



## Australian Population Association

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13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

### Population Policy and Australia's Destiny

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#### ***Older People, Ageing Communities: Ageing in Place in South Australian Rural Communities***

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The nature of ageing has changed. The current social and policy response to Australia's ageing population is a focus on community-based care, ageing-in-place and positive ageing strategies. The nature of rural communities is also changing. Some areas are experiencing increases in population with retirees looking for tree change and sea change lifestyles. Other areas are experiencing decline as services and infrastructure are regionalised and younger people and families migrate to urban and regional areas for work and education. In order to understand the social and physical issues of ageing in a rural Australian environment we need to examine who is ageing in our rural communities. The presentation will present a demographic profile of ageing in rural South Australia, in particular in the Murray Mallee region. This is one aspect of current research focusing on the social networks of older people ageing-in-place in four South Australian rural case studies.