRG members – We hope this finds you well and looking forward to some good experiences this summer - including the RGS Conference in whatever form it finally takes. Please see a few things of note as follows:

*RGS MEDALS AND AWARDS 2021 ANNOUNCED

We are delighted to announce that **Professor Terry Marsden** has been awarded the RGS (with IBG) Back Award For outstanding contribution to the development of national and international rural planning and development public policy, and that **Professor Chris Philo** the Victoria Medal for his promotion and contribution to research in health, social and cultural geographies. We would like to offer our



appreciation and congratulations on behalf of the RGRG committee, our members and the contribution this makes towards more sustainable societies.

*UNDERGRADUATE DISSERTATION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

We are delighted to announce the winners of this year's undergraduate dissertation award for geographers. Our thanks go to **Fiona Williams** and RGRG committee members for their valued support yet again. We are particularly proud of our up-and-coming geographers and hope they have long careers. Winners as follows:

2019/20: Winning dissertation: Dylan Inglis, Durham University: *Language and relational values: a Q analysis of relations with forests in the Basque Pyrenees.*

2nd Nicholas Partridge, Queen Mary University of London: *Angling in the British Countryside: An investigation of Class, Gender and Rurality in the changing spaces and societies of British leisure angling.*

3rd Grace Molly Evans, Aberystwyth University: *The socio-economic impact of poor digital connectivity on rural communities; A case study of Llangwm, Monmouthshire.*

*BORDERS, BORDERLANDS AND BOUNDARIES.

RGRG Sponsored sessions for RGS with IBG Annual International Conference, London 31 August - 3 September 2021 are out. It looks to be a very good and diverse group of sessions for us, showcasing the breadth and depth of rural geography.

We continue with the organisation of the Conference for 2021 *with many sessions online and some in person.*

Specific registration guidance, timelines and advice will be available from the RGS website [HERE](#)

For more on RGRG Sponsored session please see the RGS website [HERE](#)

Please see the confirmed RGRG sponsored sessions 2021 [HERE](#)

Kind regards and best wishes

Megan & the RGRG committee

Dr Megan Palmer-Abbs PhD BSc (Open) Dip (Environmental Policy) MIED FRGS
Secretary to the RGS Rural Geographers Research Group (RGRG) Committee,
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3. CCRI Winter School 2021

by Philippa Simmonds

philippasimmonds@connect.glos.ac.uk, @PippaSim
Countryside and Community Research Institute



The CCRI Winter School took place from
Wed 20th to Friday 22nd January 2021.

Although this year it was delivered over

Zoom, the event continued its history of bringing together a range of postgraduate researchers to present and discuss their research in a supportive and collaborative environment.

Day 1 saw presentations focused on fishing, facilitation and food systems; chaired by Caitlin Hafferty.

Adam Fisher kicked things off with a summary of his planned PhD research, which will explore conservation behaviours among recreational sea anglers. This was followed by **Aimee Morse**, whose research focuses on developing a framework for the successful facilitation of collaborative agri-environmental management.

The second half of Day 1 featured three expert panelists discussing future of rural research post-Covid-19.

Dr John Lever spoke on regional food system responses to the pandemic, while **Dr Megan Palmer-Abbs**

explored peripherality and encouraged participants to

reflect on how the situation may have affected our research approach. Finally, **Professor Damian Maye** shared key insights from his work following the food system impacts of Covid-19.

Group Facilitation



1. Establish communication

Regular conversations are essential. Facilitators should provide group members with opportunities to establish new relationships; reiterate group goals to develop a shared sense of purpose; and allow people to contribute to constructive discussions.



2. Maintain a sense of community

Communities created through regular communication provide a space in which knowledge can be shared and mutual trust can be developed. Members can reassure one another they are committed to the shared goals and offer one another support and motivation. It is important facilitators dedicate time to providing this stable environment.



3. Encourage participation and build confidence

Facilitators should allow group members ample opportunities to participate in decision-making and learning. This process gives the group confidence to follow the actions necessary to achieve their goal and can lead to better performance.



4. Support collective action

The preceding exercises put members in a position to undertake collective action in pursuit of their goals. Facilitators should continue to guide their group's discussions to ensure cohesion is maintained and the behaviour change which has occurred throughout the facilitation process is translated into physical actions which lead to change on the ground.

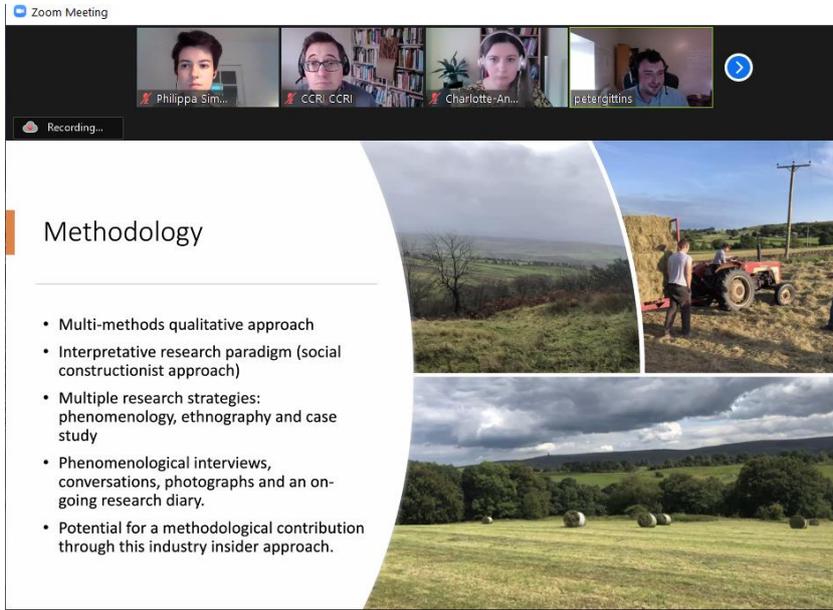
Prepared by Aimee Morse for
the CCRI Winter School 2021

@06aims

aimeemorse@connect.glos.ac.uk

Day 2 was chaired by Charlotte Chivers, and Philippa Simmonds began the presentations with some insights from her PhD literature review regarding the complex and contested issue of climate change and livestock. We then heard from Peter Gittins, whose research explores the realities facing English upland beef and sheep farmers, drawing on his position as an industry insider.

Theo Lenormand then presented on his research using an agrarian diagnosis tool to study farms in the



Upper Dee Valley catchment: from glacial formation, to farm expansion in the 21st century, to future challenges.

Our final postgraduate research presentation of the day came from Adrianna Kapek-Goodridge, exploring farm animal welfare governance in new and old EU states. Day 2 culminated in a PhD Colloquium, during which experienced supervisors Julie Ingram, Chris Short and Dan Keech answered questions from PGRs and offered their tips for managing the postgraduate experience.

The final day of the Winter School was chaired by Aimee Morse, featuring three very different and equally fascinating presentations. Emanuele Amo shared his research on the Slow Food Movement and the Terra Madre project, which explores food sovereignty and uses the concept of translocal assemblages. We then heard from Leon Radix about his planned research on the diversity and abundance of butterflies on farms in Grenada, and their relationship to farming practices and characteristics. Finally, we heard from Michaela Dhas, who has conducted extensive research on factors influencing the volume of food waste produced in schools.

Overall, the CCRI Winter School continued its tradition of being a supportive and encouraging space in which to share ideas and receive feedback. In a time when IRL networking has been impossible, it enabled access to experienced senior researchers and supervisors who offered valuable insights into the future of the field, as well as how to navigate the postgraduate research experience.

Themes obviously included the B-word and the C-word (Brexit and Covid-19), but we were also provoked to consider concepts like trust, collaboration, heritage, and conservation.

The CCRI PGRs are very grateful to Matt Reed for overseeing the coordination, as well as to all the brilliant presenters and participants from the CCRI and beyond.



4. CCRI Summer School 2021 by Aimee Morse aimeemorse@connect.glos.ac.uk @06aims Countryside and Community Research Institute, University of Gloucestershire



June 10th and 11th saw the first CCRI Summer School take place online. Following several years of successful Winter Schools, the CCRI team decided to establish an event which focused on methods and ethics. Over the course of two mornings, we heard from several staff on ethical considerations and various methodological approaches they had employed in their recent work. The event also provided an essential opportunity for discussions regarding the return to the field, with the complexities of risk assessments and ethical concerns over the transmission of coronavirus being covered in detail.

Following the online session on Wednesday there was an opportunity to catch up with colleagues in-person on the chapel lawn at Francis Close Hall campus, the CCRI's Cheltenham home. It was wonderful to spend an hour in the sun chatting about all things rural!

We look forward to developing the Summer School into a regular meeting, like its counterpart, the Winter School. If you're interested in learning more about the Winter School, look out for our advertisements on the CCRI Twitter account towards the end of this year.

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5. RGS Postgraduate Forum mid-term session 22nd April 2021, by Niamh McHugh of Leicester and University of Loughborough nmm18@leicester.ac.uk @NiamhMcHugh6

On 22nd April, the RGRG PGR committee held a session as part of the PGF Mid-Term Conference 2021, titled **Adapting Research**.

The session was split into three parts, the first being a workshop followed by two lightning post-graduate presentations and was concluded with an open discussion on the RGRG, its committee and opportunities to get involved with the group next year.

Rural Geography Research Group Mid-Term Conference Thursday 22nd April 10:00 – 12:00 BST.

Session Theme: Adapting Research

Session Description:

10:00 – 11:00am : "Adapting your Research" Workshop

- Presented by Professor Martin Phillips, University of Leicester and Professor Darren Smith, Loughborough University.

11:10 – 11:30am : Postgraduate Lightning Presentations

- Hermann Kam, Imperial College London.
"New Land Managers - The potential role of non-farmers in the future delivery of public goods in the UK countryside".
- Theo Lenormand, University of Gloucestershire.
"Big money, big subsidies for small and unevenly distributed returns, is UK farming economic performance structure future proof?"

11:30 – 11:45am : Open Table Discussion about the RGRG



The workshop was delivered by **Professor Martin Phillips, University of Leicester** and **Professor Darren Smith, Loughborough University**, exploring their own experiences of when they have had to adapt their research. In sharing these experiences, both Martin and Darren developed phrases and tools to help identify the different ways in which someone can adapt their research when faced with an obstacle. Method's such as 'reshuffling the pack' laid the foundations for some stimulating discussions in the break-out rooms during the session, where postgraduates were able to interact and ask questions to Martin and Darren. This session was well received by the researchers and postgraduate students who attended as it provided an opportunity for everyone to discuss their own challenges which they were facing in their own environment and tools which they could use to assist with adapting their own research.



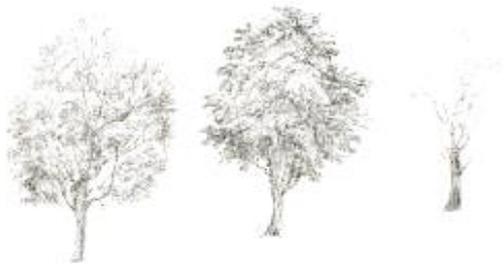
Niamh McHugh

The workshop was followed by two postgraduate 5-minute lightning presentations which were delivered by Hermann Kam, Imperial College London, and Theo Lenormand, University of Gloucestershire. Both Hermann and Theo presented on topics which are pertinent issues facing the rural today. Hermann's presentation discussed the shifting patterns of rural land occupancy in the UK, while Theo discussed agricultural revenue and in particular the effect of different productions and farming system functioning on the profitability of farms. These presentations created a series of questions from the audience, and in turn generated a range of stimulated conversations between the presenters and those who attended, further showing the cutting-edge research which is taking place in the rural geography research environment.

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6. Trees and Rural Geography by Professor Ewan Anderson

Ewan Anderson is Emeritus Professor of Geopolitics (Durham), Honorary Professor of Residential Child Welfare (York), Visiting Professor of Middle Eastern Development (Exeter), Visiting Professor of Social Pedagogy (York St John), and Commander RNR (retired). Anderson, who admires John Ruskin's ideas on nature, religion and art, now supports charities with his Tree Art (www.tree-drawings.co.uk). I was fortunate to meet Ewan in Durham Geography in the 1990s, and have him as a neighbour today. RGRG is honoured the polymath shares his arboreal passion here. - Editor



Professor Anderson writes –
Following a career in geography which wandered from schools to colleges and universities and meandered from geomorphology to social and economic geography and finally geopolitics, on retirement it has been a pleasure to return to my first main interest, nature especially trees. With the exception of certain fungi, they are the oldest and largest living organisms in the landscape and, as research is revealing, their lives are multi-faceted and fascinating. They are, therefore, a key component in plant and rural geography.

Trees are unique in the degree in which they both manifest and combine the aesthetic, the utilitarian and the spiritual. Indeed, William Gilpin (1724-1804), artist, cleric and originator of the concept of the picturesque wrote: '...it is no exaggerated praise to call a tree the grandest and most beautiful production of all the earth'. Trees are the only element of creation described in Genesis (2:9) as 'pleasant to the sight'.

The aesthetic value of trees has been apparent throughout the history of art. However, it was in the seventeenth century that Claude Lorrain (1600-1682) focused particular attention with his beautiful depictions of trees as dominant features of the landscape.

There followed the landscape movement, inspired by such painters as Thomas Gainsborough (1727-1788) and John Constable (1776-1837) in whose paintings the tree species can be identified. They were succeeded by, to my mind, the greatest of all tree artists, Ivan Shishkin (1832-1898), on whose huge canvases the majestic trees of the northern forests preside. Tree art continues to flourish to the present day with the work of artists including one dedicated group known as the Arborealists.

The landscape movement changed the landscape itself using, predominantly, carefully positioned trees to create what is still regarded as one of the supreme art forms of England. William Kent, 'Capability' Brown and Humphrey Repton were among the landscape architects who produced rural settings and vistas acknowledged as masterpieces today.

The utilitarian is relatively obvious. For millennia wood was the ultimate sustainable resource on which human society depended. Trees are replaced naturally and provide fuel, food, building materials, shelter, medicines and spiritual solace. Possibly this woodland culture helps explain the obvious love of trees that still persists and is demonstrated when trees are threatened, as in the case of street trees of Sheffield and, recently the projected route of the HS2 railway. However, the greatest threat to British woodlands arose from the sixteenth century with the insatiable demand for wooden ships for the mercantile fleet and the Royal Navy. It is said that Admiral Collingwood always carried a pocket of acorns which he planted in all suitable locations. Later mass plantings meant that the age of the great wooden ships had passed before the trees reached maturity and consequently the landscape of Britain boasts more ancient oaks than that of any other European country.



Prof. Ewan Anderson (www.tree-drawings.co.uk).

Furthermore, apart from woodland products, trees also offer spiritual solace, protect the environment, modify climate, store carbon, provide homes for numerous species of wildlife and, on death, enrich the soil. In 'The Secret Life of Trees', Colin Tudge argues that trees could stand

at the heart of the world's economies and politics as they are at the centre of terrestrial ecology. Although his focus was on timber, in the first great book on British trees, John Evelyn made clear his awareness of the spirituality of trees and the need for the enlightened transformation of the countryside. 'Sylva: A Discourse of Forest Trees and the Propagation of Timber', the first formal publication of the Royal Society, appeared in 1664 and remains a classic. Evelyn ends the book by considering the sacred grove, the enhancement of spiritual life and Paradise itself. Trees may be perceived as objects of worship in the earliest records of religion among most great cultures. It was under the shade of the Bodhi tree that Buddha received Enlightenment while the Tree of Life remains a potent symbol in Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

The relationship between human life, nature and spirituality has occupied many writers of note, among them John Ruskin and Henry David Thoreau. Indeed, in the footsteps of Ruskin, there is a small current project in which the construction from geology to vegetation, of the rural Suffolk landscape in the Benefice of Debenham is being examined in its relationships with human activity and spirituality. The links discerned globally have led to the concept of the Pluriverse, the idea that there is not one universe but many. Australian Aborigines perceive a very different universe from that of the capitalist world inhabitants of Sydney. Among current developments which link human life, the landscape and the spiritual are the introduction of rewilding into the countryside and of permaculture into farming.

Rural geography is not only influenced by these changes but also by scientific revelations about the multifaceted lives of trees. These were examined in detail by Peter Wohlleben in his book: 'The Hidden Life of Trees'(2015) and demonstrated visually in a BBC documentary by Dr. George McGavin: 'Oak Tree: Nature's Greatest Survivor' (October 2017). Indigenous peoples are conscious of the wisdom of trees and there is a growing awareness among scientists that trees are sentient beings. Trees react to temperature change, through their roots and leaves they are sensitive to touch, they can distinguish the spit of different animals, they perceive changes in light and moisture, they are aware of danger and have a variety of safety mechanisms and, perhaps most interesting of all, they communicate with animals and with one another. In his book, 'Entangled Life' (2020), Merlin Sheldrake offers scientific evidence which demonstrates the interconnectedness of trees through their mycorrhizal partners.

Apart from work on the Pluriverse and the Debenham project, my main contribution to rural geography has been in locating and drawing Britain's rarest native tree, the True Service Tree (*Sorbus domestica*). It entered the British list on the strength of a solitary specimen discovered in Wyre Forest in 1678 and known locally as the 'Whitty Pear'. This tree was burned down in 1842 but not before progeny had been planted in the neighbourhood and further afield, including the Oxford Botanic Garden. In 1913, a mature offspring was planted at the Whitty Pears's ancestral site in Wyre Forest. Remarkably, between 1983 and 1991, two very small, indisputably wild populations of True Service Trees were discovered on cliffs in South Glamorgan. Since then, a small population has been located on the Horseshoe Bend of the Bristol Avon, resulting in the site being listed as an SSSI, and individual trees have been found on the Cornish coast and at the confluence of the Rivers Severn and Wye. Biochemical evidence has shown that all these trees are closely related and quite distinct from cultivated continental trees.



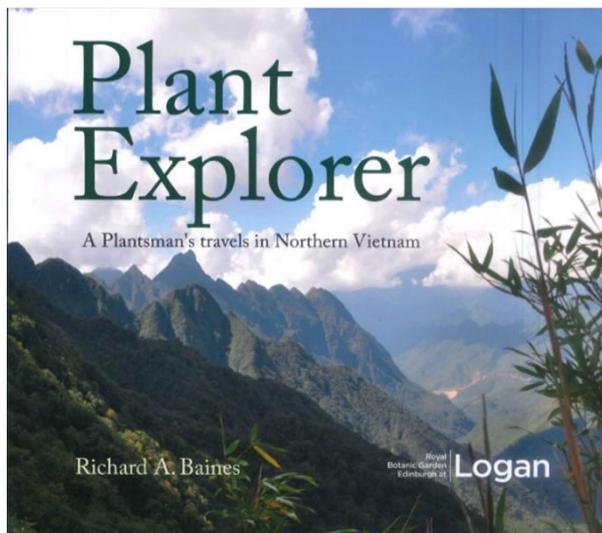
Perhaps, in the Post-Covid world, a new spirit of consideration for the treatment of all things green may prevail. The Constitution of Switzerland already includes 'account is to be taken of the dignity of creation when handling animals, plants and other organisms'.

Tree drawings
by Ewan Anderson

Ewan Anderson's Arboreal Art was featured in RGRG Newsletter for Winter 2020-21:
<https://rgrg.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/RGRG-News-Winter-29Nov20-.pdf>

- RGRG Newsletter 2021 Summer

7. BOOK REVIEW by Dr. Charles Howie



Richard A Baines (Author)

Publisher: Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (£19.99)
<https://www.nhbs.com/search?q=plant+explorer&qtview=226901>

It is an understatement to say that Britain had many plant collectors who roamed the world gathering botanical materials, many of which we enjoy today. Scotland alone had 120 in the period 1700 to 1950, but how should we regard their exploits today, who benefited, and who lost (see Julia Cordon in *The Forestry Journal*, July 2019)? George Forrest alone collected and brought back 31,000 specimens from the Himalayas, but by whose authority? Similarly, David Douglas brought us trees of great commercial benefit, and stature from North America, such as the Douglas Fir, while Sir Henry Wickham, an Englishman, allegedly 'stole' (see Warren Dean 2002 *Brazil and the Struggle for Rubber, a study in Environmental History*) 70,000 rubber tree seeds from Brazil, brought them first to Kew Gardens, where 2,700 germinated, and then on to successful commercial production in Malaya soon afterwards, thereby breaking Brazil's export monopoly. So, who 'owns' the rights to botanical materials?

Richard Baines is the Curator of Logan Botanical Garden, in southwest Scotland, one part of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh (RBGE). The Edinburgh Garden began as a Physic Garden in 1760, and now has gardens in Argyll, the Borders and Dumfries and Galloway, each offering different climates, habitats and supporting different materials—and all very well worth visiting! *Plant Explorer*, a record of Baines' three journeys in the mountains of northern Vietnam between 2014 and 2019, is a lively account of the daily routines, delights, hazards, camaraderie under hardship, and excitement of plant exploring on tropical mountain sides, enduring heavy rain, precarious roads, and the frustrations of finding unusual trees but with no fruit or seed to be seen. Leaches, sleeping on hard floors, ascending very steep muddy slopes, and great shared meals, all feature in his very readable account of expeditions to mountains in the very north of Vietnam, close to the country's boundary with China and, incidentally, an area apparently unvisited by Britain's earlier collectors.

In Vietnam expeditions don't take place without consent, and these took place by invitation of, and in partnership with, the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) in Hanoi, a state institution, a major contrast to how George Forrest and others worked; living material and much of the dried material of these three expeditions belongs to the IEBR. This paradigm shift in plant 'collecting', and recognition of ownership of genetic materials, was formalised at the UN Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, where the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was opened for signature, and which the UK ratified in 1994.

One facet of the CBD is the requirement to share fairly and equitably the benefits arising from genetic resources, so communities living around newly identified species should see benefits, where they are to be had. In this example there is capacity building, joint discoveries and publications, DNA analyses to aid identification, and the creation of living collections in Vietnam of vulnerable species in the light of climate change and changes to land use, potentially available for reintroduction. These are hall-marks of modern botanical relations, something the RBGE does well. This book celebrates this 21st century philosophy and gives new purpose to 'plant collecting', as well as being an enjoyable read. •



(Martha Young-Scholten 2018)

Editor: Rural geographer Charles Howie has told me tales for years. After training as a biology teacher, his first job was in Antarctica, then with British Council in East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. He taught decades in Scottish high schools. After a Master's at the Royal Agricultural College, he earned a PhD and advised on the curriculum of An Giang University in Vietnam. Now he consults on tomato farming in Malawi.

Howie says, 'I was born in Lerwick, capital town of the Shetland Islands - due north of Scotland, Hebrides to west. I lived 1963-64 on Deception Island, in the South Shetland Islands, and 1965-66 on Signy Island, one of the South Orkney Islands. German border authorities, 1970, found these geo-jumps confusing as I was travelling on a passport issued by the Falkland Islands Colonial Government, and personally signed by the Governor.'

- RGRG Newsletter

8. 'This Corona virus (COVID-19) was somehow a blessing': Tales of street food vendors in Nairobi's informal settlements. Dr. Dorice Agol finds hope amid pandemic.



Words & images by Dorice Agol (PhD), International Consultant, Environment and Development & Research Fellow, University of East Anglia and University of Leeds, United Kingdom.

When 40-year-old Benjie (pseudonyms) was laid off work, due Covid-19, he had to think swiftly about how to survive in Nairobi, Kenya with his wife, 7 children and 2 grandchildren. Benjie had secured a job 8 months earlier, as a security guard in the high end of Nairobi. He had been grateful for the job which paid 13,000 shilling (~USD 130) a month. As the head of his household and only breadwinner, Benjie struggled to make ends meet, catering for their needs.



Dorice Agol previously wrote on Kenyan fishers, rural solar & telecoms in RGRG Newsletter. At 2021 RGS conf she speaks on 'Ecosystem-Based Adaptation in Lake Victoria basin', from Open Society: <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsos.201847>

With USD 130 as his last remuneration, Benjie decided to sacrifice and set aside USD 30 to start up a small food stall (kiosk) on the Southern By-Pass overlooking the Nairobi National Park.



A cup of steamy soup!

He started a business he had mastered when living in the countryside: to boil a cow's head to make soup and sell the bits and pieces that come with it. Since then, he has never looked back!

It was on March 12th 2020, when the Kenyan Ministry of Health confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in the country, approximately three months after the outbreak in China in December 2019. By the first week of April 2020, the Kenyan government imposed a lockdown in and out of Nairobi city and some coastal municipalities, for a period of 21 days.

The three-week ban on movement in and out of Nairobi instantly caused panic across the country as the government ordered closure of social gatherings,

cafeterias, bars and restaurants. Nairobi's metropolitan area seemed like a ghost city. Many cafeterias and restaurants were forced to close temporarily. Although life in the informal settlements was massively disrupted, some food vendors managed to operate on the streets because, as one food vendor put it, 'After all, people had to eat.'

Fortunately, the non-closure of some markets was advantageous to Benjie who trekked to Burma, a famous meat market in Nairobi. With his set aside USD 30 in cash, Benjie managed to buy a full cow's head and a deep saucepan - his main tools for trade. Back near his home, he set up a small open-air food stall next to the roadside, only about 100 metres from his house in the informal settlement on the Southern By-Pass. He gathered some firewood and constructed a basic stove made of three stones and he was good to go. I asked about his experiences with the pandemic and he replied:

'This coronavirus was somehow a blessing. I handle money every day. I can feed my children the same food and they are happy. I have even managed to send money home in the countryside to my mother to buy a cow to keep for the family.' He added, ***'I had a lot of customers especially during the lockdown because formal restaurants were closed; people had nowhere to eat so they came and most even paid cash money.'***

Many street food vendors cook fresh food onsite in deliberate locations such as building and construction sites where casual labourers work. They cook simple foods including ugali made of maize or cornflour, chapatis (flat round bread), beans, and sukumawiki (kale), selling at affordable prices, for less than a dollar.



A slice of cow's tongue please?



Not far from Benjie is a food vendor called Zawadi, a lady in her mid-thirties. Her kiosk is under a tree, in the informal settlement next to the new Southern By-pass, built by Chinese contractors, connecting Mombasa Road and Nairobi Airport.

She cooks chapatis, beans, ugali and Sukumuwiki and sells to builders, cab drivers, day guards and whoever fancies her food. I visit Zawadi at 9am and find her cooking chapatis (flat bread) on her earthen stove made of three stones. She cooks at least 4 chapatis at a go, and turns them over. 'That is the last bunch' she says, 'Breakfast is ready.'



Chapatis for breakfast!

I see a medium-sized flask (thermos) on the side already filled with hot milky tea ready for customers. I sit down to chat with her about her experiences with COVID-19. She smiles broadly and says last year (2020) was the perfect year for her business. I ask why and she says, 'My small business did very well - I received more customers than any other year since I began cooking, about five years ago.' When Nairobi was locked down last year under curfew, luck came Zawadi's way. Next to her small kiosk, a new building was being constructed and all the 20 + workers ate at her open-air kiosk, plus another 20 from all over.

Zawadi said profits from her business helped pay for her son's education at the university for two semesters. I said to Zawadi, 'I am really happy for you!' She only smiled in gratification.

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9. HOW TO WRITE FOR RGRG NEWSLETTER & WEBPAGES

RGRG NEWSLETTER FORMAT

Email editor: bruce.scholten@btopenworld.com on Subject line: RGRG News



Thanks for interest in RGRG Newsletter. Postgrads to profs welcome to email +/- 300 words text & pix on news, books, or fieldnotes – especially on Life in the Time of Covid-19.

Please consider tips from WEA Journalism Workshop:

- * Newsletters are about *Who? What? When? Where? How? & Why?*
- * **Include author & email, dates, venue & weblinks for reader's next step.**

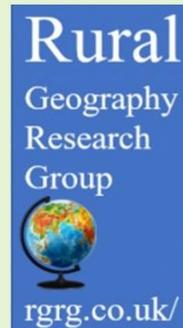
- * Credit photos or copyright, e.g. (Snowdonia National Park 2020).
- * **Attach documents with simple filenames, e.g. (Author-BookRev-19may20.doc).**
- * Attach photos e.g. (Author-Headshot-19may20.jpg).
- * **Don't assume editor 'knows' all. Check details & spelling!**
- * Read rgrg.co.uk/newsletter articles by Dorice Agol, Charles Howie & Felipe de Silva.

RGRG Newsletter needs a new Editor by 2021. Two annual issues do not require too much time. The next editor can jump into established format, then customise.

It's fun! Email me, Aimee Morse, Megan Palmer-Abbs or Martin Phillips.

Bruce Scholten, Editor: <https://rgrg.co.uk/newsletter>

Rural Geography Research Group – A Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)



RGRG annual general meeting (AGM) 1.10 pm Wednesday, 01. September 2021



RGRG Virtual AGM & Committee election 1.10 pm Weds 1 Sep 2021. L=>R Martin Phillips, Julie Urquhart, Aimee Morse, Keith Halfacree, Megan Palmer-Abbs, Felipe da Silva Machado, (2Dec19 Scholten)

We are pleased to share our new updated committee for 2020-21

Name	Committee Position	Term dates (start and end years)
Prof. Martin Phillips	Chair	2019-2022
Dr Megan Palmer-Abbs	Secretary	2018-2021
Dr Andrew Maclaren	Treasurer	2020-2021
Dr Bruce A. Scholten	Newsletter Editor (Bas)	2018-2021
Dr Fiona Williams	Ordinary member (Dissertation Prizes)	2018-2021
Mr Felipe da Silva Machado	Ordinary member (Social Media & JSMail co-ordinator)	2019-2022
Prof. Damian Maye	Ordinary member	2019-2022
Dr Eifiona Thomas Lane	Ordinary member	2019-2022
Dr Julie Urquhart	Ordinary member	2018-2021
Dr Fidel Budy	Ordinary member	2018-2021
Dr Keith Halfacree	Ordinary member (co-opted)	2019-2021
Dr Gareth Enticott	Ordinary member (co-opted)	2020-2022
Aimee Morse	PGR representative	2020-2021
Niamh McHugh	PGR representative	2020-2021

10. RGS-IBG Annual (mostly Virtual) International Conference London 30.Aug. - 2.Sep. 2021



BORDERS, BORDERLANDS AND BOUNDARIES

RGRG Sponsored sessions for RGS with IBG Annual International Conference, London 2021.

Many 2021 sessions are online & some in person. Timelines & advice are available on RGS website [HERE](#)

For more on RGRG Sponsored sessions please see the RGS website [HERE](#)

Please see the confirmed RGRG sponsored sessions 2021 [HERE](#) (Last modified May 22, 2021)

<https://rgrg.co.uk/rgs-with-ibg-international-conference-2020>



BELOW are RGRG sessions, convenors, presenters & abstracts

* Any missing RGRG presenters' abstracts may be found on RGS-IBG's new Cisco System.

* Dr. Sarah Evans (Professional Officer) advises: The RGS-IBG annual conference programme is available at <https://event.ac2021.exordo.com/>. Sessions sponsored by RGRG are marked in the programme. *You may wish to use the session titles to search for their details.* Instructions on how to search the programme are at that page. (See also: www.rgs.org/ac2021)

See also: <https://event.ac2021.exordo.com/search?q=RGRG>

RGRG/1 Ways of speaking as if through soil: The strange material of rural forgetting's [here](#)

RGRG/2 Tracing Traversing and Transgressing Borders in Rural Geography [here](#)

RGRG/3 New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Rural Research in the 2020s [here](#)

RGRG/4 Rural Populism: New Emerging Political Geographies of the Rural [here](#)

RGRG/5 Beyond the Borderlands – exploring sustainable rural futures RGRG Sponsored Session [here](#)

RGRG/6 Peripheral Regions and the Big Challenges for the 21st Century [here](#)

RGRG/7 Reconfiguring farmed animal health and welfare: exploring and transcending borders between spaces, times, species and knowledges [here](#)

RGRG/8 - Oral : RGRG6 /##conf1023 The water pollution blame game: governance and power relations in managing diffuse water pollution from agriculture [here](#)

RGRG/9 Where do we go to eat (now)? Rethinking food systems in disruptive times [here](#)

RGRG/10 LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces [here](#)

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Oral : RGRG6 /##conf1023 **The water pollution blame game: governance and power relations in managing diffuse water pollution from agriculture** *here*

Chaired By Adrienne Attorp,  UK - Newcastle University,
Alison Caffyn, Charlotte Chivers – UK

Description

As intensive livestock farming has proliferated, externalities such as water pollution have become increasingly concerning, largely due to the associated biodiversity loss and human health risks. Government action to reduce the contributions of agriculture to water pollution is mobilised through a combination of regulation, incentives, and advice, with initiatives including Nutrient Management Plans and Catchment Sensitive Farming. However, under-resourced environmental agencies and local authorities have struggled to address agricultural pollution amidst contested rationalities.

Agricultural pollution is a signifier of countryside change and contested rural narratives (Lowe et al. 1997), and its cumulative impacts continue to be a focus of rural power struggles (Diaz et al. 2013; Stoddard 2015). Environmental actors are attempting to influence farmers to change their practices to reduce their contributions to water pollution, a difficult feat whilst much of the farming sector denies responsibility. In addition, cross-border inconsistencies and disconnects (from regional to international in scale) may emerge with catchment-based approaches.

We ask: how might water pollution from intensive livestock farming be better addressed? What is the likelihood of the current combination of a reluctant state (Lang 2020) and voluntary approach ceding to tougher regulation? Will calls for quantifying the true cost of these externalities be met (Dimpleby 2020)? How will Brexit affect water pollution policy?

- [1023-1 Agricultural pollution and waterways on the island of Ireland: Towards effective policy solutions](#)
» [Adrienne Attorp \(!\[\]\(3a0b077ee0aafab5dd6746a74ec5b24e_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - Newcastle University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [1023-2 Mismanaging nutrients: the rationalities of displacement and denial in the River Wye catchment](#)
» [Alison Caffyn \(!\[\]\(c1aff6d7ca43f8189135f0e52be68d19_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - Cardiff University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [1023-3 The credibility and relevance of agricultural advice surrounding diffuse water pollution: exploring the perspectives of livestock farmers](#)
» [Charlotte Chivers \(!\[\]\(9e4e07ac0eab1dfc120c4fa8b9c37e2e_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - University of Gloucestershire\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [1023-4 Discussion panel: the water pollution blame game](#)
» [Julie Ingram \(!\[\]\(daff871770f8258191286d2e6e2b9d35_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - University of Gloucestershire\), Adrienne Attorp \(!\[\]\(6d6d31b3897921429c4b2189d377126d_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - Newcastle University\), Alison Caffyn \(!\[\]\(a5d9e7f870ae8241f47a336982bb0c24_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - Cardiff University\), Charlotte Chivers \(!\[\]\(3f72b5ee35487facd56731583e4e904a_img.jpg\) United Kingdom - University of Gloucestershire\)](#)

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Water Buffalo, Gujarat (Bas 2019)

New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Rural Research in the 2020s (1)

Oral : RGRG1 / ##conf1001. Chaired & convened by Aimee Morse (photo) and Niamh McHugh, Countryside and Community Research Institute, University of Gloucestershire

Bookmark this article [New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Rural Research in the 2020s](#)

Description

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. The past year has seen a shift in how we understand rural spaces and conduct research within them, as we have navigated through research changes made necessary by Covid-19. It is hoped that this session will encourage lively discussion of contemporary key debates within rural geography, innovative ways of approaching rural research and conversations around the issues which may present themselves in rural scholarship over the coming years. The session provides a friendly and encouraging forum in which researchers can present their research ideas and results, and discuss these in a constructive manner with all those attending.

- [##conf1001, Session 1, Paper 1: Net-zero futures for UK agriculture: a critical analysis of scenarios, targets & temporalities](#)
» [Rob Booth \(United Kingdom - University of Birmingham\)](#)
View Presentation
- [##conf1001, Session 1, Paper 2: North-West Wales upland farming in focus: Modelled farms economic performance show that future policies are unlikely to change current evolution trends.](#)
» [Theo Lenormand \(United Kingdom - Countryside and Community Research Institute, University of Gloucestershire\)](#)
View Presentation
- [##conf1001, Session 1, Paper 3: Private sector's governance "powers" local institutional change in Ghana's cocoa sector. A contribution to the debate on supply chain governance and new peasantries.](#)
» [David Amuzu \(Switzerland - Institute of Geography and Sustainability, University of Lausanne\)](#)
View Presentation
- [##conf1001, Session 1, Paper 4: 'You don't look like farmers': A study of Women in Agriculture in the Scottish and Canadian Islands.](#)
» [Hannah Budge \(United Kingdom - Newcastle University\)](#)
View Presentation
- [##conf1001, Session 1, Paper 5: Ethnography of Moral Economies in Cooperative Relations between Farmers](#)
» [Mateja Slovenc \(Slovenia - Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts\)](#)

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Oral : RGRG2 /##conf1001 New and Emerging Rural Researchers: Rural Research in the 2020s (2)

Chaired By

- Aimee Morse
■ United Kingdom - Countryside and Community Research Institute

Description

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. The past year has seen a shift in how we understand rural spaces and conduct research within them, as we have navigated through research changes made necessary by Covid-19. It is hoped that this session will encourage lively discussion of contemporary key debates within rural geography, innovative ways of approaching rural

research and conversations around the issues which may present themselves in rural scholarship over the coming years. The session provides a friendly and encouraging forum in which researchers can present their research ideas and results, and discuss these in a constructive manner with all those attending.

- [##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 1: Resonances of civic engagement in everyday village life](#)
» [Jens Reda \(🇩🇪 Germany - Department of Geography, Kiel University\)](#), [Marcus Heinz \(🇩🇪 Germany - Institute for the Scientific Study of Culture, Leipzig University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 2: The construction of a Swedish rural planning agenda - A study of the rural as a 'planning problem'](#)
» [Ida Nilsson \(🇸🇪 Sweden - Swedish School of Planning\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 3: The Governance of Rural Economic Restructuring in Bancroft, Ontario](#)
» [William Bedford \(🇨🇦 Canada - Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, York University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 4: The latest driving force of rural gentrification? How Digital Marketing is Influencing Processes of Rural Gentrification](#)
» [Niamh McHugh \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - University of Leicester and Loughborough University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 5: Land commodification and rural gentrification: blurring the rural-urban boundary in Chengdu, China](#)
» [Renhao Yang \(🇧🇪 Belgium - Division of Geography and Tourism, KU Leuven\)](#), [Maarten Loopmans \(🇧🇪 Belgium - Division of Geography and Tourism, KU Leuven\)](#)

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Oral : RGRG9 / ##conf1040 Beyond the Borderlands – exploring sustainable rural futures

RGRG Sponsored Session [here](#)

Chaired By

- Eifiona Thomas Lane
🇬🇧 United Kingdom - Bangor University
- Lois Mansfield
🇬🇧 United Kingdom - University of Cumbria
- Rebecca Jones
🇬🇧 United Kingdom - Bangor University

Description

Rural spaces being commonly framed as marginal borderlands, are increasingly also viewed as areas for conservation, access and the promotion of wellbeing at a range of scales individual, community or regional. Such priorities, often externally determined, arise as responses to urbanised or global drivers and often bring about uncertain futures for positive rural realities and livelihoods. This session explores creative solutions to maintain the environment and socio-cultural fabric of these areas through new cross border/cross sector initiatives, particularly but not exclusively for research undertaken in UK devolved Nations/regions, the global South and marginal geographical areas.

Research or actions promoting overcoming such barriers will enable a clearer understanding, facilitate responsible and development and fuller appreciation of the very diverse dimensions future rural. This session explores the conference theme of 'boundaries, borders, borderlands and bordering' as contributions invited from new researcher or community organisations possibly engaging with interdisciplinary and/or cross-sectoral initiatives, aim to make this session as inclusive and open as possible to cross academic-practitioner boundaries.

Presentations that enable the sharing of widely differing areas of thematic rural development and / or outcomes e.g. creative practice, resilience building, linguistic or cultural challenges are... Critical discussion of current policy and funding priorities and broad processes of planning and development in rural communities,

space, including interpretation of rural futures that positively frame sustainable communities, overcoming such imagined or real rural borders.

- **[Working together towards 'good farming' - ##conf1040](#)**
» [Sharon Flanigan](#) (■ United Kingdom - Social, Economic, and Geographical Sciences (SEGS), The James Hutton Institute, Aberdeen), [Claire Hardy](#) (■ United Kingdom - Social, Economic, and Geographical Sciences (SEGS), The James Hutton Institute, Aberdeen)
[View Presentation](#)
- **[Livelihood-Environment Tensions, Agroextractivism and Pastoralism: campesino farmers of the Boyacá páramos ##conf1040](#)**
» [Lauren Blake](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Bristol, UK), [Jaskiran Kaur Chohan](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Bristol, UK), [Mark Eisler](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Bristol, UK), [Maria Paula Escobar-Tello](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Bristol, UK)
[View Presentation](#)
- **[Social Dynamics of Climate Change Vulnerability: Insights from a Rural Fishing Community in Ghana ##conf1040](#)**
» [Daniel Koomson](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Derby, UK), [Sian Davies-Vollum](#) (■ United Kingdom - Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, University of Derby, UK), [Debadayita Raha](#) (■ United Kingdom - Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, University of Derby)
[View Presentation](#)
- **[Creating sustainable rural spaces: understanding citizens' perspectives of grassland landscapes and 'ecosystem services' across Europe ##conf1040](#)**
» [Sophie Tindale](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Newcastle, UK), [John Elliott](#) (■ United Kingdom - ADAS), [Rosa Gallardo](#) (■ Spain - University of Cordoba), [Erik Hunter](#) (■ Sweden - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences), [Simona Miškolci](#) (■ Czech Republic - Mendel University), [Victoria Vicario Modroño](#) (■ Spain - University of Cordoba), [Paul Newell Price](#) (■ United Kingdom - ADAS), [Samantha Outhwaite](#) (■ United Kingdom - ADAS), [Pedro Sanchez](#) (■ Spain - University of Cordoba), [Martijn Sonneveld](#) (■ Switzerland - ETH Zurich), [Marjolein Elings](#) (■ Netherlands - University of Wageningen), [Lynn Frewer](#) (■ United Kingdom - University of Newcastle, UK)
[View Presentation](#)
- **[Rural sustainable futures: Engaging with the CHASE model to enhance community wellbeing ##conf1040](#)**
» [Jean Ross](#) (■ New Zealand - College of Health, Otago Polytechnic), [Keith Whiddon](#) (■ United Kingdom - Community resident Bishop's Castle, Shropshire), [Samuel Mann](#) (■ New Zealand - Otago Polytechnic), [Daphne Page](#) (■ United Kingdom - Community resident Bishop's Castle, Shropshire)

**

Oral : RGRG8 ##conf1036 Where do we go to eat (now)? Rethinking food systems in disruptive times [here](#)

2 sessions, Chaired By [Stephen Jones](#), ■ United Kingdom University of Sheffield, UK; [Anna Krzywoszynska](#), ■ UK University of Sheffield; [Damian Maye](#), UK University of Gloucestershire

Description

Over the last year food has featured in the news in an unprecedented way. The Covid-19 pandemic and the private and policy responses to its impacts have laid bare the vulnerabilities and the injustices of food systems. In the UK, for instance, consumers changed their shopping habits in response to the uncertainties of lockdowns and self-isolation. As the food 'pipeline' ran dry, the extent of food poverty in a growing section of society was also brought into light. Intersecting with this were ever new Brexit-related changes and disruptions, from Scottish fishers starting to land their catches in Denmark to lettuces wilting in border car-

parks. The material, legal, human, and infrastructural nature of the imagined frictionless “food system” has come into sharp relief.

In this session, we invite contributors to think through the ways in which food geographies can respond to disruptions such as the Covid-19 pandemic. We want to collectively start to make sense of the multiple socio-economic and ecological impacts of disruptions, and think about how these offer an opportunity to resituate food as a crucial societal concern. Specifically, we invite reflection on what disruptions reveal and demand in relation to our current thinking about food systems. Given the challenging nature of the pandemic, and the need to share ideas collectively as scholars, teachers and researchers, the session will combine presentations of papers with a panel discussion.

Session 1/2

- [**##conf1036 - 1. Exploring the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the adaptive measures taken by businesses in the UK seafood sector**](#)

» [Rebecca St. Clair \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Manchester\)](#), [Maria Sharmina \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - University of Manchester\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

- [**##conf1036 - 2. A critical examination of the practice and sustainability potential of foraging in Ireland.**](#)

» [Jean Williams \(🇮🇪 Ireland - Trinity College Dublin\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

- [**##conf1036 - 3. Disruptions that deepen our food crises: The case of chicken industries in Japan under Covid-19 and avian influenza**](#)

» [Benjamin Schragar \(🇯🇵 Japan - Kyoto University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

- [**##conf1036 - 4. The future of tacos: Understanding the potential of traditional agricultural systems in a changing climate in Mexico and Belize.**](#)

» [Karla Hernandez-Aguilar \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - School of Geography, University of Nottingham\)](#), [Sarah Metcalfe \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - School of Geography, University of Nottingham, UK\)](#), [Franziska Schrodt \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - School of Geography, University of Nottingham, UK\)](#), [Zinnia Gonzalez-Carranza \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - School of Biosciences, University of Nottingham\)](#), [Roger Medina-Gonzalez \(🇲🇽 Mexico - Universidad Autonoma de Yucatan\)](#), [Birgit Schmook \(🇲🇽 Mexico - El Colegio de la Frontera Sur-Chetumal\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

- [**##conf1036 - 5. Conceptualising food disruptions in the beef and sheep meat value chains after the COVID19 crisis**](#)

» [Sophie Payne-Gifford \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - University of Hertfordshire\)](#), [Louise Whatford \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - Royal Veterinary College\)](#), [Barbara Haesler \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - Royal Veterinary College\)](#), [Steven Van Winden \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - Royal Veterinary College\)](#), [David Barling \(🇬🇧 United Kingdom - University of Hertfordshire\)](#)

Session 2/2

- [**##conf1036 - 6. European food systems in a regional perspective: A comparative study of the effect of Covid-19 on households and city-region food systems**](#)

» [Jeremy Millard \(🇩🇰 Denmark - Third Millennium Governance and the Danish Technological Institute\)](#), [Jan Vávra \(🇨🇪 Czech Republic - University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice Budějovice, Czechia\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

- [**##conf1036 - 7. \(Re\)Ordering local food online**](#)

» [Ulrich Ermann \(🇦🇹 Austria - Department of Geography and Regional Studies\)](#), [Sabine Hostnikner \(🇦🇹 Austria - Department of Geography and Regional Studies, University of Graz\)](#), [Danko Simic \(🇦🇹 Austria - Department of Geography and Regional Studies, University of Graz\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[##conf1036 - 8. Urban Food Policies in times of crisis. Lessons from Brussels and Toronto](#)

» [Alessandra Manganelli](#) ([Germany](#) - [HafenCity University](#))

[View Presentation](#)

[##conf1036 - 9. The resilience of UK local food actors during the first wave of COVID-19](#)

» [Stephen Jones](#) ([United Kingdom](#) - [University of Sheffield](#)), [Anna Krzywoszynska](#) ([United Kingdom](#) - [University of Sheffield](#)), [Damian Maye](#) ([United Kingdom](#) - [University of Gloucestershire](#))

**

Oral : RGRG5/ ##conf1012/ RGRG/7 Reconfiguring farmed animal health and welfare: exploring and transcending borders between spaces, times, species and knowledges *here* - Session 1/3

Chaired By

- Lewis Holloway
 - ▣ United Kingdom - Geography, University of Hull
- Niamh Mahon
 - ▣ United Kingdom - Geography, University of Hull
- Amy Proctor
 - ▣ United Kingdom – Newcastle University
 - Beth Clark
 - Kingdom - Newcastle University

Description

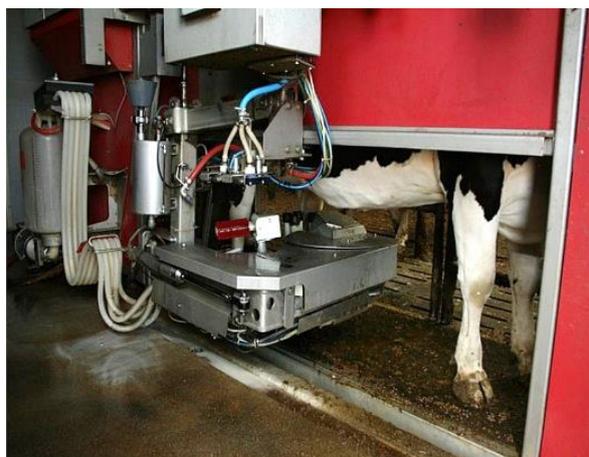
This session will explore emerging discourses and practices associated with persistent health and welfare issues affecting farmed animals.

The session is interested in examining the constitution and effects of sets of material and conceptual borders within which farmed animal health and welfare is understood and enacted. Farmed animal health and welfare are priority areas of the UK's post-Brexit Agriculture Bill, which includes a 'Health and Welfare Pathway' intended to drive improvements to on-farm standards. Animal health and welfare is represented in this policy environment as one of a number of 'public goods', implying that farmers should become eligible for payments for improving the health and welfare of the animals they are responsible for. More widely, concerns about the health and welfare of farmed animals, and how to address specific health issues and welfare anxieties, have increased amongst farmers, those who advise them (including vets), and the public. There is awareness amongst these groups that some of these issues are persistent, are associated with specific farming systems, and are complex.

This session aims to explore the dimensions of that persistence, specificity and complexity, focusing on how 'health' and 'welfare' in relation to farmed animals are enacted, problematised and responded to in different contexts. In this session we want to address these problems from a number of perspectives, including those associated with considerations of the 'more-than-human' relationships in agriculture, on-farm practices addressing health and welfare, the production of different kinds of expertise (such as the expertise of farmers and vets), discourses and practices of 'biosecurity', and the knowledges and practices of other actors in food systems, including consumers. In addressing these issues we identify borders between species, social groups, spaces and times as being important to conceptualising and responding to farm animal health and welfare issues.

This will be an online session. We welcome traditional paper formats as well as other types of contribution. The session will include the presentation and discussion of a short film created by one of the Artists in Residence attached to the Wellcome Trust-funded FIELD (Farm-level Interdisciplinary Approaches to Endemic Livestock Disease) project.

Editor: *Above image of robotic milking machine from (Jan 2014) 'Re-capturing bovine life: Robot–cow relationships, freedom and control in dairy farming', by Lewis Holloway, Christopher Bear & Katy Wilkinson, Journal of Rural Studies.*



Session 1/3 Reconfiguring farmed animal health and welfare

[Food Supply Chains and the Antimicrobial Resistance Challenge: On the Framing, Accomplishments, and Limitations of Corporate Responsibility](#)

» [Emma Roe \(United Kingdom - University of Southampton\)](#), [Alex HUGHES \(United Kingdom - Newcastle University\)](#), [Suzanne Hocknell \(United Kingdom - Newcastle University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

[Antibiotic stewardship and its implications for agricultural animal-human relationships: stakeholder perspectives](#)

» [Carol Morris \(United Kingdom - University of Nottingham\)](#), [Richard Helliwell \(Norway - Ruralis\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

[Marginal biosecurities and the gendered ecologies of calf-care](#)

» [Gareth Enticott \(United Kingdom - Cardiff University\)](#), [Kieran O'Mahony \(United Kingdom - Cardiff University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

[Enacting and resisting biosecurity citizenship: More-than-human geographies of enrolment in a disease eradication scheme in Scotland](#)

» [Orla Shortall \(United Kingdom - The James Hutton Institute\)](#), [Katrina Brown \(United Kingdom - The James Hutton Institute\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

[Exploring pig breeders' views of 'Good Farming' in Shanghai China: analysis of biosecure 'care' and 'vaccination' practices in pig production.](#)

» [Ray Chan \(United Kingdom - University of Exeter\)](#), [Gareth Enticott \(United Kingdom - Cardiff University\)](#), [Damian Maye \(United Kingdom - University of Gloucestershire\)](#)

Session 2/3 Reconfiguring farmed animal health and welfare

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[##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 1: Resonances of civic engagement in everyday village life](#)

» [Jens Reda \(Germany - Department of Geography, Kiel University\)](#), [Marcus Heinz \(Germany - Institute for the Scientific Study of Culture, Leipzig University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 2: The construction of a Swedish rural planning agenda - A study of the rural as a 'planning problem'](#)

» [Ida Nilsson \(Sweden - Swedish School of Planning\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 3: The Governance of Rural Economic Restructuring in Bancroft, Ontario](#)

» [William Bedford \(Canada - Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, York University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 4: The latest driving force of rural gentrification? How Digital Marketing is Influencing Processes of Rural Gentrification](#)

» [Niamh McHugh \(United Kingdom - University of Leicester and Loughborough University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[##conf1001, Session 2, Paper 5: Land commodification and rural gentrification: blurring the rural-urban boundary in Chengdu, China](#)

» [Renhao Yang \(Belgium - Division of Geography and Tourism, KU Leuven\)](#), [Maarten Loopmans \(Belgium - Division of Geography and Tourism, KU Leuven\)](#)

Session 3/3 Reconfiguring farmed animal health and welfare

[Documenting farm and animal borders: using documentary film to explore the nature and functioning of borders in a UK farm context](#)

» [Mark Jones \(United Kingdom - Independent artist\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Livestock out of place: performing care outside the farm](#)

» [Kate Goldie \(United Kingdom - University of Southampton\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[HOW MUCH DO WE ACTUALLY CARE? A STUDY ON UK CONSUMER PREFERENCES FOR FARM ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE](#)

» [Maria Rodrigues \(United Kingdom - University of Glasgow\)](#), [Nicholas Hanley \(United Kingdom - University of Glasgow\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Border-crossing care: veterinary practices in intensive livestock farming in the Netherlands](#)

» [Else Vogel \(Netherlands - University of Amsterdam\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Farmers' perceptions of public concern: reducing lameness in sheep to safeguard farmers' social licence to farm.](#)

» [Caroline Best \(United Kingdom - Harper Adams University\)](#), [Alison Pyatt \(United Kingdom - Hartpury University\)](#), [Janet Roden \(United Kingdom - Harper Adams University\)](#), [Kate Phillips \(United Kingdom - Harper Adams University\)](#), [Malgorzata Behnke \(United Kingdom - Harper Adams University\)](#)

**

Oral : RGRG11 : RGRG/2 ##conf1088 Tracing, Traversing and Transgressing Borders in Rural Geography (1) Session 1 of 2, Chaired By

- **Martin Phillips**
■ United Kingdom - University of Leicester
- **Felipe da Silva Machado**
■ Brazil - Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Description

Borders, and associated notions such as of boundaries and borderlands, have long marked the identities, imaginings and practices of rural geography. The construction, deconstruction and repeated resurrection of borders between the urban and rural have, for instance, been a continuing preoccupation across divergent perspectives. As well as calls to eschew this bordering, either by explicitly 'doing away' with it (Hoggart 1991) or more implicitly via, for instance, adopting network rather than topographical perspectives or viewing the rural as having been subsumed within the dynamics of planetary urbanisation, a range of borderlands between the urban and the rural have been constructed and examined (e.g., rural-urban fringe, periurban, exurban, rurban). There have also been calls to recognise boundaries within the rural, via notions such as the 'differentiated countryside' and 'multiple ruralities', plus explorations of their intertwining with (re)-constructions of regional and national identities and boundaries. Attention has also been drawn to the transgression of boundaries, through globalisation and formation of a range of 'global countrysides', as well via a series of mobilities and interconnectivities. The Covid-19 pandemic has clearly highlighted that it is not just people that can flow across borders, as well as created and/or reinforced regulative, symbolic and affective boundaries.

Conversely, borders can be seen to have hardened and reconstituted, partly as a response to perceived threats posed by globalisation, with rural areas frequently figuring as heartlands of calls for the construction of protectionist borders, as well as locations whose character might be significantly impacted by restructured flows of commodities, capital and people produced by shifts in economic and governmental boundaries and borders. Brexit clearly represents one context where such issues have loomed large, but as Scoones et al. (2018) observe, they can be seen to be significant within many rural areas across the world.

As well as being a subject of study, borders have impacted on the conduct of rural geography. The concepts and practices of rural geographers have been found to be bound to a degree to national and

linguistic borders (Gkartzios and Remoundou 2018; Argent 2019), and also by borders between the Global North and South (e.g. Wilson and Rigg 2003; Korf and Oughton 2006; Argent 2017; López-Morales 2018), or indeed between the Global North and the Global East (Phillips and Smith 2018). Questions have been raised about the desirability of transgressing such boundaries, including the degree to which travelling theories and practices reproduce and extend colonialising and neoliberal relations. Conversely, there have been recent calls for more transboundary research, including comparative work traversing not only international borders but which also seek to 'talk back' to the urban from the rural (Smith and Phillips 2018). There has also been continuing employment of inter- and trans-disciplinary modes of working that work in the borderlands between disciplines, arts, science and social science, and between academic and non-academic worlds.

- [1. Comparing agri-food policy regimes in the UK and Japan: comparative ruralism or lost in translation?](#)
 » [Steven McGreevy \(Japan - Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto University\)](#),
[Damian Maye \(United Kingdom - Countryside and Community Research Institute, University of Gloucestershire\)](#),
[Norie Tamura \(Japan - Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto University\)](#),
[Jasmine Black \(United Kingdom - Countryside and Community Research Institute, University of Gloucestershire\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [2. Life satisfaction and settlement desire of residents in small towns in China from the perspective of urban-rural relationship change: a study in Guangdong Province](#)
 » [Yuanlin Zhang \(China - South China University of Technology\)](#),
[Yuting Liu \(China - South China University of Technology\)](#),
[Martin Phillips \(United Kingdom - University of Leicester\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [3. Re-recognition of rurality in the borderlands: a case of the Westhoek region, Belgium and France](#)
 » [Ryo Iizuka \(Japan - Teikyo University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [4. Resisting environmental injustice and social exclusion of small farmers with socio-ecological networks in Brazil](#)
 » [Ana Maria de Souza Mello Bicalho \(Brazil - Federal University of Rio de Janeiro\)](#),
[Scott William Hoefle \(Brazil - Federal University of Rio de Janeiro\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [5. Relational rural geographies in the metropolitan countryside of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil](#)
 » [Felipe da Silva Machado \(Brazil - Federal University of Rio de Janeiro\)](#)

Oral : RGRG12 /###conf1088 Tracing, Traversing and Transgressing Borders in Rural Geography (2)

Chaired By

- Martin Phillips
 ■ United Kingdom - University of Leicester
- Felipe da Silva Machado
 ■ Brazil - Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Description

Borders, and associated notions such as of boundaries and borderlands, have long marked the identities, imaginings and practices of rural geography. The construction, deconstruction and repeated resurrection of borders between the urban and rural have, for instance, been a continuing preoccupation across divergent perspectives. As well as calls to eschew this bordering, either by explicitly 'doing away' with it (Hoggart 1991) or more implicitly via, for instance, adopting network rather than topographical perspectives or viewing the rural as having been subsumed within the dynamics of planetary urbanisation, a range of borderlands between the urban and the rural have been constructed and examined (e.g. rural-urban fringe, periurban, exurban, rurban). There have also been calls to recognise boundaries within the rural, via notions such as the 'differentiated countryside' and 'multiple ruralities', plus explorations of their intertwining with (re)-

constructions of regional and national identities and boundaries. Attention has also been drawn to the transgression of boundaries, through globalisation and formation of a range of 'global countrysides', as well via a series of mobilities and interconnectivities. The Covid-19 pandemic has clearly highlighted that it is not just people that can flow across borders, as well as created and/or reinforced regulative, symbolic and affective boundaries.

Conversely, borders can be seen to have hardened and reconstituted, partly as a response to perceived threats posed by globalisation, with rural areas frequently figuring as heartlands of calls for the construction of protectionist borders, as well as locations whose character might be significantly impacted by restructured flows of commodities, capital and people produced by shifts in economic and governmental boundaries and borders. Brexit clearly represents one context where such issues have loomed large, but as Scoones et al. (2018) observe, they can be seen to be significant within many rural areas across the world.

As well as being a subject of study, borders have impacted on the conduct of rural geography. The concepts and practices of rural geographers have been found to be bound to a degree to national and linguistic borders (Gkartzios and Remoundou 2018; Argent 2019), and also by borders between the Global North and South (e.g. Wilson and Rigg 2003; Korf and Oughton 2006; Argent 2017; López-Morales 2018), or indeed between the Global North and the Global East (Phillips and Smith 2018). Questions have been raised about the desirability of transgressing such boundaries, including the degree to which travelling theories and practices reproduce and extend colonialising and neoliberal relations. Conversely, there have been recent calls for more transboundary research, including comparative work traversing not only international borders but which also seek to 'talk back' to the urban from the rural (Smith and Phillips 2018). There has also been continuing employment of inter- and trans-disciplinary modes of working that work in the borderlands between disciplines, arts, science and social science, and between academic and non-academic worlds.

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[6. Bordering and in between spaces: working within and beyond the rural-urban fringe?](#)

» [Adam Peacock \(United Kingdom - Keele University\)](#), [Simon Pemberton \(United Kingdom - Keele University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[7. Rural proofing: negating the rural – urban boundar\(y\)ies where is it now?](#)

» [Sonja Rewhorn \(United Kingdom - The Open University\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[8. Tracing gentrification talk across urban and rural borders](#)

» [Martin Phillips \(United Kingdom - University of Leicester\)](#), [Darren Smith \(United Kingdom - Loughborough University, UK\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)

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[Mapping rural \(education\) fields](#)

» [Philip Roberts \(Australia - University of Canberra\)](#), [Natalie Downes \(Australia - University of Canberra\)](#)

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Durham's 900-year-old Kepier Hospital Farm (Bas-Mys 2021)

Oral : RGRG10 /##conf1042 RGRG/6

Peripheral Regions and the Big Challenges for the 21st Century *here*



Chaired by Megan Palmer Abbs (photo), Norway - Nordland Research Institute

Camilla Risvoll, Norway - Nordland Research Institute

Description

Peripheral Regions are often the earliest and hardest hit by Climate Change events. Much research has been orchestrated which seeks to identify and mitigate both the predicted, and real time, impacts of climate change which affects those who live, work and visit these regions (Barnett, 2010; Hinrichs, C, 2014; Leichenko, R, 2018; MacElroy, C , 2018, Nunn, P and Kumar, R , 2019).

This session seeks to bring together research (applied and theoretical) which represents the challenges and opportunities peripheral regions across the globe are tackling. Whether you are in the Arctic, sub-Saharan Regions, coastal zones, or other areas affected by an early onset of impacts (social, economic, environmental) associated with climate change, we wish to hear from you. We are keen to hear from those addressing, but are not exclusive to, the following areas:

- Peripherality
- Climate change
- Circular Economies
- Transitional strategies and thinking
- Policy and legislation
- Applied or theoretical research and paradigm shifts



[Out-migration as a coping and adaptation strategy to coastal erosion and flooding in Keta and Ada, along the south-eastern coast of Ghana. The role of translocal networks.](#)

» [Sule Issaka \(Germany - Institute of Geography, University of Cologne\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)



[Rural Livelihood and Climate Change Vulnerability in Indian sub-Himalaya: Spatial Patterns, Determinants, and Suitable Policies](#)

» [Manoranjan Ghosh \(India - Doctoral Fellow at Centre for Rural Development and Innovative Sustainable Technology, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur\)](#), [Somnath Ghosal \(India - Centre for Rural Development and Innovative Sustainable Technology, Indian Institute of Technology\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)



[Societal Infrastructure and Climate Sensitive Infections: The Complexity of Climate Change Adaptation in Pastoralism](#)

» [Barbara Baczynska \(Norway - Nord University\)](#), [Grete Hovelsrud \(Norway - Nord University\)](#), [Camilla Risvoll \(Norway - Nordland Research Institute\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)



[Coping with darkening peaks](#)

» [Halvor Dannevig \(Norway - Western Norway Research Institute\)](#), [Tone Rusdal \(Norway - Western Norway Research Institute\)](#)



Oral : RGRG17 ##conf1146 Virtual Ruralities - (Re)presenting and exploring the rural in a virtual world. Chaired by Dr. Mark Riley (pictured)

United Kingdom - university of Liverpool

- Lee-Ann Sutherland

United Kingdom - The James Hutton Institute

- Daniel Bos

United Kingdom - University of Chester

- Bethany Robertson

United Kingdom - university of Liverpool



DESCRIPTION

Rural studies now has a well-established body of work examining how rural spaces and practices become (re)presented within art, literature, film and television and how these representations serve to perpetuate the 'cultural fantasy' of the rural idyll. Recent work has considered how more nuanced and less myopic representations of the realities of rural life may be offered by new forms of popular media including reality TV and fictional TV series, noting how traditional tropes of the rural may be interspersed with, and potentially challenged by, more every day, lived, accounts. This session will seek to extend this work by examining how online spaces and technologies, and virtual representations of the rural, may feed into these discussions. It will consider: 1) how such representations may depart from, extend, or supplant more traditional depictions; 2) what new insights they may offer into rural places, lives and practices; 3) how such technologies may facilitate more-than-representational experiences of the rural; and 4) how the use of new technologies may be harnessed methodologically to study rural issues.

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[Virtual Ruralities - \(Re\)presenting and exploring the rural in a virtual world](#)

» [Mark Riley \(United Kingdom - university of liverpool\)](#), [Lee-Ann Sutherland \(United Kingdom - The James Hutton Institute\)](#), [Daniel Bos \(United Kingdom - University of Chester\)](#), [Bethany Robertson \(United Kingdom - University of Leeds, UK\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Far away from the rural idyll. Media narratives in virtual space. Evidence from the Polish countryside](#)

» [Marcin Wójcik \(Poland - Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz, Poland\)](#), [Paulina Tobiasz-Lis \(Poland - Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz, Poland\)](#), [Karolina Dmochowska-Dudek \(Poland - Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz, Poland\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Alone / together?: Examining rural isolation and loneliness using remote technologies](#)

» [Mark Holton \(United Kingdom - University of Plymouth\)](#), [Mark Riley \(United Kingdom - university of liverpool\)](#), [Gina Kallis \(United Kingdom - University of Plymouth\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[#farming365: exploring farmers' use of social media and its role in sharing and developing notions of good farming](#)

» [Mark Riley \(United Kingdom - university of liverpool\)](#), [Bethany Robertson \(United Kingdom - University of Leeds, UK\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[An Anatomy of Delight: Mobilising the rural idyll to create affective landscapes in a computer game](#)

» [Lee-Ann Sutherland \(United Kingdom - The James Hutton Institute\)](#)

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Oral : RGRG13 /##conf1144 Rural Populism: New Emerging Political Geographies of the Rural (1)

Chaired By

- Matthias Naumann
▣ Austria - University of Klagenfurt
- Michael Woods
▣ United Kingdom - Aberystwyth University

Description

Populism has become a major topic in academic and public debates. While the election of Donald Trump, the vote for Brexit or the electoral success of numerous far-right parties around the world are seen as populist challenges for democracies (Müller 2016), some authors like Christophe Guilluy (2019) link current movements of authoritarian populism with issues of rural decline. “Landscapes of Hate” (Medina et al. 2018) are often associated with remote regions. Media reports draw a sharp dichotomy between open-minded and progressive cities on the one hand and xenophobic and reactionary villages on the other. While these simplifications are not able to account for the success of far-right populism, the question how the various transformations of rural regions, changing imaginations of rurality and the increasingly hybrid character of rural space is affecting (and is effected by) populist movements poses an important challenge for rural as well as political geography. Is there a certain form of “rural populism”, what are “rural” dimensions of populist movements and what roles does the “rural” play in the ideology of the far right?



This session seeks to explore issues of populism in rural contexts and on different political fields. We therefore invite contributions that make explicit links between rural change and populist movements. Contributions may focus on, but are not limited to the following issues such as:

- Examples of urban-rural divides in current political geographies, such as election results or mobilizations of social movements and the challenges they pose.
- Settlement strategies of the far-right, using rural locations as a home base for their activities.
- Different forms and fields of populism in rural spaces, such as agricultural, infrastructural or regionalist populism.
- Geographical representations of the rural used by populist movements, such as imaginations of a culturally homogenous rural “idyll”.
- Movements for a “left populism” in rural spaces.
- Experiences of populism and its affects by diverse rural populations, including immigrants and other minority groups.
- Initiatives to counter populism and political polarization in rural communities and to articulate alternative political visions for the countryside.

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[Identity, Belonging and the Role of the Media in Brexit Britain: Some Reflections from Boston](#)

» [Joshua Blamire \(▣ United Kingdom - Department of Sociology, Philosophy and Anthropology, University of Exeter\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[“We're out, so wtf do we do now?": Brexit and rural identity in the era of online agricultural communities](#)

» [Eliot Jones \(▣ United Kingdom - University of Nottingham\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Spatial imaginaries and the populist radical right in small municipalities](#)

» [Valentin Domann \(▣ Germany - Humboldt University of Berlin\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

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[Analysis of Support Far-right and Far-left Parties in Selected Rural Areas in the Czech Republic and Slovakia](#)

» [Dominik Kevický \(▣ Czech Republic - Masaryk University\), Barbora Tomečková \(▣ Czech Republic - Masaryk University\)](#)

Session 2/2 Chaired By

- **Matthias Naumann**
▀ Austria - University of Klagenfurt
- **Michael Woods**
▀ United Kingdom - Aberystwyth University

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- Initiatives to counter populism and political polarization in rural communities and to articulate alternative political visions for the countryside.

- [**Narratives of rurality, abandonment, and discontent: Is there a new rural-urban divide feeding populism in Europe or is populism creating the divide?**](#)

» [Diana Valero \(▀ United Kingdom - The University of Stirling\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

- [**Political Societies on the Countryside: The Everyday Politics of Populism in Rural Austria**](#)

» [Stephan Hochleithner \(▀ Switzerland - Department of Geography, University of Zurich\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

- [**Populism and Rural Indebtedness in India—Approaches, and Limitations**](#)

» [Sandeep Kandikuppa \(▀ United States - University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

- [**Workers or Subjects? Populist discourse\(s\) in the French Industrial Belt and South Africa’s Platinum Belt**](#)

» [Simphiwe Stewart \(▀ United Kingdom - University of Oxford\)](#)

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Oral : RGRG15; SSQRG2 /##conf1145 LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces (1) 2 sessions

Chaired by Stefanie Boulila- 🇩🇪 Germany

Description

In popular discourse, sexual freedom is associated with the city (Hubbard 2012, Bilić and Stubbs 2015). Rural spaces are imagined as inherently heteronormative and hostile towards queer subjects (Butterfield 2018). Geographies of sexualities and queer geographies have been at the forefront of deconstructing rural spaces as sexually monolithic (Bell and Valentine 1997, Bell 2003, Gorman-Murray et al. 2012, McGlynn 2017). This body of work has complicated assumptions about queer migration patterns from rural to urban (Gorman-Murray 2007, 2009), explored anti-urban or lesbian feminist countercultures (Herring 2010, Valentine 1997) as well as the meanings of homonormativity in rural spaces (Brown 2015). These interventions have demonstrated that the sole understanding of the rural/urban axis through the progressive/conservative dichotomy has only provided a limited and arguably normative understanding of rural queer lives.

Recent policy research on queer lives in EU member states indicates that the marginalisation of LGBTQ people in rural societies and regions has to be understood through situated and geographically nuanced factors and analyses (Bilić and Stubbs 2015, Monro, Christmann et al. 2016, Butterfield 2018). Adding to the previous advances made by the queer geographical canon, this session queries how liveability can help us conceptualise rural queer lives. Judith Butler's (2004) notion of liveability has lately been developed as an analytical tool for the queer social sciences to move beyond the common juridico-political understandings of equality and rights to one of lived experiences (Browne et al. 2019). With that, liveability disrupts place-based imaginaries about progress or its lack (Browne et al. 2015). The session seeks to explore the diverse aspects of rural queer lives beyond the rural-urban dichotomy.

[LBT women's political subjectivity in the Israeli periphery \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 1 ##conf1145\)](#)

» [Gilly Hartal \(🇮🇱 Israel - The Gender Studies Programme, Bar-Ilan University\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

[Living Conditions of trans Persons in Thuringia, Germany \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 1 ##conf1145\)](#)

» [Caspar Rehlinger \(🇩🇪 Germany - Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

[Typically Valais? Community-based Participatory Action Research with Rainbow Families in Alpine Switzerland \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 1 ##conf1145\)](#)

» [Stefanie Boulila \(🇨🇭 Switzerland - Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts\), Christiane Carri \(🇨🇭 Switzerland - University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland\)](#)

[View Presentation](#)

["I don't think I belong there". Rural young gay men feeling uncomfortable in urban gay communities \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 1 ##conf1145\)](#)

» [Tommaso Eynard \(🇧🇪 Belgium - VUB/ULB Brussels\)](#)



Oral : RGRG16; SSQRG3 /##conf1145 LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces (Session 2/2)

Chaired by Stefanie Boulila ■ Switzerland - Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Description

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- [Wellness and Sense of Place of LGBTQ +in Rural area in Israel \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 2 ##conf1145\)](#)
» [Zeevik Greenberg \(■ Israel - Tel-Hai College\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [Rural Gay Educators: Real and Virtual Worlds \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 2 ##conf1145\)](#)
» [Ben Weikert \(■ United States - The State University of New York- Cobleskill\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [Queer Farmers and Well-Being in the USDA Census of Agriculture \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 2 ##conf1145\)](#)
» [Katherine Dentzman \(■ United States - University of Idaho\)](#)
[View Presentation](#)
- [From rural spaces to rainbow cities: a survey on Italian LGBT Millennials \(LGBTQ Liveability in Rural Spaces 2 ##conf1145\)](#)
» [Salvatore Monaco \(■ Italy - Free University of Bozen\)](#)



ABOVE are RGRG-LINKED Sessions & Abstracts

*RGRG presenters' abstracts may be found on RGS-IBG's new Cisco System.

* Dr. Sarah Evans (Professional Officer) advises: The RGS-IBG annual conference programme is available at <https://event.ac2021.exordo.com/>. Sessions sponsored by RGRG are marked in the programme.

You may wish to use the session titles to search for their details.

Instructions on how to search the programme are at that page.

=> Also: www.rgs.org/ac2021 &

<https://event.ac2021.exordo.com/search?q=RGRG>



COVID-19 INFO (29Apr20) Prof Damian Maye (Agri-Food Studies, CCRI, Uni-Gloucestershire) has launched a list of academic & non-academic resources on Covid-19 and sustainable food systems. The idea is to share/build it together, so if you know relevant sites / resources please email (dmaye@glos.ac.uk) and he'll add them. <http://www.ccri.ac.uk/covid19food/>



Tweets by @RGRG_Rural

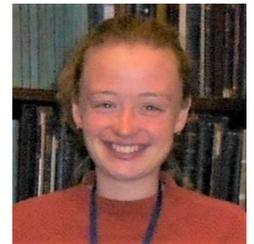
Rural Geography Research Group (RGRG) RGS-IBG Retweeted

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You can also follow the [RGRG on Twitter](https://twitter.com/RGRG_Rural) to stay up to date!
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Travelling around from town to town... (Bas 2009)



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