

Centre for
the Analysis of
Social Policy (CASP)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the CASP 2021 Spring Newsletter

Dear all,

I do hope you are keeping well in these challenging times.

The uncertainties caused by the pandemic and Brexit have created/are creating a need for revised social policies at local, national and international levels. In this environment, the relevance and demand for CASP's work are as great as they are pressing. Our newsletter captures a range of news, activities and events as well as publications involving CASP members.

We do hope there will be something for all of you to enjoy reading.

Kind regards,
Rachel

Professor Rachel Forrester- Jones

Director of the Centre for the Analysis of Social Policy (CASP)

CASP Blog

Click [here](#) to view all posts on our blog page. More blogs to follow.



Access to justice for mental health patients in a time of COVID-19.

Nick Gould, Emeritus Professor of Social Work and a specialist member of the Mental Health Tribunal discusses access to justice for mental health patients in a time of COVID-19. Nick speaks about his position on the Mental Health Tribunal and the challenges being faced since lockdown began in March 2020.

"As in other areas of the courts and tribunal service, Covid-19 has presented substantial challenges to the conduct of efficient and fair legal proceedings for mental health patients."

Read the full blog post [here](#)



Early lessons on a project advancing social policy in the MENA region during a pandemic

Olivia Perry, Network Manager for [MENSAP](#) (Middle East and North Africa Social Policy), discusses 'Early lessons on a project advancing social policy in the MENA region during a pandemic'.

Early lessons including: the benefits of virtual collaborations; giving space to people; concise communication and adaptive and patient planning.

Read the full blog post [here](#)

CASP Members News

Professor Lynn Prince Cooke, Professor of Social Policy in our Department of Social & Policy Sciences, has been conferred as a [Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences](#) in recognition of the significant contributions and impact her work has had.

The prestigious accolade, made by the Academy following an independent peer-review process, means Professor Cooke now joins a distinguished list of individuals from the academic, public and private sectors and across the full breadth of the social sciences. Through their leadership, scholarship, applied research, policymaking and practice, Fellows of the Academy have helped to deepen the understanding of, and address, some of the toughest challenges facing society and the world.

Congratulations to Jane Millar for her Outstanding Achievement in Social Policy Award

This award recognises the achievement of academics within and outside of the UK who are acknowledged to have made an outstanding and sustained contribution to advancing social policy scholarship – in the form of a sustained contribution to scholarship, understanding and/or learning; a sustained impact on political process or discourse through advisory or consultancy work; and by securing esteem measured in terms of leadership within the discipline.

Kate Precious has joined a six-month research project working with the [Westminster Commission on Autism](#) to improve policy relating to diagnosis services for autism. She is working with colleagues from the [Centre for Applied Autism Research \(CAAR\)](#) at Bath to provide a policy studies perspective and particularly to use my knowledge of other European autism policies and expertise on how autistic people can be involved in policy decisions.

Jeremy Dixon is a co-investigator on a research study that began in February titled Improving the experiences of black African Caribbean men detained under the Mental Health Act: a co-produced intervention using the Silences Framework (ImprovE-ACT) More information can be found [here](#)

Emily Rickard, as part of her PhD, has written a paper (currently under review at PLOS One) examining the pharmaceutical industry's engagement with All-Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs). The research identified transparency issues related to APPGs' approach to reporting payments, as well as very concentrated pharmaceutical industry funding received by a select group of APPGs. In October 2020 the Committee on Standards launched an [inquiry](#) into the rules and regulations of APPGs, requesting written evidence from interested individuals and organisations.

Emily submitted [evidence](#) (published in November 2020) to the inquiry informed by her research. The submission focused on issues of transparency and appropriateness of funding of APPG activities, the role of secretariats (external administrators), and the risk of APPGs being used for access by lobbyists and how any conflicts of interests might be managed.

New International Survey from the European Association of Palliative Care Reference Group Intellectual

Fifteen academics, including **Professor Rachel Forrester-Jones**, have spent the past 6 months developing an international online survey, to find out what is happening around the world, with regards to the palliative & end of life care of people with intellectual disabilities. The results are currently being analysed.

Rachel Forrester-Jones is working with Professor Stuart Todd and other colleagues on a new project:

Last Days of Life in the context of Covid19: patterns of death and dying in registered care homes and supported living settings for adults with learning disabilities funded by the Baily Thomas Charitable Trust.

CASP Policy Lab News

The CASP Policy Lab Project has held a further two events on Healthy Later Living, covering Bristol and South Gloucestershire. These followed up the first Policy Lab in Bath which took place just before lockdown last year. The project aims to build a CASP resource for Policy Labs, a new approach to improving policy through the active involvement of academics presenting research, people who use services, and the policy makers who design and deliver public services. The first set of 3 Labs focused on Healthy Later Living, including the impacts of the pandemic and lockdowns on older people. There is a further Regional Policy Lab on April 28 at 3pm at which we will be reporting on findings and methodological lessons learnt. The team will also be looking to build on the successful partnership which has been created with councils, NHS and the regional body with further events in the future

Dr Theo Papadopoulos contributed the chapter “Southern Europe” (co-authored with Antonios Roumpakis) in Nicholas Ellison and Tina Haux (eds) (2020) Handbook on Society and Social Policy, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

The chapter discusses key aspects of welfare state development in four Southern European countries: Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal. First, it provides a brief historical overview of their political economies post-World War II. Second, it critically reviews three approaches in comparative social policy literature starting with the studies that analyze Southern European welfare regimes as laggards of the conservative-corporatist world of welfare capitalism. Next, it reviews the studies that approach Southern European regimes as a

separate world of welfare capitalism, with similar politico-historical legacies and welfare systems. Lastly, it reviews an emerging approach where Southern Europe is analyzed as part of a distinct 'world' of semi-peripheral familistic welfare capitalism, similar to regimes in South East Asia and Latin America.

The chapter ends with a discussion of the crisis of social reproduction in Southern Europe marked by the severe effects of austerity measures in the aftermath of the sovereign debt crisis. Five current and future challenges to social welfare in the region are also explored: low fertility rates, high levels of poverty, high long term unemployment, high household debt and the dual trend of high skilled emigration and high numbers of refugees and undocumented.

Emma Carmel and Katharina Lenner, along with former Bath colleague, Regine Paul, are delighted that their groundbreaking, 33-chapter volume on the [*Governance and Politics of Migration*](#) is published by Edward Elgar this month, with contributions from a global array of scholars, including Jason Hart and Neil Howard, also in Bath.

Dr Emma Carmel's work on governance, public policy and AI technologies, has been recognised by her membership of the British Standards Institute's Committee on Artificial Intelligence. In this role, she will be contributing to British and International standards on the design, development and application of AI technologies.

MSc in Public Policy

Students on our inter-disciplinary MSc in Public Policy continue to impress with the exceptionally high standard of their work and diligence in difficult circumstances. The second years having completed ambitious projects on digital data and public policy as part of their intensive residential in January, before starting their public policy specialisms and research projects. Our first year students are just now starting to apply principles of economics and economic analysis to public policy examples that include school choice, food

taxes and recycling. We are recruiting for our next cohort of students for this programme, and thinking about further improvements and exciting guest speakers for our forthcoming residentials in May and September.

For any further details, please contact the Director, Dr Emma Carmel: E.K.Carmel@bath.ac.uk

CASP Events

Wednesday 14th April | 13.00–15.00 (UTC)

DECOLONISING CRITIQUE

Reconnecting critical theory
with radical praxis

Ana Cecilia Dinerstein will be giving the Annual Lecture 2021 of the Centre for Urban Research on Austerity (CURA).

Ana teaches sociology and critical, feminist and decolonial theory at the University of Bath (UK). Her research on 'global politics of hope' connects Bloch's philosophy of hope with social and grassroots movements' autonomous praxis. She is author of the book *Politics of Autonomy in Latin America: The Art of organising Hope* (2015) and a member of the core group of the Global Tapestry of Alternatives (GTA).

More information and registration in
bit.ly/3tXYuke



The Centre for Urban Research on Austerity welcomes Ana Cecilia Dinerstein's Annual Lecture on 'global politics of hope'.

Date: Wednesday 14th April

Time: 14:00 - 16:00 BST

Click [here](#) to register for this free event

CASP is joining the Centre for Death and Society in a series of 'In Conversation With' webinar events during Dying Matters Awareness Week in the UK.

The first of these is on **Tuesday 11 May at 2pm**. Professor Rachel Forrester-Jones will be 'In Conversation With' Stuart Todd, Professor in Intellectual Disability research at the University of South Wales. His research has been based on Welsh, UK and European collaborations. His research interests span across the lives and experiences of people with intellectual disabilities and their families, including care at end of life. He has explored family/carers' perspectives on caregiving across the life span. His most recent work focusses on the relationship between death, dying and intellectual disabilities, and delivering health and social care in the context of a pandemic.

A link for registering to this event will be sent out soon.

**The 2021 Social Policy Association Annual Conference - Global challenges – national social policy responses?'
7th-9th July, Online**

The conference invites participants to reflect on local, national and international responses to global challenges such as the Covid-19 pandemic and particularly welcomes contributions which reflect on gendered, ethnic, socioeconomic, and geographical differences.

Submission of papers and symposia

We invite proposals for papers and symposia (three or more papers on a particular theme) which address these issues and challenges, in connection with any area of social policy. Papers may be comparative or focus on particular national contexts. They may be historical or future-facing. They may work within specific areas of policy, or across different domains. They may address interventions, or absences of action. As always with the SPA conference, we welcome the broadest range of focal points and approaches – but these are areas and topics which may resonate especially strongly with the overall conference theme:

- Ageing society/ demographic change / inter-generational issues
- COVID-19 and the ‘pandemic economy’
- Care, social welfare and social reproduction
- Decolonisation
- Environmental challenges and social inequalities
- Global social policy and development
- Housing
- Labour market
- Regional/local/devolved policy in response to global challenges
- Social policy after Brexit

For papers, abstracts should be 200-400 words. Proposals for symposia should consist of a title and 200-word outline of the aims of the symposium as well as details of the organiser, contributors, (including email addresses) and abstracts.

Confirmed Plenary Speakers

- Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS, the First Minister of Wales.
- Professor Shahra Razavi, Director of the Social Protection Department at the International Labour Organization.
- Professor Sue Yeandle, Professor of Sociology at the University of Sheffield.

Submission information and key dates

We are pleased to inform you that we are now accepting abstract and symposium proposals – please [click here](#) to submit. The deadline for abstract submission is 23.59 (UK time) **Wednesday 14th April**.

All abstracts and symposium proposals will be reviewed by members of our Programme Committee. We will aim to inform prospective presenters by **Friday 30th April 2021** (if not sooner).

We have worked to keep registration rates low this year, recognising that many budgets are straitened, and that an online conference is a different offering from our usual annual conferences. The Early Bird registration is available until 7th May 2021.

Please note that all rates require that you have an active SPA membership. If you are already a member please have your membership number with you when you register. If you have misplaced your membership number, login to SPA Online to retrieve it.

If you are not already a member, rates are income-related and it's easy to join or rejoin here. If you have any queries about registration rates, please email conference2021@social-policy.org.uk

CASP Member's Recent Publications



(image credit: AdobeStock)

Social work guidance to protect adults living with dementia from abuse

New guidance, bringing together research undertaken by Dr Jeremy Dixon at the University of Bath, alongside people living with dementia, their family carers and professionals in the sector aims to improve supported decision-making for adults with dementia.

Dr Jeremy Dixon: “It is now well established that people living with dementia should be central to decisions about their care and treatment. This principle is also true of safeguarding. However, practitioners can often struggle to know what this might look like in practice. This guidance has drawn on the experiences of people living with dementia, carers and professionals and provides practical steps which can be used to better support people living with dementia within safeguarding work.” [Further information](#)

Access the full report here ['Supporting people living with dementia through safeguarding processes'](#)



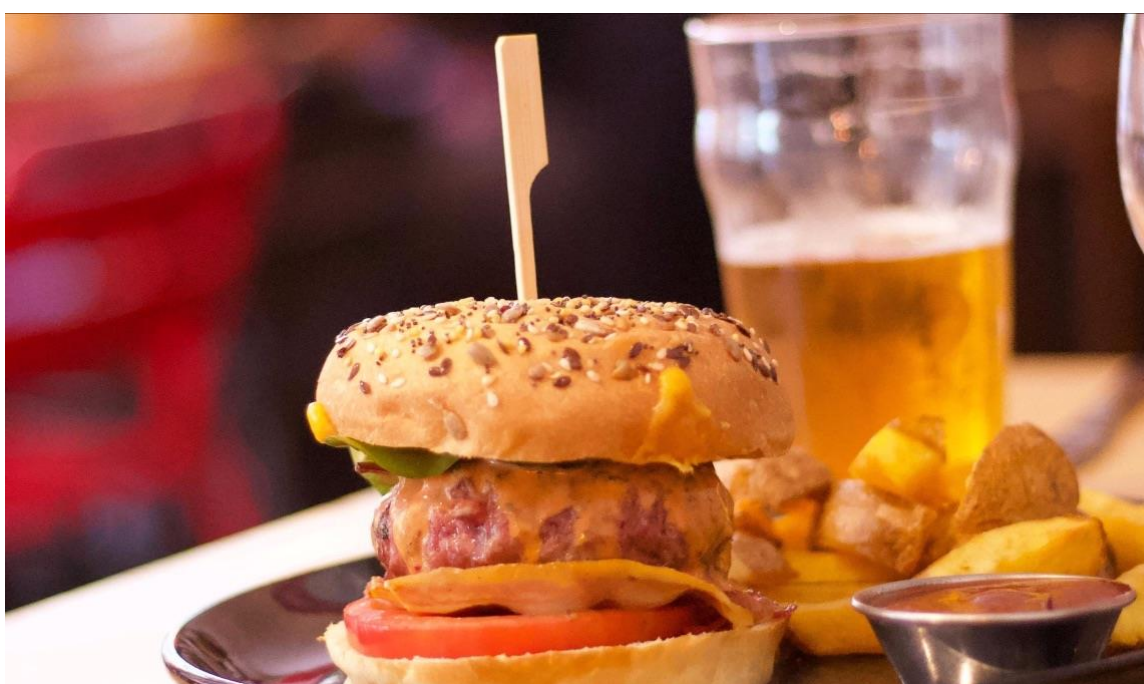
The Systematic development of a mobile phone delivered Brief Intervention for hazardous drinking in India.

Professor Richard Velleman co-authored an article about the development of a brief intervention to reduce hazardous drinking in India, delivered by simple mobile-phone text technology.

Alcohol problems are large and growing across India, yet there are few helping services, mostly in major conurbations. In India, as in many low/middle income countries, there has been a technological leap with a 'mobile-first'–based approach to communications: people are more likely to have access to a mobile phone than to clean water or a source of electricity. This increasing market penetration of low-cost mobile devices provided us with an opportunity to develop a culturally relevant brief intervention (BI) to help reduce hazardous

drinking in India, to be delivered via a mobile phone and thus massively increase access. This paper describes the processes and outputs of an MRC-funded study, where we systematically developed such a mobile phone-delivered contextually relevant BI.

Read the full article [here](#)



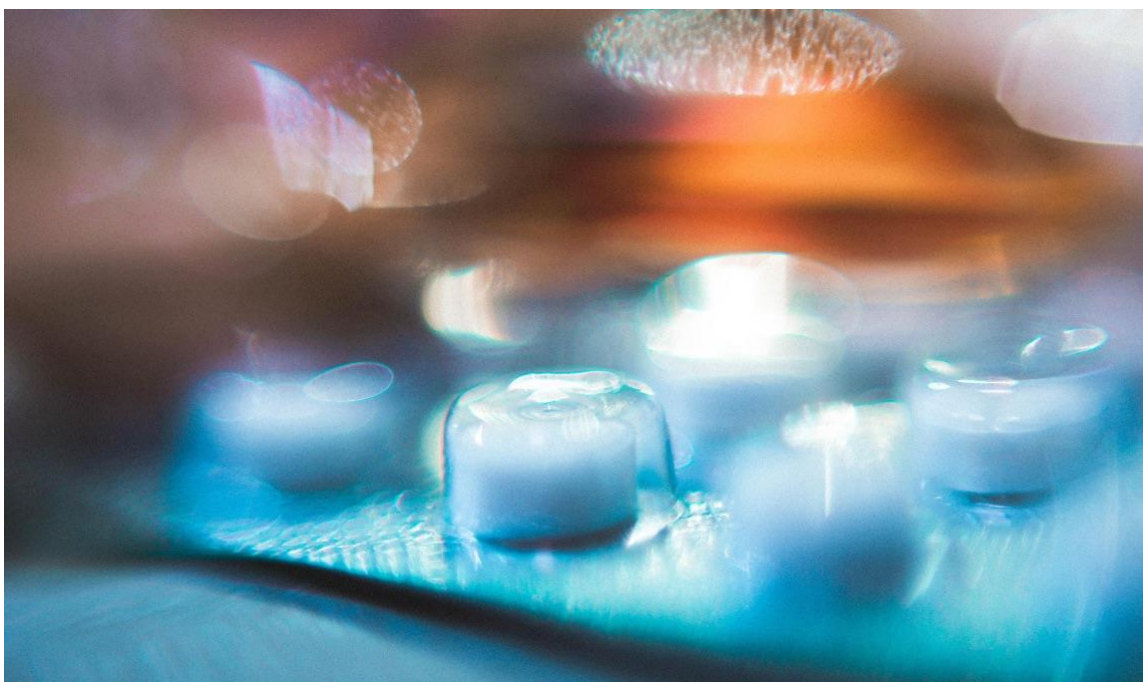
Changing behaviour: an essential component of tackling health inequalities

Professor Harry Rutter co-authored this BMJ article which argues that behavioural and social causes of poor health must be tackled in parallel to reduce inequalities.

"Preventing ill health requires a focus on the behaviours that follow the social gradient and contribute most to chronic disease, including smoking and unhealthy diets. How effective have the policies over the past decade been and

how can we do better?"

Read the full article [here](#)



Following the money: cross-national study of pharmaceutical industry payments to medical associations and patient organisations

Dr Piotr Ozieranski has news of a successful grant application shared with colleagues in Lund from the most prestigious funder of social science research in Sweden. This will allow him to expand his work on the pharmaceutical industry and health care sector. Summary:

This project will seek to map power relations between three key actors in the healthcare system - the pharmaceutical industry, medical associations and patient organisations. It will use publicly available data, including on drug company payments to these actors, as well as interviews with key informants. It

will focus on Europe but we will also try bring in examples from other parts of the world including Japan and developing countries.

Read the full abstract [here](#)



The experiences of older carers of people with learning disabilities: 'I just carry on with it'

This study by **Professor Rachel Forrester-Jones** aims to explore the experiences of older carers of people with learning disabilities (LD). Because people with LD are living longer, their family carers are likely to continue their caring role for longer.

'Previous studies have not focussed on the specific experiences of “older” carers and their situation risks going unnoticed. Their experiences should be acknowledged by services and society and meaningful support provided.'

Read the full article [here](#)

Other publications:

Forrester-Jones (2021) Older carers of people with learning disabilities: their experiences with local authority assessment processes and personnel (in press 2021) *Tizard Learning Disability Review*

Malli and **Forrester-Jones** (2021) The experience of stigma among adults with Tourette's syndrome: Executive

Summary <https://researchportal.bath.ac.uk/en/publications/the-experience-of-stigma-among-adults-with-tourettes-syndrome-exe>

Bates, C., McCarthy, M., Skillman, K. M., Elson, N., Hunt, S., & **Forrester-Jones, R.** (2021). 'She misses the subtleties and I have to help—help to make the invisible visible': parents' role in supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities with intimate relationships. *International Journal of Care and Caring*. <https://doi.org/10.1332/239788220X16081401542782>

Harrison, R., Bradshaw, J., **Forrester-Jones, R.**, & McCarthy, M. (2021). Social networks and people with intellectual disabilities: a systematic review. *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jar.12878>

Nadkarni, A., Costa, S., Fernandes, D., Gupta, D., Catalano, A., **Velleman, R.**, Sambari, S., Pednekar, S., Hussain, F., D'Souza, E., Houde, A., Chaudhuri, N. and Heath, A. (2021) The Systematic development of a mobile phone delivered Brief Intervention for hazardous drinking in India. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 126, 108331. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108331

Koorts, H., **Rutter, H.** A systems approach to scale-up for population health improvement. *Health Res Policy Sys* **19**, 27 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-021-00679-0>

Knai, C., Petticrew, M., Capewell, S., Cassidy, R., Collin, J., Cummins, S., Eastmure, E., Fafard, P., Fitzgerald, N., Gilmore, A. B., Hawkins, B., Jensen, J. D. A., Katikireddi, S. V., Maani, N., Mays, N., Mwatsama, M., Nakkash, R., Orford, J. F., **Rutter, H.**, ... Weishaar, H. (2021). The case for developing a cohesive systems approach to research across unhealthy commodity industries. *BMJ Global Health*, 6(2), [e0003543]. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2020-003543>

Law, C., Cornelsen, L., Adams, J., Penney, T., **Rutter, H.**, White, M., & Smith, R. (2020). An analysis of the stock market reaction to the announcements of the UK Soft Drinks Industry Levy. *Economics & Human Biology*, 38, 100834. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2019.100834>

Pell, D., Penney, T. L., Mytton, O., Briggs, A., Cummins, S., Rayner, M., **Rutter, H.**, Scarborough, P., Sharp, S. J., Smith, R. D., White, M., & Adams, J. (2020). Anticipatory changes in British household purchases of soft drinks associated with the announcement of the Soft Drinks Industry Levy: A controlled interrupted time series analysis. *PLoS Medicine*, 17(11) <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003269>



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