

# Invisible Difference: Interrogating 'frictionless' migration Symposium

Conveners: Professor Loretta Baldassar and Professor Farida Fozdar

Wednesday 23 – Thursday 24 April 2014  
The University of Western Australia (UWA)

## Program

### Master class for postgraduates 2pm-5pm Tuesday 22 April 2014

Group A: Asian Studies Seminar Room G25, Ground floor, Social Sciences Building, UWA  
Group B: Social Sciences Seminar Room 2.29, Second floor, Social Sciences Building, UWA

The focus will be policy application. What are the policy applications/relevance of your thesis topic?

Facilitators:

Dr Majella Kilkey, Reader in Social Policy, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield  
Professor Louise Ackers, University of Salford, and Coordinator, Sustainable Volunteering Project

### 6.30pm Dinner

Sunflowers at Chinese Village, 17 Broadway, Nedlands

### Symposium – Day 1

#### 9am-4pm Wednesday 23 April 2014

Law Lecture Room 2, Ground floor, Law Building, UWA



*Linda Hutchence works cleaning holiday villas in Spain to pay her bills and rent. She likes being able to have an outdoor life 8-9 months of the year but misses being able to watch her grandchildren grow up in England.*

*Photo: Charlie Clift, Brits Abroad*

### 9am-9.15am Registration

### 9.15am-9.30am Welcome by conveners

### Session 1: The significance of skill

Chair: Professor Farida Fozdar, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, UWA

### 9.30am-10.15am Keynote

*Professional mobile voluntarism, knowledge transfer and international development: The critical role of relationships and positionality*

Professor Louise Ackers, University of Salford, and Coordinator, Sustainable Volunteering Project

**10.15am-10.45am**

*Is there an invisible wall? The career journey of skilled immigrant women in an Anglo dominant culture*

Vassilissa Carangio, PhD candidate, Business and Enterprise, Swinburne University of Technology

**10.45am-11.15am**

*'Being temporary': Migrant status as a marker of difference in Australia*

Dr Shanthi Robertson, Research Fellow, Institute for Culture and Society, University of Western Sydney

**11.15am-11.45am Coffee break****Session 2: Hidden potential**

Chair: Dr Rob Cover, Associate Professor, Communication and Media Studies, UWA

**11.45am-12.15pm**

*Invisible irregularities: The case of Korean migrants in Western Australia*

Dr Silvia Lozeva, Researcher, Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute

**12.15pm-12.45pm**

*Why are visibly different and/or non-English speaking first generation Australians not using the public libraries?*

Nadine Gibbons, PhD candidate, Media Culture and Communications, Humanities, Curtin University

**12.45pm-1.15pm**

*Constructing visibility: The discursive construction of difference*

Professor Farida Fozdar, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, UWA

**1.15pm-2.30pm Lunch****Session 3: Transgressions**

Chair: Professor Loretta Baldassar, Discipline Chair, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA

**2.30pm-3pm**

*Unwelcome heroes? A unique case of Nepalese Gurkha migration to Britain*

Mitra Pariyar, PhD candidate, Department of Sociology, Macquarie University

**3pm-3.30pm**

*"Back to Where You Are Not Different": Attitude, Normativity and Mobility*

Dr Rob Cover, Associate Professor, Communication and Media Studies, UWA

**3.30pm-4pm**

*Chinese migration and the changing negotiation of 'indigenous' difference in northern Australia's Gulf Country*

Dr Richard Martin & Professor David Trigger, School of Social Science, The University of Queensland

**6.30pm Dinner**

TQR Thach's Quan Vietnamese Restaurant, 27 Stirling Highway, Nedlands

## **Symposium – Day 2**

**9.15am-4.15pm Thursday 24 April 2014**

Law Lecture Room 2, Ground floor, Law Building, UWA



*Sean Mitchell runs a traditional British fish and chip shop by the beach in Fuengirola. The vast majority of his customers are British holiday makers or expatriates and he serves chips made from imported British Maris Piper potatoes.*

*Photo: Charlie Clift, Brits Abroad*

### **Session 1: (In)Visibly British?**

Chair: Professor Loretta Baldassar, Discipline Chair, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA

#### **9.15am-10am Keynote**

*Making the invisible visible: Contemporary British emigration – issues in politics, policy and research*

Dr Majella Kilkey, Reader in Social Policy, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, & Dr Neil Lunt, Reader in Social Policy and Public Management, University of York

#### **10am-10.30am**

*The 'Whingeing Pom' magazine: Visible evidence of a largely invisible migration*

Gillian Abel, PhD candidate, University of Western Australia

#### **10.30am-11am**

*From migrations of austerity to migrations of prosperity: Serial migration, visibility and identity among late twentieth century British migrants*

Dr Jim Hammerton, Emeritus Scholar, History Program, La Trobe University

#### **11am-11.30am Coffee break**

### **Session 2: In-between and beyond**

Chair: Associate Professor Martin Forsey, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA

#### **11.30am-12noon**

*Belonging and the uses of difference: Young people managing diversity in Australia*

Associate Professor Anita Harris, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, School of Political and Social Inquiry, Monash University

#### **12noon-12.30pm**

*Parallel lives of the 2nd generation migrant: The visible-invisible interchange*

Ursula Ladzinski, PhD candidate, Curtin University

**12.30pm-1pm**

*Ethnicity in a mobile world: The politics of recognising difference*

Professor Loretta Baldassar, Discipline Chair, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA

**1pm-2.15pm Lunch**

**Session 3: Fitting in**

Chair: Professor Farida Fozdar, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, UWA

**2.15pm-2.45pm**

*Aanpassen or invisibility: Being Dutch in postwar Australia*

Dr Nonja Peters, Director of History of Migration Experiences (HOME) Centre, Curtin University

**2.45pm-3.15pm**

*Choosing schools in Berlin: The significance of keeping up appearances and disappearances*

Associate Professor Martin Forsey, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA, with Georg Breidenstein, Oliver Krüger and Anna Roch (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Germany)

**3.15pm-3.45pm Special video presentation**

*Brits Abroad - Photographing expatriates in their new life*

Charlie Clift

Discussant: Dr Majella Kilkey, Reader in Social Policy, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield

**3.45pm-4.15pm Coffee conclusion**

**4.30pm-5pm Meeting of MRN**

## Abstracts

### ***The ‘Whingeing Pom’ magazine: Visible evidence of a largely invisible migration***

**Gillian Abel, PhD candidate, UWA**

The Whingeing Pom is a glossy lifestyle magazine aimed at British migrants, first published in Western Australia in 2008. The magazine is a visible expression of the stereotypical notions of a group of migrants who have largely been regarded as invisible in the broader migration rhetoric both historically and in contemporary Australia. Forming what has been referred to as the charter group of migrants; that is those against whom others are measured, the British have consistently occupied an arguably privileged position in Australian migration hierarchy. The images in the magazine emphasize the elements of sun, sand and sea, which bundled as ‘lifestyle’ have come to characterize British migration to Australia. The text in the magazine is, however, more revealing and goes some way to exploring the more problematic aspects of this migration many of which, I argue, arise out of a heightened sense of expectation. As historically connected, mainly white, English-speaking migrants with desirable skills and qualifications there is an expectation on the part of both the British migrants, and Australia as the host country, of an easy fit. The reality, I propose, is often a disillusioned migrant, particularly in relation to their employment experience and certainly not indicative of the frictionless movement one is encouraged to expect of the skilled, mobile migrants who populate this group.

**Gillian Abel** is a PhD candidate at the University of Western Australia supervised by Professors Loretta Baldassar and Nicholas DeMaria Harney. Gillian carried out ethnographic fieldwork amongst British migrants in Perth, Western Australia between 2007 and 2008.

-----  
***Professional mobile voluntarism, knowledge transfer and international development: The critical role of relationships and positionality***

**Professor Louise Ackers, University of Salford, and Coordinator, Sustainable Volunteering Project**

In keeping with the Conference Theme, this paper focuses on the interactions between different people that arise as a result of mobility. The ‘Call for Papers’ refers to the tendency for migration research to reinforce dichotomies with a particular reference to polarisation on the grounds of skill (King, 2002) suggesting that the mobility of the privileged is often perceived to be ‘frictionless’.

This paper considers a very specific form of highly skilled mobility – namely mobile professional voluntarism. The research on which the paper draws is deeply embedded in a development intervention focused on harnessing the skills of UK professional volunteers to bring about improvements in maternal and neo-natal health in Uganda. In that sense the ‘interactions’ with healthcare worker peers in Uganda are planned and negotiated and specifically aimed at exchanging and translating knowledges to promote sustainable health systems change in Uganda. The research has identified the importance of ‘positionalities’ which go beyond cultural differences to these processes and play a critical role in facilitating or hindering knowledge exchange processes.

The paper starts by introducing the Sustainable Volunteering Project (SVP) and its objectives and the approach it has developed to the recruitment and deployment of volunteers in the Ugandan healthcare system. It then examines some of the data collected in the course of the SVP project on the role that positionality plays in shaping knowledge transfer and the achievement of impact objectives. By recognising the importance of relationships to successful knowledge transfer the study raises important questions for international development interventions focused on the deployment of professional volunteers in capacity-building.

King, R. (2002) ‘Towards a new map of European migration’, *International Journal of Population Geography*, 8 (2), 89-106.

**Professor Louise Ackers** holds a Chair in Social Policy in the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work & Social Sciences at the University of Salford UK. Her research focuses on highly skilled mobility and knowledge

---

Funded by the UWA Research Collaboration Award held by Loretta Baldassar, Farida Fozdar and Meng Ji ‘Sustaining Families and Communities in Transnational Settings’ in collaboration with the UWA Mobilities and Belonging Network [www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB](http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB)

transfer processes. Much of her work has explored mobility in the context of science careers and the internationalisation of research. In addition to academic outputs she has worked closely with the research councils in the UK and with the European Commission in the development of policy on internationalisation, impact and research careers. Professor Ackers has been involved in a number of evaluations on researcher mobility including a study on the participation of women in the Marie Curie Programme (DG Research, 2003); an Impact Assessment of the Marie Curie Fellowships (DG Research, 2005), a follow-up impact assessment of the Marie Curie Scheme (2010) and an Evaluation of the Impact of the Framework Programme on the Formation of the European Research Area (ERA) in the Social Sciences and Humanities (2010). She is currently coordinating an FP7 project on the careers, mobilities and impacts of doctoral graduates in the social sciences and humanities (POCARIM). She is also applying her expertise in this area to the specific context of mobile professional voluntarism in the reduction of maternal mortality in Uganda. Professor Ackers, in her capacity as Trustee of the Liverpool-Mulago-Partnership (LMP), co-ordinates the Ugandan Maternal and Newborn Hub and the THET funded Sustainable Volunteering Project (for details see [www.lmpcharity.org](http://www.lmpcharity.org))

-----  
***Ethnicity in a mobile world: The politics of recognising difference***

**Professor Loretta Baldassar, Discipline Chair, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA**

This paper examines the experiences of belonging and identity for second generation Chinese in Prato, Italy, and contrasts this with the experience of second generation and so called 'new wave' Italians in Perth, Australia. In the Italian context, citizenship status appears to be a key identity construct that is performed and embodied by young Chinese migrants, while the concept of ethnicity seems largely absent from popular, public and academic discourses. In contrast, ethnic identity is a key defining attribute for second-generation Italians in Australia at all these levels and citizenship is largely irrelevant. Recent 'new wave' Italian arrivals, steeped in Italian conceptions of recognising difference, tend to contest the ethnic identification of their Australian-born peers. These dynamics complicate notions of both visible and invisible differences and point to the central role of the politics of recognising difference.

**Loretta Baldassar** is Professor in the department of Anthropology and Sociology at the University of Western Australia and Adjunct Principal Research Fellow, School of Political and Social Inquiry, Monash University. Loretta has published extensively on migration and, in particular, on transnational families including, *Families Caring Across Borders* (with Baldock & Wilding, Palgrave 2007), and *Intimacy and Italian Migration* (edited with Gabaccia, Fordham Uni Press 2011) as well as many journal articles and book chapters on this subject. Her most recent book is *Transnational Families, Migration and the Circulation of Care: Understanding mobility and absence in family life* (edited with Merla, Routledge 2013).

-----  
***Is there an invisible wall? The career journey of skilled immigrant women in an Anglo dominant culture***

**Vassilissa Carangio, PhD candidate, Faculty of Business and Enterprise, Swinburne University of Technology**

Despite the vast amount of research on unskilled immigrants internationally, little is known about the experience of 'visibly' different professional immigrants in an Anglo dominant culture from a gender perspective. The overall theme that emerges from the literature tends to emphasize how male skilled 'visibly different' refugees are excluded in the labour market and the barriers that particular communities, such as Muslims, are facing in Australia. Gender and career progression along with the issue of 'gendered racism' have not been analysed in depth. Through the 'biographical method' the proposed study seeks to understand how professional immigrant women experience their career journey in an Anglo dominant culture and if there is any difference between women of different ethnic backgrounds: Chinese, Indian, Filipino and English. Their stories would add nuance and complexity to our understanding of what happens when women and racialised minorities, historically excluded, come to occupy 'spaces' which are marked by whiteness and masculinity. This study will be part of a growing body of research on skilled female immigrants in Australia. By using sources from across Europe and western countries, including Australia and NZ, and oral histories with 'visibly' skilled immigrant women from different backgrounds, this project will contribute to research on the impact of human diversity in employment.

---

Funded by the UWA Research Collaboration Award held by Loretta Baldassar, Farida Fozdar and Meng Ji 'Sustaining Families and Communities in Transnational Settings' in collaboration with the UWA Mobilities and Belonging Network [www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB](http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB)

**Vassilissa Carangio** is a PhD candidate and the recipient of the Swinburne University Chancellor's Research Scholarship at Swinburne University of Technology. Her research areas include migration, gender, race and diversity. She holds an MA (110/100 *cum laude*; First Class Honours) in Mass Communication from the University of Rome 'La Sapienza'.

-----  
***Brits Abroad - Photographing expatriates in their new life***  
**Charlie Clift**

The Brits Abroad project aims to show a new perspective on the debate on immigration by photographing British expatriates living abroad. It wishes to show the extent to which some expatriates choose to integrate into or dissociate from their local community and to challenge stereotypical views of immigrant groups.  
[www.brits-abroad.com](http://www.brits-abroad.com)

**Charlie Clift** is an editorial and commercial photographer based in London. His clients include The Sunday Times Magazine, Tatler, Action for Children, and Help for Heroes.

-----  
***"Back to Where You Are Not Different": Attitude, Normativity and Mobility***  
**Dr Rob Cover, Associate Professor, Communication and Media Studies, UWA**

This presentation examines some of the intersections between 'attitude' (towards others) and perceived 'difference' (of forced migrants and refugees). Attitude, as a habitual mode of regard, is a key element often ignored in cultural theory, yet is central to the intersection between identity and relationality in the context of the encounters with 'visible difference' that are produced by the range of different forms of contemporary mobility.

Using the recent SBS documentary *Go Back to Where You Came From*, with particular reference to the debate around Racquel (temporarily the most-hated woman in Australia according to online debate), it is asked why some subjects are capable of welcoming the visual, ritual, cultural and embodied differences of vulnerable forced migrants, how that encounter with difference operates to produce an ethical response, how that ethical response leads to a re-conceptualisation of "the Australian population" and the means by which we can research mobility issues from the perspective of the intersection of discourses that define Australian culture through the concepts of population and subjectivity.

Discussing difference (visual, familial, cultural) in the context of Foucault's position on biopolitical subjectivity as produced through a 'distributional curve of normativities' that is in the service of neoliberalism, it is argued that an ethical welcome of the figure of the migrant is one which can neither attempt to level out difference nor seek to identify differences through perspectives of non-normativity but, instead, foster shifts in 'attitude' towards visual and corporeal difference.

**Dr Rob Cover** is associate professor in Communication and Media Studies at The University of Western Australia. He researches in cultural studies, youth studies and sexuality studies, migrant community media and cultural concepts of population and mobility. He has published widely in journals which include *Continuum*, *Convergence*, *New Media & Society*, *Media International Australia* and *Body & Society*; his recent book is *Queer Youth Suicide, Culture & Identity: Unliveable Lives?* (Ashgate 2012).

-----  
***Choosing schools in Berlin: The significance of keeping up appearances and disappearances***  
**Associate Professor Martin Forsey, Anthropology and Sociology, UWA, with Georg Breidenstein, Oliver Krüger and Anna Roch (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Germany)**

In thinking about middling mobilities in and to Berlin, as we do here, there are various layers of invisibility to consider. We have not met the people we have studied; they are part of what Eichhorn (2001) described as a "textual community", gathered around the threads of online conversations associated with a website servicing the needs of English-language speakers in Germany. The thread in question started in 2008 with a query from

---

Funded by the UWA Research Collaboration Award held by Loretta Baldassar, Farida Fozdar and Meng Ji 'Sustaining Families and Communities in Transnational Settings' in collaboration with the UWA Mobilities and Belonging Network  
[www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB](http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB)

someone about to move to Berlin, seeking advice about the best international school in which to enrol her three children. The ensuing conversations are revealing, not only because of the schools canvassed and the manner in which they are discussed, but also because of the schools not charted into the eduscape. The relatively contained “spaces of interaction” marked by the “international schools in Berlin” thread allow us to shift the scope from the local to the national and the global spheres and back again. These globally mobile parents, who are part of the increasingly significant skilled migrant diaspora, express various concerns about the educational needs of their children, from language acquisition, to keeping up with educational requirements for university in their home country, to desires that their children be exposed to a broad range of cultural influences. The field-based research into school choice in the local scene by the Halle team speaks back to the analysis of this textual community in interesting ways, not least because of the socio-geographic concentrations evident in the online discourse. For all of the cosmopolitan desire expressed by these globally mobile individuals, there are some cultural experiences they are not prepared to expose their children to. Avoidance of the “Turkish” schools is very apparent, especially in the responses from those with local knowledge of the school scene.

This paper raises questions about qualitative research methodologies in online settings, particularly in relation to claims about an emerging commitment to ‘nonlocal ethnography’ (see Feldman 2012; Eichhorn 2001) and the surmising one can make about research subjects one never meets, but who remain comprehensible because of the broader cultural context in which they are situated. It also questions elite commitment to a cosmopolitan ethos in the face of global anxieties among the global middle classes as they pursue various forms of concerted cultivation (see Lareau 2003) and expressive individuation for their child, amidst a ‘fear of falling’ from their not so-lofty and precarious position in social hierarchies. It may be useful to think of this as a fear of invisibility that emphasises the significance of some cultural formations at the expense of others.

#### References

- Eichhorn, K. (2001) Sites unseen: Ethnographic research in a textual community, *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, 14:4, 565-578, DOI: 10.1080/09518390110047075
- Feldman, G. (2012) If ethnography is more than participant observation, then relations are more than connections: The case for nonlocal ethnography in a world of apparatuses, *Anthropological Theory*, 11(4) 375-395.
- Lareau, A. (2003) *Unequal Childhoods*, Berkeley: University of California Press.

**Martin Forsey’s** teaching spans Australian society, while his research work focuses on the social significance of education and educational institutions. He has written about neoliberal reform of schooling, school choice, supplementary education, and student exchange in higher education. Lately his attention has shifted towards local and global mobilities and the crucial role education plays in family decision-making processes. The paper presented at this forum results from collaborative research conducted with a team led by Prof Georg Breidenstein at Martin Luther University in Halle Germany.

#### ----- ***Constructing visibility: The discursive construction of difference***

**Professor Farida Fozdar, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, UWA**

Exploring the topic of frictionless migration and (in)visible difference, this paper considers the ways in which difference is constructed discursively in the language of Australians talking about diversity. It argues that the ‘new racism’, identified over thirty years ago, which based discrimination on cultural rather than biological differences, is giving way to more complex forms of exclusion. Using the methods of discourse analysis applied to a corpus of data from twenty focus groups conducted around Australia., this paper explores the ways in which civic and ethno nationalism are elided in everyday discourses about migrants. Suspicion of ‘cultural difference’ has given way to talk of the need for migrants to ‘follow the law’. This serves rhetorically to reinforce the perception that migrants (but not all migrants, only those that overlap with the categories ‘Muslim’ or ‘asylum seeker’, and occasionally African), are insisting on breaking the law and/or changing it and are therefore culturally incompatible with a modern liberal democracy. Since ethno nationalism, like racism, is out of favour normatively, ethno nationalist arguments are now concealed beneath the acceptable language of civic nationalism. However this functions in the same manner as racism, to exclude whole categories of people, making integration processes difficult. Interestingly, evidence is also provided that it is at the level of civic nationalism that some of the most visibly different migrants in Australia feel included.

**Farida Fozdar** (aka Tilbury) completed her PhD at Victoria University of Wellington and took up a position in Sociology and Community Development at Murdoch University in 2003. In 2011 she received an ARC Future Fellowship which she took up at UWA. Farida uses qualitative and quantitative methods to understand the ways in which racial, ethnic, national and religious identities are constructed, issues around refugee and migrant settlement, and questions of cultural diversity. She has a particular interest in discourse analysis. Farida undertakes social research consultancies including evaluating programs to assist migrants and refugees with re-settlement.

-----  
***Why are visibly different and/or non-English speaking first generation Australians not using the public libraries?***

**Nadine Gibbons, PhD candidate, Media Culture and Communications, Humanities Faculty, Curtin University**

The services provided by most Australian public libraries for their potential clients often go unused by first generation immigrants - they are known as non-users, a public library's great untapped resource, and one barely touched by the implementation of multicultural services and non-discriminatory employment. One of the main reasons is the demographic of the Australian public library staff. Only 12.6% identified themselves as coming from a culturally or linguistically diverse (CALD) background, and 0.7% indicated they were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI).<sup>1</sup>

This paper will look at four arrivals to Australia: a Sudanese family who lived in a Kenyan refugee camp for over five years; a Macedonian woman who travelled to Australia to join her husband; an Iraqi family from an academic background; and a Vietnamese woman who is studying at a Western Australian university. All four cases are easily identifiable as 'new Australians' by their language skills, and often their dress. Their understanding and experiences of public libraries in their homeland will be compared with their experiences in Western Australia. How did each individual discover their public library, and has the use of the public library enabled them to become an integrated member of the Australian multicultural society?

<sup>1</sup>Hallam, Gillian, 2008, *Nexus: An investigation into the library and information services workforce in Australia - Final Report*. (unpublished)

**Nadine Gibbons** is a librarian and a doctoral candidate at Curtin University. Her thesis involves surveying Australian public libraries with Muslim clients to ascertain how those libraries' policies and services may have been affected by the events of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and the subsequent 'visibility' and media attention placed on Australian Muslims.

-----  
***From migrations of austerity to migrations of prosperity: Serial migration, visibility and identity among late twentieth century British migrants***

**Dr A. James Hammerton, Emeritus Scholar, History Program, La Trobe University**

This paper draws on life stories from an oral history study of the 'modern British diaspora'<sup>1</sup> to scrutinize changing expressions of migrant visibility and identity in and between developed countries over the last two generations. In an era of discretionary migration, less driven by desperate push factors like austerity and matching pull factors of post-colonial societies, fresh motivations have come into play. These include desires for serial expatriate employment, global adventure, radical 'lifestyle' quests, love interests and, among self-styled 'citizens of the world', a realization of cosmopolitan identities. Since the 1960s these have had an increasing impact on the ways migrants relate both to new countries and countries of origin. This applies especially to serial migrants, whose 'world citizen' identities and transnational networks diminish the importance of single national identities and loyalties. For some, well educated, worldly wise and adaptable, the meaning of 'visible difference' can be elastic and of diminishing importance, so that old stereotypes of persecuted 'whingeing Poms', pining for home have decreasing relevance. Moreover, in highly mobile immigrant societies the 'friction' of adaptation assumes different meanings and belonging sought among groups of like interests and lifestyles rather than national or ethnic origin. The paper reinforces research underlining the diversity and fluidity of migrant identity and visibility.

<sup>1</sup> Tentative title, *The Nomads of Modern Britain*, forthcoming c. 2015

**Jim Hammerton** is Emeritus Scholar at La Trobe University. His publications encompass gender, family and migration in British, Empire and Australian history. They include *Emigrant Gentlewomen, 1830-1914* (1979), *Cruelty and Companionship* (1993), and, with Alistair Thomson, *Ten Pound Poms: Australia's Invisible Migrants* (2005). He is completing an oral history of late 20th century British emigration, *The Nomads of Modern Britain*.

-----  
***Belonging and the uses of difference: Young people managing diversity in Australia***  
**Associate Professor Anita Harris, Australian Research Council Future Fellow, School of Political and Social Inquiry, Monash University**

In this paper I look at how young people of migrant background in Australia make meaning of cultural, ethnic and racial difference in their efforts to work out belonging. Growing up through conditions of super-diversity (Vertovec, 2007), multiplicity and mobility as well as risk and individualisation demand that young people forge new, adaptable strategies for self-identity, social connection and citizenship that in turn re-figure difference. Here I ask, what functions does difference have for a generation growing up within conditions of super-diversity that on the one hand demand more complex analyses of cultural identities and the flexible operationalisation of difference, and on the other have seen a retreat from multiculturalism and an insistence on the fixedness of ethnic and cultural categories and the incommensurability of some forms of otherness? I explore the complexities and contradictions in how difference is produced, deployed and re-invented by young people to negotiate belonging in contemporary civic life, the national imaginary and youth culture.

**Anita Harris** (ARC Future Fellow, Associate Professor of Sociology, Monash University) researches youth identities, cultures and citizenship. Her current projects are 'Young People & Social Inclusion in the Multicultural City' and 'The Civic Life of Young Australian Muslims'. Her books include *Young People & Everyday Multiculturalism*; *Future Girl*; *Next Wave Cultures* (ed.); *All About the Girl* (ed.).

-----  
***Making the invisible visible: Contemporary British emigration – issues in politics, policy and research***

**Dr Majella Kilkey, Reader in Social Policy, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, & Dr Neil Lunt, Reader in Social Policy and Public Management, University of York**

In contrast to the rich scholarship on historical waves of British emigration, contemporary British emigration is characterised, albeit to varying degrees, by a relative invisibility in British politics, policy and research, within which Britain is viewed predominantly in migrant-receiving terms. In this paper, we discuss some of the key themes to have emerged from a 2013-14 seminar series - Migration and Economic Crisis: Responses of Brits at home and abroad – which was motivated by our desire to address such invisibility for both political and analytical reasons. Politically, an agenda of making visible emigration is important in advanced industrialised countries in order to recalibrate the 'immigration debate', which is almost universally negative. Analytically, it is important because it contributes to illuminating groups and types of mobility which are rarely the focus of immigration research. We articulate the themes of the seminar series, which involved academics and policy stakeholders, through an examination of trends in the scale of emigration of British citizens over time, of the main countries of destination, of the motives for emigration and of the profile of those who leave. In doing so, we argue for the importance of a focus on the where, the when, the why and the who for understandings of the (in)visibility of Brits abroad.

**Dr Majella Kilkey** is Reader in Social Policy, University of Sheffield, UK. **Dr Neil Lunt** is Reader in Social Policy and Public Management, University of York, UK. Together they co-ordinate the White Rose Research Consortium Funded Seminar Series - Migration and Economic Crisis: Responses of Brits at home and abroad - <http://british-migration-research.group.shef.ac.uk/>

***Parallel lives of the 2nd generation migrant: The visible-invisible interchange***  
**Ursula Ladzinski, PhD candidate, Curtin University**

A popular view in Australia is that the children of migrants lead hybrid lives. That is, they grow up living a “mixture” of their parental ethnic culture and language and the Australian culture and language. Based on my research on the Second Generation Displaced Persons post World War Two who grew up in the so-called age of assimilation, I argue that this was not the case. Instead, this generation lead parallel lives in which they interchanged between their ethnic (family) life and their public (Australian) life. These lives were mutually exclusive. The reality was that while the 2nd generation lived one life, they became invisible in the other and vice versa.

As one interviewee stated:

“Monday I would go to school and I would become Stella [the name her teacher gave her on the first day of school]....and Friday afternoon I would become Adrianna again because I had nothing to do with the Australian community.”

Ultimately, however, does it become a choice, not of which culture to choose, but of deciding how and what aspects of the ethnic culture fit most comfortably into the dominant Australian culture?

**Ursula Ladzinski** is a PhD candidate at Curtin University, Western Australia. Her primary research interest is on the process and ongoing effects of migration. In her PhD research she is exploring the experiences of the second generation Displaced Persons who emigrated from Europe post-World War Two, and the long-term effects of these experiences on the 2nd generation and potentially beyond.

-----  
***Invisible irregularities: The case of Korean migrants in Western Australia***  
**Dr Silvia Lozeva, Researcher, Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute**

Transitioning between regular and irregular migration is defined by a very thin line (Migrants' Rights Network 2009; Observatory 2011), often crossed by migrant groups, which are attracted to Australia by the need to fill in labour gap, in an ever-increasing context of temporality (Robertson 2014). As such, skilled migration appears “fractioned” and creates a group of migrant workers ‘hidden’ and difficult to study.

I have chosen Korean migrant workers specifically because of the increase of Korean migrants in WA (DIAC 2012) and because they are predominantly employed on a temporary basis. The latter allows for an analysis, based on the temporality of migrant workers, transgressing the borders between legal and illegal and regular and irregular.

References:

DIAC (2012). *The Republic of (South) Korea-born. Community Information Summary*. Canberra, Community Relations Section of DIAC.

Migrants' Rights Network (2009). *Irregular Migrants: the urgent need for a new approach*. London, Migrants' Rights Network.

Observatory, T. M. (2011). *Irregular Migration in the UK: Definitions, Pathways and Scale*. Oxford, University of Oxford.

Robertson, S. (2014). "Time and Temporary Migration: The Case of Temporary Graduate Workers and Working Holiday Makers in Australia." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*: 1-19.

**Dr Silvia Lozeva** is a PhD graduate at Curtin University with research interests in social sustainability, international migration and transglobal activism. Other research interests include radio-producing, graphic novels and subtitle making. Contact details: [silvia.lozeva@curtin.edu.au](mailto:silvia.lozeva@curtin.edu.au) or <http://silviaozeva.com>.

## ***Chinese migration and the changing negotiation of 'indigenous' difference in northern Australia's Gulf Country***

**Dr Richard Martin & Professor David Trigger, School of Social Science, The University of Queensland**

Chinese men arrived in the Gulf Country during the latter decades of the 19th and into the first decades of the 20th centuries. Establishing relationships with Aboriginal women particularly, they quickly became market gardeners and associated providers of services to towns and pastoral stations. Chinese men then married women of Chinese/Aboriginal descent over several generations leading to socially discrete segments within a multi-ethnic population. While analysis of the region's social history and contemporary culture can stress a vernacular distinction between 'Blackfellas' (i.e., Aboriginal people) and 'Whitefellas' (i.e., non-Aboriginal people), with an additional category of 'Yellafellas' sometimes proposed, ethnographic research produces a more complex account of publicly articulated and privately conceived identities. Drawing on archival research as well as ethnography conducted across the Gulf country since the late 1970s (by David Trigger) and the mid-2000s (by Richard Martin), we focus on the diversity of residents' understanding of their ancestries and the implications for regional ideas about belonging and indigeneity.

**David Trigger** is Professor of Anthropology at The University of Queensland and past Head of the School of Social Science. His research interests encompass the significance of ancestry for the reproduction of social and cultural identities as well as the different meanings attributed to land and nature across diverse sectors of society. He has worked in Australian Indigenous studies over several decades.

-----

## ***Unwelcome heroes? A unique case of Nepalese Gurkha migration to Britain***

**Mitra Pariyar, PhD candidate, Department of Sociology, Macquarie University**

My ethnographic research on the recent settlement of Nepalese Gurkhas in England found that there is often a stark difference between the national narratives of migration and local experiences of migrants – partly down to local circumstances, and to the newcomers' 'visibility' in a smallish English town. In the fall of 2009, when British actress Joanna Lumley campaigned for Gurkha settlement rights, the popular British press, including right-wing papers like Daily Mail, vigorously campaigned for Gurkhas. Despite their service to Britain with great courage and unfailing loyalty, Gurkhas had to retire back in Nepal and survive on tiny pensions. There was not so much hostility in the town Aldershot until many elderly veterans and spouses arrived. Most of them came straight from remote mountain villages of Nepal with no experience of life in England. Bored, they spent a lot of their time outdoors, which gave the locals a sense of Gurkhas overtaking their town, so much so that a local MP wrote a letter to the Prime Minister seeking a policy to disperse Gurkhas from his town. I show here that the trouble was down to the false impressions created by local visibility.

**Mitra Pariyar:** PhD student, Macquarie University (Sociology); MPhil, Oxford University (Anthropology). Completed ethnographic research on Gurkhas in Britain: migration and settlement, inter- and intragroup difference. Papers presented: AAS (2013), Oxford & The Open Universities (2012). Three book chapters accepted for publication; one edited by Oxford anthropologist David Gellner.

-----

## ***Aanpassen or invisibility: Being Dutch in postwar Australia***

**Dr Nonja Peters, Director of History of Migration Experiences (HOME) Centre, Curtin University**

This paper is about Dutch resettlement patterns. In particular the effort Dutch migrants from the Netherlands and Netherlands East Indies (present day Indonesia) put into 'fitting into' the Australian public domain of school and work. These behaviours had them heralded the most 'assimilated' and therefore 'model migrants'. The paper demonstrates how local, national and global influences (including emigration and immigration recruitment policies, socialisation practices, customs and beliefs) and social, cultural, economic policies of the day determined the social and cultural connection that post-war Dutch migrants established with Australia and Australians. The period it covers, from 1947 to 1970, is when approximately 160,000 Dutch nationals made Australia home. Interpretation indicates that the perceptions of identity and belonging in the host environment

---

Funded by the UWA Research Collaboration Award held by Loretta Baldassar, Farida Fozdar and Meng Ji 'Sustaining Families and Communities in Transnational Settings' in collaboration with the UWA Mobilities and Belonging Network [www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB](http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/MoB)

that underpinned these behaviours in study participants are tied to their particular experience of migration, including age at arrival, ethnicity, gender, level of education, social class and immigration policy. Dutch migration history is relevant to over 330,000 Australians who currently claim Dutch heritage.

**Nonja Peters** is Director of the History of Migration Experiences (HOME) Research Unit at Curtin University. She is an anthropologist, historian and museum curator. Her interests are migration, resettlement, the digital preservation of immigrants' cultural heritage and Dutch maritime, military, migration and mercantile connections with Australia since 1606.

-----

***'Being temporary': Migrant status as a marker of difference in Australia***

**Dr Shanthi Robertson, Research Fellow, Institute for Culture and Society, University of Western Sydney**

Australian immigration regimes have shifted from a paradigm of permanent settlement and full citizenship to one in which migrants can experience a range of temporary statuses. Over 1 million temporary migrants live and work in Australia, comprising 10% of the workforce. Yet their specific experiences and vulnerabilities remain 'hidden' within dominant political and social discourses that still view immigration in Australia largely through a lens of permanent settlement. This paper argues that temporary status, while often operating as an internal or invisible marker of difference, works in concert with more visible markers of difference like race, gender and ethnicity to construct the social and spatial relations of temporary migrants in Australia in specific ways. Drawing on extensive qualitative data on the experiences of temporary migrants in Melbourne and Sydney, the paper seeks to examine how temporary status is complexly entangled with particular sites of production and consumption, with everyday relations between different social groups, and particularly how it is entangled with racialized and gendered hierarchies of labour. The paper goes beyond the 'ethnic lens' that dominates much of the research on migration to understand how status intersects with other 'lines of difference' (Clarke 2005) within an emerging national migration paradigm.

**Dr Shanthi Robertson** is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Culture and Society at UWS. Her research interests include transnational migration, particularly temporary migration in the Asia-Pacific. She has published in international journals in ethnic studies, human geography and sociology and her first book was published by Palgrave Macmillan.

-----