

demoz

newsletter of the Australian Population Association

Demoz Number 53

June 2003

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Australia's indigenous population is a most important field for research. Of all this country's diverse range of ethnic groups the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is arguably the most dissimilar from the average. Certainly this is the case in terms of mortality and health. Moreover, the availability and quality of data on our indigenous population pose unique methodological challenges. It is therefore most gratifying to see the APA's establishment of a scheme to promote student research on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. The scheme will be known as the Alan Gray Research Grants Scheme, after the distinguished and recently deceased researcher, and will provide funding for the research-related expenses of bona fide research students at Australian tertiary institutions. The Gray family has very generously provided the funding for the scheme. The introduction of the Alan Gray Research Grants Scheme, alongside the existing J.C. Caldwell Research Grants Scheme and the W.D. Borrie essay prizes, underlines the APA's commitment to promoting population research and education, particularly that with a relevance to Australia or to the Asia-Pacific region.

On the subject of the W.D. Borrie essay prizes, Ann Larson reports that the most recent competitions (for 2002) have brought a bumper crop of entries. The ten entries for the undergraduate prize plus the four entries for the postgraduate prize is far and away the largest total for these competitions. No doubt much of the credit for the revival in interest in these competitions is due to Ann, who will be passing on the baton as W.D. Borrie Essay Prize Convenor to Dr Suniti Bandaranaike of James Cook University after the judging of the 2002 competitions has been completed. On behalf of the Association I would like to thank Ann for all her work as Borrie Convenor over the years.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd October in the Coombs Lecture Theatre at the Australian National University. The AGM will be followed by the annual W.D. Borrie Lecture, which this year will be presented by our Immediate Past President, Dianne Rudd from Adelaide University. Nibbles and drinks should be available beforehand. The ANU will also be the venue for our next biennial conference, which is scheduled to be held between Tuesday 14 September and Friday 17 September 2004. Mark your diaries for these vital events!

Our Journal Editor Dr. Heather Booth has asked me to correct two errors I made in my previous President's Message. At the time of publication of the last Demoz (No. 52, December 2002), three *volumes* (not *issues* as was stated) of the Journal of Population Research had been published in what was then the roughly *two-and-a-half* years since publication of the first issue. The statement of my views on the interest and quality of the Journal's contents was however correct!

Finally, this issue marks the start of a new era for Demoz under the editorship of Dr. Ann Evans from the ANU. Best wishes in the job Ann, and thanks for taking on what in the past has often been a thankless task.

Nick Parr
President

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

A thankless task? I have to say that my first attempt at compiling this newsletter has been a great experience. It has been very rewarding to chat (via email) with such a large number of APA members. I had heard the quiet grumbling and begging of past editors and expected the worst. I was expecting to spend weeks hounding APA members for snippets of information on their current doings. However my experience has been that people have been happy to contribute. I hope this continues...

I would like to highlight three items of interest to members in this newsletter. Firstly, the date and theme have been set for the 2004 conference in Canberra. See the notice on this page, write it in your diary and start thinking of a paper. Secondly, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Professor Gavin Jones from the halls of ANU demography. In this issue Gavin keeps us informed about his new challenge. The final item is the introduction of the Alan Gray Research Grants Scheme.

You will notice that there is little change in this issue of *Demoz*. There will be some changes to layout and content over the next few issues. As this is YOUR newsletter, I would like to hear from any members who have ideas or suggestions about future directions for *Demoz*. If you are doing anything or come across items that may be of interest to other members please let me know.

Items should be sent via email to me at ann.evans@anu.edu.au. Please ensure attached files are compatible with Word 2000.

Ann Evans

12th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

ADVANCE NOTICE

Population and Society: Issues, Research, Policy

The Australian Population Association's 12th Biennial Conference will be held in Canberra, Australia on 15–17 September 2004

For more information contact the

Conference Convenor: Edith.Gray@anu.edu.au, or the
Program Convenor: Ann.Evans@anu.edu.au

ADVANCE NOTICE

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2003 ACSPRI Winter Program**30 June–4 July 2003****University of Queensland, St Lucia**

For more information please visit

<http://acspru.anu.edu.au/courses/winter/wp2003/>**PANZ Biennial Conference****3–4 July 2003****Christchurch, New Zealand**

For more information please contact Dr Mervyl

McPherson, Conference Convenor,

mervylmcperson@paradise.net.nz**36th World Congress of the International****Institute of Sociology****7–11 July 2003****Beijing, People's Republic of China**

For more information please visit

www.iis2003beijing.com.cn/en/index.htm oremail ioscass@public.bta.net.cn**Seminar on Taking Stock of the Condom in
the Era of HIV/AIDS****13–17 July, 2003****Gaborone, Botswana**

Organised by the IUSSP Committee on

Reproductive Health.

For more information please visit

<http://www.iussp.org/Activities/scc-rep/rep-call02.php>**European Population Conference 2003****Warsaw, Poland****26–30 August 2003**

For further information about this conference

please visit the conference website at

<http://www.sgh.waw.pl/epc>**Workshop on Migration and Health in Asia****May 2003 – POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER****Bintan, Indonesia**

For more information please visit

<http://www.populationasia.org> or emailpopnasia@nus.edu.sg**Seminar on Implications, Prospects for
Survival, Health and Living Conditions in
Old Age: Policy Implications****October 2003****New York, USA**

Organised by the IUSSP Committee on

Longevity and Health.

For more information please visit

<http://www.iussp.org/Activities/scc-lon/lon-outline02.php>**Demographic Window and Healthy Aging:
Socioeconomic Challenges and Opportunities****27–28 October 2003****Beijing, People's Republic of China**

For more information please visit

<http://www.populationasia.org> or emailpopnasia@nus.edu.sg**Seminar on the Demography of Conflict and
Violence****8–11 November 2003****Oslo, Norway**Organised by the IUSSP Working Group on The
Demography of Conflict and Violence.

For more information please visit

<http://www.iussp.org/Activities/wgc-con/con-call03.php>**Seminar on Poverty, Programs and
Demographic Outcomes****21–22 November 2003****Mexico City, Mexico**

Organised by the IUSSP Committee on

Population and Poverty.

For more information please visit

<http://www.iussp.org/Activities/scc-pov/pov-call03.php>**APA 12th Biennial Conference****Population and Society:****Issues, Research, Policy****15–17 September 2004****Canberra, Australia**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The Association extends a warm welcome to the following new member whose application has been approved by the Association since the last issue of *Demoz*.

New ordinary member approved by APA National Council, 4 April 2003

Dr Marian Mackintosh of Planning NSW

ASSOCIATION NEWS

National Executive Council

The National Council held a teleconference on 4 April 2003.

Items discussed at this meeting included:

- the new Alan Gray Research Grants Scheme and promotion of the J.C. Caldwell grant and the W.D Borrie prizes;
- inclusion of JPR in electronic full-text databases;
- APA Website;
- increasing library and overseas membership.

The next teleconference is scheduled for 13 June 2003.

STATE NEWS

Victoria

The Victorian branch of the Australian Population Association is holding a free seminar and get-together on Tuesday 3 June.

LESSONS FROM THE LAST CENSUS AND PLANS FOR THE NEXT

by Joseph Salvatore, Director, Statistical Coordination Branch, ABS, Victoria

What are the current issues facing the ABS in regard to population estimates? What lessons have we learnt on this topic from the last census and how will we apply what we have learnt in 2006?

Joseph will speak on this general theme with an especial focus on the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data and the challenges that we face in using ERPs from a local perspective.

He will also discuss the ABS agenda on population estimates for the next couple of years and outline some facets of planning for the 2006 Census.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Joseph Salvatore has a background in economics, politics and statistics, and has been with the ABS for over 20 years. He has worked in a number of areas including both state and commonwealth agencies. His current role is Director of Statistical Coordination.

The primary role of the Statistical Coordination Branch is to deliver an effective state statistical service and provide the best set of official statistics about Victoria. Part of the work the Branch undertakes is the state's demography work program, which includes the validation of the state's estimated resident population. The Branch is also responsible for ensuring relevant state input for the next census.

Tasmania

The Tasmania branch has not held any formal activities. However, Dr Natalie Jackson continues her tireless round of seminars and invited talks. These talks range from the Local Government Grants Commission national conference, to local and interstate school boards, city councils, public administration bodies, etc. Natalie has presented 25 such talks since 2001, "amazing the interest in things population!" Natalie's forthcoming talks include:

- Invited address to the National Conference of the Association of School Bursars and Administrators, Hobart, 14th-18th September 2003.
- Invited address to Institute of Public Administration (IPAA), Brisbane, 1st September 2003.
- Invited address, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Australia (Tasmanian Section), Hobart, 6th June 2003.
- Keynote speaker, National conference of the Local Government Association of Tasmania, *Future Shock: Tasmania Towards 2020*, Hobart, 5th June, 2003.

Australian Capital Territory

The ACT branch of the Australian Population Association is responsible for the organisation of the 12th APA Biennial Conference, which will be held in Canberra in 2004. An organising committee has been formed, and the representatives are Edith Gray, Ann Evans, Rebecca Kippen, Peter McDonald, Gordon Carmichael (ANU), Patrick Corr (ABS), Paul Meyer and Fadwa Al-Yaman (AIHW). The dates of the conference are 15-17 September 2004 and the theme is '*Population and Society: Issues, Research, Policy*'. Any APA member who wants to assist with the conference planning should feel free to contact Edith Gray.

The ACT will also be the venue for this year's Borrie Lecture to be held on Thursday 2 October 2003.

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated Australian Population

As at 30 May 2003: **19,869,819** (<http://www.abs.gov.au>)

Estimated World Population

As at 30 May 2003: **6,295,848,565** (<http://www.census.gov>)

__ DO YOU WANT TO LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES? __

Limited advertising space is now available within *Demoz*. If you want to let other members know about services you or your organisation offers you can place an article in this newsletter. The National Council has agreed that limited advertising on matters demographic may be included. The rates are \$140 per full page or \$75 per half page.

For further details contact Ann Evans ann.evans@anu.edu.au.

FAREWELL GAVIN JONES

After spending the past 28 years at the ANU (first in the Demography Department, then in the Demography Program, then in the Demography and Sociology Program, but actually all in the same place), I have decided to make a move, and have taken a 4-year contract as a Professor in the Asia Research Institute (ARI) at the National University of Singapore. This new Institute is headed by Professor Tony Reid, formerly of the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at ANU, and more recently head of a new Asian Studies program at UCLA.

I will be one of four research team leaders in ARI, particularly responsible for developing a program of research on the changing Asian family, but also continuing research on urbanization. The key emphasis of the research program on the changing Asian family will be the dramatic increase in non-marriage in East and South-East Asia, particularly in the cities, and assessment of the causes and consequences of this trend. At this stage, we know relatively little about the living arrangements, patterns of partnering and sexual relations, and aspirations of non-married women and men in their 30s and 40s. What we do know is that there are a great many more of them than there used to be.

Another strand of research will be on ageing. Traditionally, households (read women) have cared for the needy elderly. But with a much higher proportion of women working, and fewer children per elderly person among cohorts soon to reach the older ages, traditional patterns of care are likely to break down. This is but one issue related to population ageing in the region. Others relate to appropriate programs for income maintenance, and appropriate approaches to utilize the contributions the elderly can make to society.

So the Singapore job will be very interesting and challenging. One clear benefit is that I can fly to Jakarta, Bangkok and Manila in a couple of hours, rather than taking all day to get there as was the case from Canberra. Come to think of it, though, those long plane trips were the only time I seemed to manage to read drafts of thesis chapters or review papers. There's a downside to everything!

I am sorry to be leaving the ANU, because the ANU demography program both trained me—in the early 1960s—and more recently gave me a wonderful research base over a quarter of a century. It is prospering under Peter McDonald's excellent leadership, and I trust that my departure will be seen positively as an opportunity for renewal through generational replacement.

ARI has a program of one year visiting fellowships and post-doctoral fellowships for work in its priority areas, so any APA members with an interest in these areas are welcome to apply. In any case, I'm sure I'll be seeing many of you over time, because Singapore is a good place to visit, increasingly a conference hub, and a good stopover en route to Europe.

Au revoir!

THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY IN TIMOR LESTE 2003

The Government of Timor-Leste (East Timor) with funding from the World Bank early in 2003 awarded a contract for a DHS style survey to the Australian firm ACIL. The DHSTL 2003 will cover 5,000 households from different geographic areas in East Timor. There will be separate forms for the household, ever married women 15–49 years and ever married men 15–54 years. The survey will cover household characteristics, socio-demographic characteristics, pregnancy history (number of children ever

born and children surviving), antenatal, delivery and postnatal care, fertility regulation and reproductive preferences and status of women. Anthropometric measurements will be taken of weight, height and mid-arm circumference of children and women. Blood samples are to be taken from women and children less than three years of age to measure haemoglobin levels and the prevalence of severe anaemia.

East Timor is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world. Much of the population was displaced in the 1999 violence and some are still to return home. Life expectancy is estimated at 57 years, IMR at 80 per 1,000 live births, deaths among children under five at 144 per 1,000 live births, and maternal mortality at roughly 420 per 100,000 live births. Nutritional problems are a major issue with 45 per cent of children under five being underweight.

The principle investigators, Dr. Michael Dibley—Team Leader (University of Newcastle), Prof. Terry Hull, Dr. Bruce Caldwell and Dr. Iwu Utomo (Australian National University) traveled to Dili in March 2003 to work with their counterparts in the Timor-Leste Ministry of Statistics on survey preparation including questionnaire design, training of supervisors and interviewers and conducting a pre-test. Data collection is currently underway under the direction of the Deputy Team Leader, Dr Wahab and the Field Director, Mr. Peter Jenkins. The data collection is due to be completed in August and a preliminary report is due by December 2003.

Fieldwork is a major challenge. Human resources and working facilities are limited and geographic conditions are difficult. Much of East Timor is mountainous and many villages are isolated from roads and can be reached only by walking for many hours or even days. A particular challenge is posed by language. Timor-Leste has some 30 local languages of which the most widely spoken is Tetun but this is rarely written. The administrative language until 1999 was Indonesian and it is still widely used. The independent government has announced that the official languages will be Tetun and the previous colonial language Portuguese while Indonesian and English have been declared working languages. The survey questionnaire is in Indonesian but the interviewers will receive guidance in using the most appropriate language with the respondents.

The team found Timor-Leste a remarkably attractive country with a mountainous interior and a beautiful coastline. The people were very welcoming to all team members. It is, nevertheless, a very poor country only just recovering from the traumatic events of 1999, and in Dili more recent disturbances in December 2002. In Dili, which has been the focus of the international aid effort and where many UN and international personnel are based, there is much rebuilding, but the provincial towns are still struggling to recover. The problem here seems not simply to be the violence but an undermining of their economic base. The country has been subject to radical economic restructuring due to the loss of previous state subsidies and access to the vast Indonesian market. To some extent this has been substituted by the presence of the international donor community, and for the future there is the prospect of revenues from offshore oil and natural gas fields. These changes seem to have most adversely affected the provincial towns, which have lost much of their administrative purpose, and in particular jobs from overstuffed government offices.

Nevertheless, given what they have experienced, the Timorese have been remarkably resilient and are clearly very proud of their independence. By providing critical demographic and health data the DHSTL 2003 should play a valuable role in helping them to build a better future.

Bruce Caldwell and Iwu Utomo

IUSSP: THE ASSOCIATION OF POPULATION SPECIALISTS

In the age of globalisation, population issues are international. International migration in its various forms has come onto the agenda of more and more countries. Likewise issues such as low fertility, ageing, the decline of country towns and the measurement of urbanisation and internal migration are hot issues in many countries. Policy issues that appear to be purely local domestic population issues in Australia have often been experienced and confronted in other countries. In other words, an international perspective is becoming increasingly valuable to population specialists. You can find volumes on the Internet but nothing beats personal communication with counterparts in other countries. One way that this can be achieved is through the IUSSP, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population.

What is the IUSSP?

The IUSSP is the only global association of population specialists and, as such, affords its members with many opportunities to network with colleagues in almost every country in the world, to keep abreast of developments in the field and to participate actively in setting the international research agenda for the Union. The IUSSP's principal objectives are to:

- encourage research into demographic issues, population problems world-wide and population and development relationships;
- stimulate interest in population questions among governments, international and national organisations, the scientific community and the general public;
- foster exchanges between population specialists world-wide and in different disciplines;
- disseminate scientific knowledge on population as widely as possible.

The IUSSP has a total membership of around 1,900 individuals with a variety of scientific and professional backgrounds, coming from more than 120 countries. Members of the Council of the Union are elected by the membership once every four years. Australians have long played a prominent role in the IUSSP. Mick Borrie was prominent in the early years of the Union, Jack Caldwell was President of IUSSP from 1993-97. I am a Member of the current Council of the Union and Chair of the Council Committee on Scientific Activities.

Scientific Activities

The most widely known activity of the Union is the General Conference held every four years. The next one, scheduled for July 2005, will take place in Tours, France. I am a member of the Bureau organising the meeting and I am happy to talk with APA members about the conference programme. Seminars and workshops are also organised by the Union's specialised Scientific Groups constituted by members serving on a voluntary basis. The current groups relate to: age structure and public policy; ageing in less developed countries; conflict and violence; biology and culture; emerging health threats; adolescent life course in developing countries; fertility; gender; historical demography; human rights; international migration; longevity and health; poverty and population; reproductive health; transitions to adulthood in developed countries; urbanisation; and PERN—the population-environment research network.

Benefits and Services to Members

IUSSP members enjoy many valuable and tangible benefits, including:

- Automatic subscriptions to two world-class population journals: *Genus* and a choice of either the French or English editions of *Population*. Although their normal price is \$152 USD, they are distributed FREE to IUSSP members.
- Discounts ranging from 6% to 60% in subscriptions to 16 other major population journals.
- Price reductions in the purchase of IUSSP publications, including those in the Oxford University Press Series, *International Studies in Demography*.
- Free IUSSP Newsletter reporting on key activities sponsored by the Union.

- Free access to the membership-only section of the IUSSP website, where papers presented at IUSSP-sponsored seminars and meetings are posted as well as reports on activities.
- The possibility of participating in the scientific activities of the IUSSP, including meetings organized by scientific groups.
- The possibility of participating in web-based scientific activities sponsored by IUSSP, such as the Population and Environment Research Network and its cyber-seminars.
- The possibility of participating in IUSSP General and Regional Conferences enjoying discounted registration fees for those events.

Becoming a Member

Membership is open to population specialists working in academic, government, non-governmental organizations and other fields. To apply, you need to fill out an application form and find two IUSSP members to sponsor you (if you need sponsorship, please contact me). Your application is then submitted to the Council for election. Membership starts once you have paid your membership fees. Application forms are available at www.iussp.org. Full members pay annual dues of between US\$ 25 and US\$ 87. Residents of low-income and mid-income countries pay the reduced rates.

Can I join as a student?

Student Associate status is limited to graduate students and is renewable annually for up to 4 years provided you are still a student. The fee is US\$ 25 for students in developed countries and free for students in developing countries. Student Associates cannot vote and do not qualify for free journals.

Peter McDonald

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH AND WELFARE

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has established a new unit to focus on information about the health and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The new unit is located at the AIHW in Canberra.

The new unit will collaborate with other interested parties including Indigenous community groups, the Commonwealth and State and Territory governments, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and research and academic groups to achieve the following:

- provide leadership and coordination in the collection and analysis of statistics about the health and welfare of Indigenous people
- provide evidence based information to help formulate and guide policy development for Indigenous health and welfare
- develop closer relationships between AIHW and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups that have an interest in the improved collection and use of information on health and welfare
- improve the quality of data on the health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by raising awareness of important issues that presently affect their collection and use
- carry out analyses of existing and new datasets in the areas of health and welfare of Indigenous people

- develop best-practice methods for the analysis and measurement of change in the health and welfare of Indigenous people
- produce timely, high quality and easily accessible reports on the health and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Head of the new unit is Dr Fadwa Al Yaman, a graduate of the John Curtin School of Medical Research, the Australian National University and more recently of the Research School of Social Science Demography Department. Dr Al Yaman can be contacted on (02) 62441146 or fadwa.al-yaman@aihwa.gov.au.

FERTILITY IN MOZAMBIQUE

The following article reports on the work of Carlos Arnaldo, a recent PhD scholar in the Demography and Sociology Program at the Australian National University. Carlos' thesis explored the proximate determinants of fertility in Mozambique. One of the key findings was the weak role of contraception in reducing fertility. If you would like to know more about Carlos' work you can contact him at ca_arnaldo@yahoo.com. Please let me know if you would like to showcase the work of any of your recent graduates. (Ed.)

Abstract

Using data from the 1980 and 1997 censuses, the 1997 Demographic and Health Survey and qualitative data collected through focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, informal conversations and participant observation, this research examines fertility levels, trends and differentials in Mozambique by region and province. Each of the main proximate determinants of fertility (nuptiality, postpartum infecundability, infertility and contraception) is separately examined and the effects of socio-economic and cultural factors are assessed using bivariate and multivariate approaches.

Indirect estimation of fertility levels shows an apparent decline of fertility from 7 children per woman in 1980 to 6 children per woman in 1997; but a more rigorous examination, using more robust methods, suggests no clear evidence of a change towards lower fertility at the national level. However, the study shows substantial regional differences, with fertility decline being well established since the early 1980s in the most prosperous Southern Region, while it has barely started in Northern and Central Regions.

Uneven socio-economic development emerges as the main explanatory factor for regional and provincial differences in fertility. Education, urban-rural residence and employment status are the socio-economic development factors explaining the total fertility rate, while for the individual proximate determinants, ethnicity also has an important effect, particularly in explaining the differentials in nuptiality patterns, the level of pathological infertility and the duration of postpartum infecundability. The decomposition of the total fertility rate into its main proximate determinants shows that postpartum infecundability has the strongest fertility-reducing effect while contraceptive use has the weakest.

The study also considers the possibility of a slow decline of fertility at the national level and in Central and Northern Regions in the near future, with regional differences in fertility likely to increase owing to a faster fertility decline in the Southern Region where fertility decline is already under way. Some policy implications are also discussed.

My current activity

I have resumed my lectureship duties in the Geography Department at the Eduardo Mondlane University. I am also involved in a research about HIV/AIDS in Mozambique. This is a Population Studies Centre project, funded by *The Futures Group International, Inc*, aimed at identifying the causes and determinants of HIV/AIDS in Mozambique, including the factors associated with regional and provincial variation in HIV/AIDS prevalence rate.

Carlos Arnaldo

APA AWARDS & RESEARCH GRANT SCHEMES UPDATE

Our sincere appreciation to Ann Larson for co-ordinating the APA-sponsored WD Borrie Essay Prizes over the past few years. I am your new co-ordinator operating from luscious tropical north Queensland. This year we continue with our existing awards and have also just introduced an exciting new grant scheme for research in ATSI populations.

We currently have in place

- the prestigious **WD BORRIE PRIZES** for the best essay written on a population related issue and open to all undergraduate, honours and post-graduate students enrolled in an Australian tertiary institution in 2003. The competition is by no means restricted to students of population studies / demography. Previous winners have come from departments of geography, sociology, town planning, economics and public health as well as demography. It is the chosen topic that determines eligibility in this competition. I will send individual flyers to potential competitors by the end of June. In the meantime please keep your students informed of the competition by accessing the website <http://www.gisca.adelaide.edu.au/apa/>
- the **JC Caldwell Research Grant Scheme** was established five years ago. This esteemed grant provides financial support to students for research in a population related area. Submissions for this grant scheme may be sent to me anytime during the year. More details on this grant will reach you together with further information on the WD Borrie Prizes.

In addition to the above, APA has proposed another new, exciting research grant, the **Alan Gray Research Grant Scheme**, to fill the research needs in our ATSI populations. The family of the late Alan Gray funds this grant. Here too, applications can be sent to me any time of the year. More details on this grant will reach you together with information on the Borrie Prizes.

Could you please advertise and encourage your students to join APA as a **Student Member** for a concessional fee of \$45. The membership is open to all full-time students at recognised educational institutions. This gives them the privilege of receiving copies of Demoz, information about the APA Conference and regional group meetings, information distributed using the APPAMEM email list, and the Journal of Population Research at a reduced rate.

We would like to encourage as many students as possible to participate in these awards and grants. I will be sending more details on the above to those on my current mailing list. Please contact me if I have inadvertently missed your name from this list. My contact details are given below.

Sue Bandaranaike [APA Awards & Grants Co-ordinator] Phone: 07 47 814561 or 041 894 1672
E-mail: suniti.bandaranaike@jcu.edu.au Fax: 07 47 814020

NEW BOOK ON AUSTRALIA'S POPULATION

The Transformation of Australia's Population: 1970–2030 edited by Siew-Ean Khoo and Peter McDonald has been published by the University of New South Wales Press (302 pp. \$49.95).

Table of contents

1. Introduction: Australia's population history and prospects by Geoffrey McNicoll
2. Indigenous Australians: The first transformation by John Taylor
3. Fertility trends and differentials by Gordon A. Carmichael and Peter McDonald
4. Transformations in the Australian family by Peter McDonald
5. The changing dimensions of mortality by Heather Booth
6. The management of immigration: Patterns of reform by Bob Birrell
7. A greater diversity of origins by Siew-Ean Khoo
8. Changing patterns of population distribution by Graeme Hugo
9. Transformations in the labour force by Bruce Chapman and Cezary Kapuscinski
10. An ageing population: Emergence of a new stage of life? by Don Rowland
11. Australia's future population: Population policy in a low-fertility society by Peter McDonald.

The book should be available from bookstores. Copies can also be ordered by visiting the UNSW Press website www.unswpress.com.au

EUROPEAN POPULATION CONFERENCE 2003

Under the title 'European Population: Challenges and Opportunities' the European Association for Population Studies (EAPS), an organisation that was established exactly twenty years ago, will hold a general conference that will review, *inter alia*, the so-called 'new demography' of the old continent. The conference will comprise a single plenary session of 45 minutes, three Round Tables, and 44 simultaneous sessions grouped under 16 general themes. All simultaneous sessions will be based on abstracts received from participants. They will last 90 minutes, and will either allow the presentation of 4-5 papers or the presentation of a, in principle unlimited, number of posters.

The simultaneous sessions cover a wide range of topics. The planning foresees that they will be devoted to the following general themes: Fertility trends and patterns; Families and households; Reproductive health; Health, morbidity and mortality; Regional population dynamics and internal migration; International migration and migrant populations; Population ageing; Population and politics; Population and development; Quantitative and qualitative methods; Applied demography; Historical demography; Gender and generations; Population and economy; Population and education, and Values and norms.

Professor Guillaume Wunsch, the current president of the EAPS, chairs the International Organizing Committee of the conference; Professor Janina Józwiak of the Institute of Statistics and Demography and the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw heads the National Organizing Committee. The deadline for Final Abstracts to be sent to the National Organizing Committee and the deadline for registration is May 31, 2003. Registration is open to participants from all countries.

For further information about this conference please visit the conference website at <http://www.sgh.waw.pl/epc>

MINNESOTA NICE

On Mayday 2003, in the wake of war in Iraq, 1,560 population specialists braved the security alerts of USA to gather for the annual meetings of the Population Association of America. By chance the venue was in the famously "nice" community of Minneapolis, home of the Prairie Home Companion, far from the rough and tumble of Washington politics. Over three days the participants indulged in 166-paper session and six sessions where over 300 posters were presented. The richness of the program was reflected in the 191 pages of abstracts in the 350-page program book. It is obviously impossible to participate in all the offerings of such a vast and varied schedule, especially when time must also be set aside to meet up with colleagues, representatives of funding agencies or data companies, and occasionally sample the offerings of the city. For the dozen or so Australian participants the combination of the frantic schedule and jetlag presented some particular challenges.

However PAA is worth the effort. As usual the larger meeting was preceded by the two day Psychosocial Workshop, which for 31 years has brought together a friendly group of researchers interested in the motivations, attitudes and values underlying demographic processes. Jacob Lasen, Durre Nayab and Iwu Utomo of the ANU presented papers and had the opportunity to discuss their research with like-minded colleagues in the informal atmosphere of the 'psychosocialisers'.

By contrast the size and intensity of the main PAA meetings on Thursday through Saturday presented a bewildering experience. The United Nations Population Division captured attention first with a breakfast meeting to discuss the newly released report on International Migration. Head of UNPD Joseph Chamie confirmed his reputation as compere extraordinaire in a masterful summary of the background and findings, and then introduced commentator and critic David Coleman from Oxford University to point out the strengths and weaknesses of the effort. Coleman noted that this was only the latest in the series of UNPD "weapons of mass instruction" and commented that one would have expected more forthright engagement in the political controversy on migration issues. Chamie responded that migration is and always has been the most sensitive demographic issue for the UN to discuss and would probably require circumspection indefinitely.

S. Philip Morgan's Presidential Address posed the question: "Is Low Fertility a 21st Century Demographic Crisis?" Citing the wisdom of his father, Morgan characterized low fertility as the sort of problem you want to have because it is so much better than any alternatives. Low fertility is achieved when changes in the educational and industrial systems displace the economic benefits of high parity children and provide productive opportunities for women, while the affective benefits of two or three children are maintained or even enhanced. While the desire for two or three children is maintained, institutional constraints prevent the attainment of these desires, because they prevent young women in particular from combining reproductive with productive careers.

Morgan, referring to Peter McDonald's work, calls for societies to undertake widespread institutional reform to promote gender equity and support of families, for the attainment of personal—and social—reproductive goals.

Minneapolis 2003 will probably be remembered as the time when PAA mastered the Internet for registration, organization of sessions and communication with paper givers. Projectors were available in every room for PowerPoint, but presenters had to bring their own computers, and this produced some tense moments as organizers tried to deal with glitches.

For Australians the long expensive journey is worth the effort, so long as there is time to recover from the journey and frustrations of security systems before attending the first papers. In 2004 the meetings will be in Boston from April 1-3, and the Psychosocial Workshop will be March 30-31. To register interest, visit the PAA website at www.popassoc.org.

IMMIGRATION NEWS

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs has decided not to continue providing information about population related activities to *Demoz*. They advise interested parties to keep up-to-date by accessing their website <http://www.immi.gov.au>.

Below are two recent Ministerial Press Releases that may be of interest to APA members.

Immigration at a glance MPS 31/2003 13 May 2003

The Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Philip Ruddock, today announced the following key initiatives in the 2003-04 Budget:

- A saving of \$467 million over four years due to the success of off-shore processing, including:
 - a saving of \$437 million over four years due to the reduction in the estimated number of illegal arrivals from 4500 to 1000 a year,
 - the number of people in offshore immigration facilities is down from 1500 a year ago to about 450 people, and
 - a saving of \$30.7 million over four years as a result of rationalisation of onshore processing due to the opening of the Baxter facility, and closure of Woomera IRPC.
- \$10 million over four years allocated for the development of a new profiling system to generate automatic alerts on visa applications from people with profiles of concern.
 - These may include people potentially associated with the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorist activities, and other criminal or fraudulent activities.
 - This will deliver a more reliable system of alerts, rather than current arrangements that rely on manual alerts.
- An additional \$7.6 million allocated to DIMIA initiatives that will support the major package of measures announced tonight by the Minister for Education, Science and Training to strengthen Australia's position as a significant provider of international education, including in new and emerging markets.
- Savings of \$89.1 million over the next four years as a result of the introduction of a two-stage business skills visa from 1 March 2003.
 - Under the new arrangements, most applicants for the business skills visa are first granted a temporary resident visa, which does not give them access to the full range of Government programs until they successfully establish a business and thereby obtain permanent residence.
- Reforms to the Assurance of Support scheme are designed to improve its integrity and to strengthen and simplify its administration.
 - Some processing currently undertaken by DIMIA will be undertaken by Centrelink whilst significant savings will be achieved in the Family, and Community Services portfolio as a result of reduced income support claims from sponsored migrants and improved recovery of social security debts accruing under the Assurance of Support scheme.

Faster Data on Arrivals and Departures MPS 4/2003 22 January 2003

Industry and government agencies are benefiting from a switch to electronic processing of information on people arriving and departing Australia, the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Philip Ruddock said today.

The data from all passenger cards filled out as people arrive and depart the country is now handled electronically, bringing the processing time by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs down from eight weeks to 15 working days.

Information from the passenger cards is used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as well as other government agencies and departments along with tourism bodies and the convention industry.

There had been a backlog during the changeover from the manual processing to the electronic processing, but that has now been cleared. The improved availability time allows both industry and government to identify trends at an earlier stage and be in a better position to plan future activities.

**NEWS FROM THE
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE**

Cancer survival lower in bush and poorer areas, says report

Australians living in the bush have lower overall cancer survival rates than people living in metropolitan areas and rural cities, according to an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report. Similarly, people living in areas of low socioeconomic status have poorer average survival, following cancer diagnosis, than people living in areas of high socioeconomic status.

Cancer Survival in Australia 1992–1997: geographic categories and socioeconomic status shows that men living outside metropolitan areas and outside large rural centres had relative cancer survival rates of 50 to 55% for all cancers at five years after diagnosis. This was significantly below the 57% experienced by males in capital cities, other metropolitan areas and large rural centres.

Over 10 million GP consultations for mental health problems

There were an estimated 10.8 million visits to general practitioners for mental health-related conditions in 2000–01, especially for depression. Depression accounted for one in every three mental health problems managed by general practitioners.

The AIHW's report, *Mental Health Services in Australia 2000–01*, also shows that general practitioners managed a larger number of mental health problems for female patients than for male patients. This applied across all age groups with the exception of people under 15 years of age.

The majority of patients with a mental health problem managed were aged 35 to 54 years.

Report co-author David Braddock said that the figures highlighted the key role played by General Practitioners in the provision of mental health-related care.

Almost 80% of older Australians vaccinated against flu

About 8 out of 10 older Australians were vaccinated against the flu in 2002, according to survey results released recently by the AIHW. Out of 2.4 million Australians aged 65 and over, 1.9 million were vaccinated against the flu last year. A further 1.1 million (about 20%) of Australians aged 40–64 years were also vaccinated. Men aged 65 years and over were less likely than their female counterparts to be vaccinated against the flu—a result that held across all States and Territories.

The report, *2002 Influenza Vaccine Survey: Summary Results*, was carried out as part of an evaluation of the National Influenza Vaccination Program for Older Australians. The Program is a Commonwealth Government initiative designed to help reduce the impact of influenza, which hospitalises more than 2,500 Australians every year.

One in four Australian women to remain childless, says report

About 1 in 4 Australian women will remain childless by the end of their reproductive lives. Australia's birth rates are lower than they have ever been and national fertility rates are continuing to fall. Australian women now give birth to an average of 1.75 children during their lives compared with 2.9 children in the 1970s. The replacement level fertility rate (the number of children a woman needs to have to replace both herself and her partner) is 2.06.

Delayed child-bearing, an increase in the number of women having no children, and a decline in the number of women having three or more children have all been associated with lower fertility rates. *Reproductive Health Indicators Australia 2002*, written by the AIHW's National Perinatal Statistics Unit at the University of NSW, was commissioned by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing in response to growing national and global interest and a need for comprehensive framework in reproductive health.

Aussie smoking and drinking image fading

The image that Australians are high consumers of tobacco and alcohol is fading. Australia has the third lowest rate of daily smoking reported by the OECD, according to a report released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Australia also performed well in terms of per capita consumption of tobacco—ranking fourth lowest out of 22 countries reporting to the OECD.

According to report author, Cid Mateo, the proportion of people aged 14 years and over who smoke has fallen from 32.5% to 25.6% among males and from 26.7% to 20.8% among females since 1991. 'However, one cigarette is still one too many, given that around 19,000 Australians die each year from tobacco-related illnesses, and there's about a 20-year time lag between exposure to tobacco smoke and onset of diseases such as cancer,' Mr Mateo said. Australia ranked 15th among reported OECD countries for consumption of alcohol in 2001 at 9.8 litres of pure alcohol per year for each person aged 15 years and over.

Aussie blokes—a picture of health?

Australian men might live longer and healthier lives if they change a few lifestyle factors and occasionally see a GP, according to a world-first major study of male health problems seen in general practice. Almost 1 in 4 males haven't seen a doctor in 12 months (compared with 1 in 10 females). However, when men do see their GP the pattern of health problems is different across age groups. Young men aged between 18–24 years are least likely to go to a doctor, but are more likely to smoke daily and drink alcohol at risk levels. One in ten problems managed in middle-aged men was work-related, and only some of these were covered by worker's compensation. Men aged 65 years and over see their doctor most frequently, with chronic diseases among the most commonly managed. There is a drop off in rates of smoking and risky alcohol consumption among older men, although they are more likely to be overweight or obese.

Male Consultations in General Practice in Australia 1999-00—released recently by the University of Sydney and the AIHW—details more than 44,000 GP encounters with male patients from a sample of over 1000 doctors.

Further information on these and other AIHW publications is available at the Institute's website: <http://www.aihw.gov.au>. Alternatively, you can contact AIHW publications on tel. 02 6244 1032. Many publications are available on the site in Adobe Acrobat format, with a link that allows users to download the free software to read the publications in this format.

ABS DEMOGRAPHY NEWS

1 Australian and world population growth

The preliminary estimated resident population of Australia at June 2002 was 19.7 million persons, an increase of around 220,000 persons since June 2001. The world population at June 2002 was estimated to be 6.2 billion persons, an increase of around 74 million since June 2001. For the 12 months ended June 2002 Australia's population growth rate (1.1%) was slightly below the world's population growth rate (1.2%). When compared with selected countries it was the same as New Zealand (1.1%) comparable with Thailand (1.0%) higher than Japan and Germany (each 0.1%) and lower than Singapore (3.5%). The June Quarter 2002 issue of Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0) issued 12 December 2002 shows, together with regular data, a comparison of Australia's population growth with the growth experienced by selected overseas countries. For more information please contact anne.ward@abs.gov.au on (02) 6252 6296.

2 Forthcoming population releases

The ABS will be issuing a new electronic release [Population, Australian States and Territories - Electronic Publication, September Quarter 2002](#) (cat. no. 3239.0.55.001) on the ABS website at 11:30AM (Canberra time) on 18 February 2003 containing the latest population totals for September Quarter 2002 with a shortened time series back to December Quarter 2000. This release will be followed on 20 March 2003 with the usual September 2002 issue of Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0) containing estimates back to September Quarter 1996.

Population by Age and Sex, Australia, (cat. no. 3201.0) estimated resident population by single year of age and sex for all states, territories and Australia for 30 June 1997 to 2001 will be released on 20 March 2003. The publication will also include preliminary estimates for June 2002. These releases will contain final estimates based on the 2001 Census of Population and Housing including revised estimates for 2001 Census net undercount, residents temporarily overseas on Census night, and revised net overseas migration

statistics now that passenger card data for August 2000 to June 2001 are available. 2001 Census interstate migration results have also been incorporated in the 1997-2001 final estimates.

Of relevance to these releases are [Demography Working Paper 2002/2 - Estimated Resident Population and Effects of Census Systems Created Records](#), which discusses initial findings of a review of processes used in determining the preliminary 2001 Census rebased estimates released in mid 2002, and [Demography Working Paper 2003/1 - Estimated Resident Population and Measurement of Category Jumping](#) which discusses a recently detected deficiency in the current measurement of category jumping and ABS proposals to minimise its impact on ERP data.

The 1991-2001 issue of Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand (cat. no. 3218.0) released in July 2002 advised that the 2001-02 issue, containing both final 2001 and preliminary 2002 Local Government Area and Statistical Local Area population estimates, would be released in May 2003. The release date has been brought forward to 3 April 2003.

3 Why are population estimates revised?

Population estimates produced by the ABS are important inputs to the allocation of funds to States and Territories and are required less than 6 months after the reference period (31 December each year). The ABS uses the most recent figures available for estimating components of population growth even if more accurate data will become available later. Consequently the ABS revises quarterly population estimates in stages as additional information becomes available.

Whilst there are three main categories of estimate (preliminary, revised and final), there is potential for an estimate to be revised several times. All components of population estimates are susceptible to revision as new and more accurate data becomes available. In particular:

- There is an interval between the date of occurrence of births and deaths, and their date of registration with State and Territory Registrars. Due to the delays in registration, estimates of natural increase (ie births minus deaths) become more accurate over time.
- Estimates of net overseas migration are also refined with time and can only be finalised 12 months after the reference date when passenger card data enables an assessment of whether, in aggregate, individual migration intentions have been realised.
- Incorporating the results of the latest Census including allowance for net undercount and residents temporarily overseas on Census night ensures that population estimates are based on the most recent complete count of the population.

Over recent years revisions to net migration estimates have had greater impact than revisions to natural increase. Further, from August 2000 until late 2002 there has been disruption to the availability of complete overseas migration data due to delays in processing of passenger cards as a result of data capture and processing system changes by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

4 Births and fertility

The number of births registered in 2001 declined by 3,200 or 1% compared to 2000, from 249,600 to 246,400. Australia's fertility rate declined to 1.73 babies per woman while the median age of mothers of newborns reached 30.0 years. The fertility rate varied substantially across the states and territories in 2001, from 1.51 babies per woman in the Australian Capital Territory to 2.26 in the Northern Territory. Of the capital cities, Melbourne had the lowest fertility (1.54 babies per woman averaged over the three years, 1999 to 2001), followed by Adelaide and Canberra (1.61). Overall, women living in Australia's major cities (69% of all women aged 15-49 years) had the lowest fertility rate (1.65) while women living in

remote areas (2.27) and very remote areas (2.28) had the highest fertility rates.

Women born in Australia who registered a birth in the three years 1999 to 2001 experienced a total fertility rate of 1.74 babies per women. Of the women who were born overseas who registered a birth in Australia during those years, there was wide variation in total fertility rates according to country of birth. For example, women born in Lebanon had a total fertility rate of 3.46 babies while women born in Hong Kong had a rate of 0.94 babies.

Victoria had the highest median age of mothers at 30.7 years, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (30.4 years) and South Australia (30.3 years). The lowest median age of mothers giving birth in 2001 was in the Northern Territory (27.9 years) followed by Tasmania (29.1 years). Further details are available in *Births, Australia, 2001* (cat. no. 3301.0), released on the 7 November 2002

5 Australians live longer: Mortality indicators improve

In 2001, 128,540 deaths (66,830 males and 61,710 females) were registered in Australia, 250 more than in 2000 (128,290). There were 2,100 deaths registered in 2001 where the deceased was identified as being of Indigenous origin (Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or both origins). The median age at death in 2001 was 76 years for males and 82 years for females (an increase of 6 and 5 years respectively on 1981 median ages). The median age at death for Indigenous males was 52 years and 58 years for females.

Since 1981 the number of deaths has increased by an average of around 1% per year. The steady increase over time reflects the increasing size of the population and, in particular, an aging population. The death rate has declined 5% since 2000 and 36% since 1981, after accounting for the differences in the age structure of the population over the period.

Australia's 1999-2001 life expectancy at birth of 77 years for males and 82.4 years for females is amongst the highest in the world. Regional life expectancy at birth in 1999-2001 for males and females varied across the regions of Australia by up to 11 years. Australia's more rural and remote populations had higher mortality rates and consequently lower life expectancy than populations living in capital cities and other urban areas.

Further details are in *Deaths, Australia 2001* (cat. no. 3302.0) and *Causes of Death, Australia 2001* (cat. no. 3303.0), released on 10 December.

6 Overseas arrivals and departures

The delays in the provision of final Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD) data by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA), associated with the introduction of new passenger card processing arrangements from August 2000 have been resolved. DIMIA has now provided data for all outstanding months and the backlog published. The last outstanding months, April to June 2001 were published in *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia* (cat. no. 3401.0) on 17 December 2002.

ABS reviewed the dissemination of OAD statistics in consultation with major users with the return to monthly releases commencing with the August 2002 issue. *Overseas Arrivals and Departures* (cat. no. 3401.0) is now released approximately three weeks from the end of the reference month and contains preliminary information for the reference month together with final passenger card based information for the previous month. For example, November 2002 issue was released on 23 December 2002, and contained preliminary information for November 2002 and final information for October 2002). Some tables were changed to include both the financial year-to-date and calendar year-to-date totals. Apart from these changes, the format of the publication remains substantially unchanged from the standard format prior to August 2000. Some additional suggested changes are being investigated and considered and

consultation with users will commence within the next few weeks with the release of a new ABS Demography Working Paper outlining potential changes in the content, analysis and commentary, and improved timeliness for implementation by mid 2003.

7 Migration, Australia

Because of the delays in provision of OAD data, Migration, Australia 2000-01 (cat. no. 3412.0) has been withdrawn from publication. Information for 2000-01 and 2001-02 will be included in a combined issue scheduled for released in May 2003.

8 Understanding demographic data courses in March

The ABS has scheduled a number of these 1 day courses in March in Canberra, Melbourne and Perth. The aim of the [Understanding Demographic Data](#) course is to provide an understanding of the framework of demographic data and the processes, which shape the population. The course covers the relationship between Census data and Estimated Resident Population data; components of population growth; population projections; estimating the population of small areas; some tools for analysing demographic data and population dynamics. The course fee includes a light lunch, course notes and a copy of Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0). For general enquiries, please contact Genevieve Heard genevieve.heard@abs.gov.au or (02) 6252 7883.

9 Improving ABS time series spreadsheets

Over the past few months, the ABS has been working on improving its time series spreadsheets. We are pleased to announce that the new Excel format time series spreadsheets have now been released on the ABS Website for customer evaluation and comment.

At this stage we have three sample workbooks available. These can be accessed via:

- a link appearing in the 8501.0 Time Series Spreadsheets document on the ABS Website or
- a link appearing in the News section of the ABS Website (click on News in the Home Page Navigator)

These links provide information about the new product, access to the sample workbooks, and a further link to the 'Time Series Workbook Website Discussion Forum' (available at <http://www.abs.gov.au/forums/timeseries.nsf>).

The Discussion Forum provides information regarding the underlying design principles, what we were trying to achieve in developing the product, and how the new format will benefit you. As well as providing you with information, we are seeking feedback on the new format, which will be analysed prior to finalising the specification for the full scale production process.

If you wish to contribute to the discussion forum you must first register by providing the following details to mark.bolin@abs.gov.au:

First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name
Organisation Name

Email address (so we can advise login details)

10 What the ABS Demography Program produces

The ABS Demography program produces estimates of the population by age, sex, country of birth, Indigenous status, registered marital status, geographical distribution and estimates of families and households. Projections of the population, families and households, according to specified demographic assumptions, are published on a regular basis and produced for individual clients. Statistics are also regularly produced on births, deaths, marriages, divorces, overseas arrivals and departures and internal migration. For the ABS and other population surveys, benchmarks to facilitate estimation are provided. In addition to reporting on statistics, courses are conducted and an email newsletter is sent to major clients.

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 to the APA Secretary or DEMOZ Editor**

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AUSTRALIAN POPULATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is open to any person or organisation with an interest in population issues. If you would like to apply for membership please complete this application form and send it to the Secretary, Australian Population Association, PO Box K1200, Haymarket, New South Wales, Australia 1240. Membership fees are as follows:

- \$150** Corporate member (firms, government departments or other organisations);
- \$75** Ordinary member
- \$45** Student and concessional membership (open to full-time students at recognised educational institutions and individuals not currently in paid full-time employment).
- \$75** Library Subscription for Journal only

Members residing outside Australia please add \$20 for additional mailing costs.

Please make cheques payable to the Australian Population Association
or complete the following details to pay by credit card

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