



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:

<http://dspace.flinders.edu.au/dspace/>

This is the authors' version of an article published in *Modern Greek Studies (Australia and New Zealand)*.

Please cite this article as:

Tsianikas, M., Hurley, C., Skaltsas, M., Newman, L. and Walker, R., 2011. The social support and service needs of Australia's ageing Greek migrants: a literature review. *Modern Greek Studies Australia & New Zealand*, 15: 274-286.

© 2011 Tsianikas et al. Copyright in each contribution to this journal belongs to its author.

Please note that any alterations made during the publishing process may not appear in this version.

THE SOCIAL SUPPORT & SERVICE NEEDS OF AUSTRALIA'S AGEING GREEK MIGRANTS: A LITERATURE REVIEW

Authors: Michael Tsianikas ¹, Catherine Hurley ², Mary Skaltsas ¹, Lareen Newman ³, Ruth Walker ²

Affiliations:

1. Modern Greek Section, Department of Language Studies, Flinders University
2. South Australian Community Health Research Unit, Flinders University
3. Southgate Institute for Health Society & Equity, Flinders University

Details for correspondence:

Professor Michael Tsianikas, Modern Greek Section, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide SA 5001. Phone: +61 8 8201 3850; Email: michael.tsianikas@flinders.edu.au

This is an author pre-print version of paper published in *Modern Greek Studies Australia & New Zealand* in 2011: Michael Tsianikas, Catherine Hurley, Mary Skaltsas, Lareen Newman, Ruth Walker (2011) 'The social support and service needs of Australia's ageing Greek migrants: a literature review', *Modern Greek Studies Australia & New Zealand*, 15: 274-286.

ABSTRACT

This paper presents the results of a literature review undertaken to shape an emerging social research program on the service and support needs of Australia's ageing Greek migrants. In late 2009 a narrative review was conducted of published and 'grey' literature to determine the scope of articles, with an emphasis on services and supports which help older people remain independent in the community. The search returned an extensive amount of international literature on ageing populations, but only a very small number of publications on the service use and needs of Australia's older Greek population. Barriers to service use included low proficiency in English, lack of Greek-speaking service providers, low awareness of services available, and various cultural issues. The review also identified a lack of research carried out in the Greek language by researchers with a Greek background, which suggests that the views of older Greek migrants may be missing from much social research. We conclude that a sustained and culturally appropriate research effort conducted in the first language is needed and is essential if community-based services are to become more appropriate and accessible for the older members of Australia's Greek communities.

Keywords: Review, services, Greek, ageing, migrants, Australia

INTRODUCTION

This paper presents the results of a literature review undertaken to shape an emerging research program to explore the role of culture and migration on positive and healthy ageing for the older Greek-speaking communities of South Australia and the Northern Territory, in particular to determine the accessibility and appropriateness of services. The review aimed to identify what research had previously been conducted on the appropriateness of services, and the support needs from the point of view of older Greek people themselves. This group predominantly migrated to Australia between the 1940s and 1960s, and constitute a significant proportion of Australia's current ageing population. At the last national census Australia had 49,530 residents aged over 65 born in Greece and 5,350 born in Cyprus (Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2006).

It has been suggested that, to continue to live independently in their homes, older Greek-speakers rely heavily on informal supports, such as family, friends and community (ABS 2002). Anecdotal evidence provided spontaneously to the research team in 2008 by members of Adelaide's Greek communities, Greek organisations and Greek-speaking Members of Parliament, suggested that South Australia's ageing Greek migrants were regularly seeking help from a range of informal services which may not be available on a sustainable basis, including family, Greek-speaking doctors (GPs) and local Greek speaking Members of Parliament. While successive State and Federal governments in Australia have sought to address the needs of ageing citizens from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD) through a combination of ethno-specific and

mainstream services (Radermacher, Feldman & Browning 2009), it is unclear whether the needs of such communities are in fact being met (Luszcz et al 2007). Some suggest there is minimal information on and evaluation of the outcomes for ageing migrants of either mainstream or ethno-specific services (Radermacher, Feldman & Browning 2009). This issue will become more pressing as the cohort continues to age and make up a significant segment of Australia's ageing population. The cultural appropriateness of services for ageing CALD migrants is also a significant issue requiring attention (Johnstone & Kanitsaki 2008). It is important because there is a significant public and policy focus on the ageing of Australia's 'baby boomer' generation, while little consideration has been given to the other 'major social phenomenon of our time: the ageing of the post-war migrant generation' (Migliorino 2010).

REVIEWING THE LITERATURE

The literature review was undertaken between October and December 2009 as a rapid review (see Ganann, Ciliska & Thomas 2010 for discussion of rapid versus systematic reviews). It was conducted by a first generation Greek-Australian research assistant fluent in Greek and English, and who reviewed literature in both languages. A range of sources were used to locate published academic articles and unpublished ('grey') literature (eg government and agency reports, conference proceedings). Advice was also sought on other relevant literature by contacting organisations which support ageing Greek communities in Australia. A range of online databases were searched including Informit, Web of Knowledge, and Google Scholar, with keyword search terms including 'Greek', 'Greek Australian',

'immigrants', 'access', 'services', 'needs', 'aged', 'ageing', 'Australian migrants', 'ethnic', 'research'. Initially the search was confined to Australian studies, but the very small numbers of articles identified meant that an iterative approach was then used to widen the search criteria to include items from outside Australia and items about the needs of ageing CALD communities in general. Three hundred and thirty items were located, of which 38 met all the criteria and were included in the final review.

THE LITERATURE FOR AUSTRALIA

Although the search returned an extensive amount of international literature, and with some references to the ageing Greek diaspora, only a few items related to support services and the Greek aged population in Australia. Only one item was found specifically on the research topic: a book reporting a study of Greek elders in Victoria, published by Fronditha Care (Tsingas 1988). The book provides a demographic analysis of Melbourne's 'Greek elder population' and explores access to social support and community services and issues of health, retirement, leisure and loneliness. In Australia's top ageing journal (*Australasian Journal on Ageing*) we only located five articles over the last 23 years with a focus on CALD older people and community based services, in which people with a Greek background were mentioned in passing. We could not locate any article exclusively on older Greeks in this or any other Australian journal. This finding is supported by the conclusions of an earlier literature review which also found a wide range of research on ageing but 'a paucity of research conducted on the aged in terms of cultural and social diversity' (Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet 1995: 2).

ISSUES AFFECTING SUPPORT & SERVICE USE

Concern about the needs of ageing CALD migrants has been discussed in the formal literature and by governments since the early 1980s (eg Department of Health & Family Services 1998; Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet 1995; Hugo 1984; Hugo & Wood 1984). The small number of articles and reports found in our review identified a range of issues for CALD communities (including older Greek speakers) that affect their willingness and ability to access services that can assist with ageing positively, particularly in their own homes. These issues include: language and communication, lack of access to information about services, cultural beliefs on appropriate aged care, and social isolation. Each of these is explored below.

Language and communication

Many migrants in Australia from non-English speaking backgrounds, including Greek speakers, maintain use of their first language at home (Hugo et al 2009). At the 2006 Census 23 per cent of older South Australians who were born in a non-English speaking country said they could not speak English well or could not speak it at all; and for those aged 75+ the proportion was 30 per cent (Hugo et al 2009). Of the Greece-born residents aged 65+ in South Australia, 47 per cent speak Greek at home, while 70 per cent of those aged 80+ have little or no spoken English (Government of South Australia 2009). These generations are characterised by low levels of English literacy because many were employed in

manual jobs after arriving in Australia and had no access to English language classes (Thomas 2003). Hugo et al (2009: 71) also note that a lack of English language skills can be 'an important barrier to accessing services and interacting socially'. Further, Orb (2002) and Messimeri-Kianidis (2007) point out that as CALD migrants age, many revert to their language of origin in preference to any English they may have learned, and this is particularly so if they have limited education or are affected by cognitive decline.

Availability of services and assistance in the first language is identified by a number of writers as the most significant factor influencing service access by ageing CALD populations (eg Hugo 1983). Mykyta (1998) suggests that non-English speakers are likely to respond positively to the provision of bilingual staff when they first make contact with a service and in subsequent service use. A small survey several decades ago in South Australia's Riverland district also found a greater likelihood of service attendance if services were provided by people with a Greek background and Greek language skills (Hugo & Menzies 1980; Radford & Salonikilas 1980). Indeed, there was a reluctance among older Greeks to interact at all with non-Greek service providers, even to the extent of travelling four hours to the main city of Adelaide to obtain the services of a Greek doctor (Radford & Salonikilas 1980:11).

This study also found that Isolation and separateness of the older Greeks from mainstream community life was even greater than that of the Greek community as a whole. In the context of a significant ageing CALD cohort in Australia, providing language-appropriate information and services is therefore likely to be an important

facilitator of access. Mansoor (2007) suggests that a workforce program to attract and train bilingual staff in aged care will be needed, while Messimeri-Kianidis (2007) observes that this need is arising at a time when trained interpreters are retiring and replacements are not entering the profession. Two recent literature reviews on the health care needs of elderly CALD migrants and the delivery of community aged care services conclude with recommendations to provide interpreting services, increase the number of accredited interpreters and bilingual staff in mainstream organisations, and encourage services to participate in cross-cultural awareness training (Orb 2002; Radermacher, Feldman & Browning 2008).

Information about services

Many services report under-utilization by ethnic communities both in Australia and overseas (Luszcz et al 2009; Orb 2002), and a barrier with a strong relationship to language is lack of accessible information about what services are available. A personal lack of knowledge on a specific issue, such as health, may mean that an older person or carer does not know what assistance to seek in the first place (Morse & Messimeri-Kianidis 2002). It is not clear whether this is simply because communities are unaware that services exist and cannot obtain information about them in their first language, or because they perceive the services to be culturally inappropriate or generally not useful. However, language barriers and related cultural barriers have been found to disadvantage the aged in obtaining information, for example about pension rights (Orb 2002). Furthermore, recent research with older Greek and Italian migrants in South Australia shows that they rarely use the Internet or mobile text alerts to access online information about

services, despite these becoming an increased focus of service providers (Goodall, Ward & Newman 2010).

Cultural beliefs

Cultural beliefs are also an important issue relating to the types of services that older Greek migrants will access. Referring to the ethnic aged in general, Gelfand (2003) explains that tradition and psychosocial attitudes may discourage older people from obtaining the help they need due to negative feelings which their generation associates with accepting charity, even though they are aware of their needs and understand how to access services. Emke-Poulopoulou's (1999) European study of preferences for living in nursing homes, for example, found that Greek elders have one of the lowest preference rates in Europe (ie 0%). The study also found that, of all European Union countries, Greece has the lowest percentage of elders living in nursing homes (1.8%) compared to Holland (9.1%), while many Greek elders live with their children (35%), which is less than in Spain (48%) but far more than in Denmark (7%). A study of housing attitudes among those aged 55+ in South Australia, including some participants from CALD backgrounds, also found a general preference for retaining the family home, with an important influence being convenience to shops, buses, friends and local services (Faulkner, Tually & Baker 2007).

Cultural expectations also heavily influence who provides care and support to Greek elders. A study of caregiving within Australian-Greek families in Victoria found that 'it was their responsibility or duty as a husband, wife, mother, father,

sister, brother or in-law to provide care to their ill or disabled family member' (Morse & Messimeri-Kianidis 2002:308). However, this study also showed that while such beliefs can lead to families dutifully caring for aged and disabled members, the family-based caregiver is likely to be left alone to manage the burdens. Aged Greek speakers are found to often rely on their spouse or family members, especially daughters, to access services (Morse & Messimeri-Kianidis 2002; McCallum & Gelfand 1990), yet with more women remaining in the workforce for longer this is becoming a problem for the aged and creating conflict in the carer's family (Morse & Messimeri-Kianidis 2002).

Social Isolation

Related to language and culture differences from the mainstream aged population, older people from CALD backgrounds may be more at risk of social isolation if the attitudes and values of their Australian-born children are significantly different to their own. One Australian study found that many Greece-born elders felt isolated and regretted having left their country of birth, especially if they did not enjoy strong relationships with their adult children (Buckland-Fuller 1988). By contrast, in Greece the same author found that elderly people had constant contact with others in their small villages (Buckland-Fuller 1985). Henkin, Santiago and Sonkowsky (1997) found that, among ageing CALD groups, feelings of social isolation were exacerbated by language differences and feelings of helplessness, increased by a lack of bilingual staff to assist in banking, shopping, accessing health and social services, and public transport

Research issues

The literature review unexpectedly revealed two research-related issues. Firstly, that there is a need for more research to identify the needs of culture-specific ageing groups. Secondly, that research methods need to be culturally appropriate and allow for the representation of views of older people from these groups, in particular by conducting research in their first language. Meyers (1980) pointed out several decades ago that policymakers and program administrators may often differ with people of ethnic communities on what are the desired and perceived needs of those communities. Sax (1993) recommended that special efforts are needed to ensure that appropriate provision is made within mainstream services and that each CALD group requires separate assessment, while the lack of research into the needs and support systems for older Australians from CALD backgrounds was also identified more recently by Rao, Warburton and Bartlett (2006). Sax (1993) also recommends consultation *with* the relevant ethnic community when planning facilities or services and, where possible, that ethnic community members be employed as members of staff. Scarfo (2009), writing in the United States, argues that diverse social groups can also contribute to develop research programs based on community needs. This is particularly important if services and research are to be seen as relevant to the group, and hence likely to be used by them.

In addition, it is clear from the literature review that the views of older CALD migrants themselves are often excluded from research due to a lack of language appropriate mechanisms to allow their inclusion. For example, research budget

limitations often preclude the employment of bilingual staff to collect and analyse data, or incur expensive transcription and translation of questionnaires and interviews if they are to include in research surveys and interviews those people who are not proficient in written or spoken English (Blignault & Haghshenas 2005; Cheng et al 2009). As discussed earlier, a large proportion of older Greek migrants in Australia have little or no English proficiency so that, on this basis, their views are likely to be excluded from much research. As an example, a recent Western Australia study, on housing intentions among the aged community, distributed surveys in English and replaced four people from follow-up interviews because they did not speak or understand English well (Boldy et al 2009). A number of writers have identified the importance of providing interpreters and first language interviewers to include older CALD citizens in research (eg Bird et al 2009; Grimes 1986; Orb 2002; Radermacher, Feldman & Browning 2009). However, the longer-term employment in research teams of research staff with native language and cultural expertise relevant to the communities of interest could further facilitate the inclusion in research of CALD migrant elders with low English proficiency.

CONCLUSION

Our literature review found some published research in Australia about the use of support services by, and the needs of, older CALD migrants in general. However, it located less literature on ageing migrants from particular cultural communities, and very little on the service and support needs of Australia's older Greek migrants. Growth in the numbers of CALD aged in developed countries which received migrants after World War II is a key issue for policy makers and service providers

to address in the coming ten to twenty years. However, as yet, little sustained research effort appears to have been undertaken to identify and address the needs of individual CALD communities. The issues identified from this literature review, including the role of language, culture and social isolation as barriers to the use of formal services, are already being explored further in a bi-cultural pilot research project which incorporates researchers who are Greek language specialists, alongside social and ageing researchers with an Anglo-background (see Newman et al 2011, this issue). It is intended that this will go some way towards addressing the lack of research information in Australia regarding service accessibility and appropriateness for older Greek migrants by consulting directly with actual and potential service users in their native Greek language and by working with Greek community organisations. Such research is essential if community-based health and social support services are to meet the needs of Australia's growing ageing CALD populations in a way that supports their successful and healthy ageing, and ongoing independence in the community.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to thank the Flinders University Faculty of Education Humanities Law & Theology for providing a seeding grant to fund this literature review. The authors also thank Dr Brodie Beales, Research Coordinator in this Faculty, for her assistance and enthusiasm for the project, and Ms Mary Skaltsas of Flinders University Modern Greek Section for her skilled and ongoing administrative and moral support for this research.

REFERENCES

Australian Bureau of Statistics (2002), 'Population Composition: Older overseas-born Australians', *Australian Social Trends 2002*, Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (2006), 'Census Tables for States & Territories, by Country of Birth of Person by Age by Sex, Place of Usual Residence - Count of Persons, 2006. www.abs.gov.au Accessed 25 November 2009.

Bird S., Radermacher H., Feldman S., Sims J., Kurowski W., Browning, C., et al (2009), ' Factors Influencing the Physical Activity Levels of Older People from Culturally-diverse Communities: an Australian Experience. *Ageing & Society*, 29, pp. 1275-94.

Blignault, I., Haghshenas, L. (2005), 'Identification of Australians from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds in National Health Data Collections', *Australian Health Review*, 29(4), pp. 455-68.

Boldy, D., Grenade, L., Lewin, G., Karol, E. (2009), *Actions, Choices and Preferences of Western Australian Members related to 'Ageing in Place'*. A study commissioned by National Seniors Australia. Centre for Research on Ageing. Perth: School of Architecture, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia.

Buckland-Fuller, D. (1985), 'Women of Non-English Speaking Background in Australian Society: An Overview', *Latin American Women's Association Second Seminar*, 9th March: Sydney.

Buckland-Fuller, D. (1988), 'Ageing in Australia: The Situation of People of Non-English Speaking Background', *Australian Journal on Ageing*, 7(2), pp. 11-14.

Cheng, A., Cruysmans, B., Draper, B., Hayward-Wright, N., Jeon, Y-H., LoGiudice, D., et al (2009), *Strategic Directions in CALD Dementia Research in Australia*. Sydney: Dementia Collaborative Research Centre, University of New South Wales.

Department of Health and Family Services (1998), *Conference for Older Australians: Interim Report*. Commonwealth of Australia: Canberra.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (1995), *A Program for Partnership: Report of the Review of Access and Equity Outcomes for People from non-English Speaking Background in Commonwealth-funded Aged Care Programs*. Canberra: Yamine and Associates Consulting and Centre for Rural Social Research, Charles Sturt University.

Emke-Poulopoulou E. Εμκε-Πουλοπούλου Ήρα (1999), *Έλληνες Ηλικιωμένοι Πολίτες. Παρελθόν, Παρόν, Μέλλον, Εκόσεις 'Έλλην'*, Αθήνα. (Greek Aged Citizens, Past, Present and Future). Athens: Ellen.

Faulkner, D., Tually, S., Baker, E. (2007), *Report on the Outcomes of Focus Groups for the South Australian Ageing Atlas: Ageing and its Implications for Social and Planning Policy*. Adelaide: Prepared for Planning SA. Southern Research Centre – Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, hosted by School of Geography, Population and Environmental Management, Flinders University.

Feldman, S., Radermacher, H., Browning, C., Bird, S., Thomas, S. (2008), 'Challenges of Recruitment and Retention of Older People from Culturally Diverse Communities in Research', *Ageing & Society*, 28, pp. 473-93.

Ganann, R., Ciliska, D., Thomas, H. (2010), 'Expediting Systematic Reviews: Methods and Implications of Rapid Reviews', *Implementation Science*, 19(5), pp. 56.

Gelfand, D.E. (2003), *Ageing and Ethnicity: Knowledge and Services*. New York: Springer Publishing Company Inc.

Goodall, K., Ward P., Newman, L. (2010), 'Use of Information and Communication Technology to Provide Health Information: What do Older Migrants Know and What Do They Need To Know?', *Quality in Primary Care*, 18, pp. 27-32.

Government of South Australia (2009), *Cultural and Linguistic Diversity amongst Older People in SA: A Demographic Overview*. Adelaide: Office for the Ageing, Department for Families & Communities.

Grimes, D. (1986), *Community Services for Elderly Ethnic People: Changing Times Changing Needs*, Melbourne.

Henkin, N.Z., Santiago, N., Sonkowsky, M. (1997), 'Intergenerational Programming: A vehicle for Promoting Intra- and Cross-Cultural Understanding', In: Brabazon, K., Disch, R. (eds). *Intergenerational Approaches in Aging: Implications for Education, Policy, and Practice*. New York: Haworth Press, pp. 197-210.

Hugo, Graeme (1983). *Changing Distribution and Age Structure of Birthplace Groups in Australia 1976 – 1981*. Adelaide: Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, 1981 Census Project for Population Branch. National Institute of Labour Studies, Flinders University: Adelaide.

Hugo, Graeme (1984), *The Ageing of Ethnic Populations in Australia with special reference to South Australia*. National Research Institute of Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine, Contract No. 6.

Hugo, G., Luszcz, M., Carson, E., Hinliff, J., Edwards, P., Barton, C., King, P. (2009), *State of Ageing in South Australia: a Summary of a Report to the South Australian Office for the Ageing*. Adelaide University: Adelaide.

Hugo, G., Menzies, B.J. (1980), Greek Immigrants in the South Australian Upper Murray. In: Burnley IH, Pryor RJ, Rowland DT, editors. *Mobility and Community Change in Australia*. St Lucia: University of Queensland Press. pp. 170-92.

Hugo G., Wood, D. (1984), *Ageing of the Australian Population: Changing Distribution and Characteristics of the Aged Population*. National Institute of Labour Studies, Flinders University: Adelaide.

Johnstone, M.J., Kanitsaki, O. (2008), 'Ethnic Aged Discrimination and Disparities in Health and Social Care: A Question of Social Justice', *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 27(3), pp. 110-5.

Liamputtong, Pranee (ed.) (2008), *Doing Cross-Cultural Research: Ethical & Methodological Perspectives*. Springer Science+Business Media, Social Indicators Research Series, Vol 34.

Luszcz, M., Giles, L., Eckermann, S., Edwards, P., Browne-Yung, K., Hayles, C. (2007), *The Australian Longitudinal Study of Ageing: 15 Years of Ageing in South Australia*. Adelaide: SA Department of Families & Communities.

Mansoor, G. (2007), 'Inspiring Diversity in Aged Care. Keynote address', In *Cultural Diversity in Ageing 2007 National Conference*, Melbourne Australia, 7-8 June, Melbourne: Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing.

McCallum, J., Gelfand, D.E. (1990), *Ethnic Women in the Middle: A Focus Group Study of Daughters Caring for Older Migrants in Australia*. Canberra: National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University.

Messimeri-Kianidis, Voula (2007), 'A Mosaic of Culturally Appropriate Responses for Australian Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Background Elderly People', *Cultural Diversity in Ageing 2007 National Conference*, Melbourne Australia, 7-8 June, Melbourne: Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing.

Meyers, A.R. (1980), 'Ethnicity and Aging: Public Policy and Ethnic Differences in Ageing and Old Age', In: Markson, E,W., Batram G,R, (eds), *Public Policies for an Aging Population*. Lexington, Massachusetts: Lexington Books, pp. 61-79.

Migliorino, Pino (2010)', 'The Ageing of the Post-war Migrants: A challenge for Health Promotion and Service Delivery', *Health Voices: Journal of the Consumers Health Forum of Australia*, 6, April.

Morse, C., Messimeri-Kianidis, V. (2002), 'Keeping It in the Family: Caregiving in Australian-Greek Families', In: Jackson, A.C., Segal, S.P., (eds), *Social Work*

Health and Mental Health: Practice, Research and Programs. New York: The Haworth Social Work Practice Press, pp. 299-314.

Mykyta, L.J. (1998), 'Community Services and Migrants', *Australian Journal on Ageing*, 7(3), pp. 15-7.

Orb, A. (2002), *Health Care Needs of Elderly Migrants from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Backgrounds - A Review of the Literature*. The Centre of Research into Aged Care Services, Curtin University of Western Australia: Perth.

Radermacher, H., Feldman, S., Browning, C., (2009), 'Mainstream vs Ethno-specific Community Aged Care Services: It's not an Either-Or'. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 28(2), pp. 58-63.

Radermacher, H., Feldman, S., Browning, C. (2008), *Review of Literature Concerning the Delivery of Community Aged Care Services to Ethnic Groups. Mainstream versus Ethno-specific Services: It's not an Either Or*. Melbourne: Prepared for the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria and partners. Healthy Ageing Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University.

Radford, A.J., Salonikilas, P. (1980), 'Minority Groups', In: Radford, A.J., Badcock, K.A., (eds), *The Elderly in the Riverland of South Australia*. Adelaide: Flinders University.

Rao, D.V., Warburton, J., Bartlett, H. (2006), 'Health and Social Needs of Older Australians from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds: Issues and Implications', *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 25(4), pp. 174-9.

Sax, S. (1993), *Ageing & Public Policy in Australia*. St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin.

Scarfo, B. (2009), 'Collaboration as the Key to the Successful Future of Ageing', In: Abbott, P.S., Carman, N., Carman, J., Scarfo, B., (eds), *Re-Creating Neighbourhoods for Successful Aging*. Baltimore, Maryland: Health Professionals Press, pp. 225-52.

Thomas, T. (2003), 'Older Migrants and Their Families in Australia', *Family Matters*: 66, pp. 40-45.

Tsingas, C. (1998), *Forty Years Later: A Demographic and Needs Analysis Study of Victoria's Australian Greek Elders*. Melbourne: Fronditha Australian Greek Society for Care of the Elderly.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Michael Tsianikas is Professor of Modern Greek at Flinders University. Born in Greece, he has published eight books, with another forthcoming in 2010. He is convenor of the *Biennial International Conference on Greek Research*, is co-editor of the *Conference Proceedings Greek Research in Australia* and in 2011 is convenor of the international conference on *Ageing in the Migrant Diaspora*.

Catherine Hurley is a Senior Research Officer in the South Australian Community Health Research Unit. She has industry experience in social work, disability and aged care, and currently conducts research and evaluation of community health services.

Mary Skaltsas is a first generation Greek-Australian Research Assistant and Administration Officer in the Modern Greek Section at Flinders University. She has worked with Michael Tsianikas on the *Biennial International Conference on Greek Research* since its inauguration, and is administering the July 2011 international conference on *Ageing in the Migrant Diaspora*.

Lareen Newman is a Senior Research Fellow in the Southgate Institute for Health Society & Equity. She conducts social research on access to resources and services which affect health and wellbeing (particularly of disadvantaged groups), and has professional experience in translation and interpreting. She is program co-convenor of the international conference *Ageing in the Migrant Diaspora*.

Ruth Walker is a Research Fellow in the South Australian Community Health Research Unit, and previously worked in the Flinders Centre for Ageing Research. Her expertise is in the social and relationship aspects of ageing. She is program co-convenor of the international conference *Ageing in the Migrant Diaspora*.