



**General Register Office
for
SCOTLAND**
information about Scotland's people



NATIONAL FORUM ON AGEING

Enabling Independent Healthy ageing

Tuesday 3 November 2009
George Hotel

Speaker Biographies

Duncan Macniven

Registrar General for Scotland since 2003, responsible for information about Scotland's people - including registration of births, marriages and deaths, running the census, using census and other data to compile demographic statistics, and acting as the main source of family history records. Previously worked for the Forestry Commission (Commissioner and Head of Corporate Services, 1999-2003) and the Scottish Office (Head of Police, Fire and Emergencies Group, 1998-99). Studied History at Aberdeen University and has worked in public administration in Scotland since 1973. Spent 16 years in the Territorial Army, latterly as Major in Royal Engineers. Married with 2 grown-up daughters, in Sydney and London. Interested in walking (has climbed all the mountains over 3000ft in Scotland), skiing, Scottish history, architectural history and archaeology, and active church membership.

Graeme Dickson

Graeme Dickson is the Director of Primary and Community Care in the Health Directorate in the Scottish Government.

Ian Deary

Ian Deary is Professor of Differential Psychology at the University of Edinburgh, and Director of the University of Edinburgh Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology funded by Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Medical Research Council (MRC). He graduated in Psychology and Medicine at the University of Edinburgh, and studied there for his PhD. He practiced psychiatry in London and Edinburgh before moving to academic psychology. His principal research interest is human mental abilities, especially the origins of cognitive differences, the effects of ageing and medical conditions on mental skills, and the impact of cognitive differences on people's lives. He leads Help The Aged's (now Age UK) Disconnected Mind project,

and his large research team studying cognitive ageing by following up the people who took part in the Scottish Mental Surveys of 1932 and 1947. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the British Academy, the Academy of Medical Sciences, the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, and the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Gregor Rae

Gregor Rae is the Chairman and Founding Director of BusinessLab. Graeme, a graduate of the Robert Gordon Institute of Technology and co-founder of BusinessLab, is a strategist with over 25 years experience in Information and communication technology (ICT), corporate strategy, and marketing and communications. He has worked extensively in the UK, Scandinavia and North America on advising companies in sectors such as energy, food, finance, engineering, transport, retail and engineering.

His current work focuses on the impact of technology on regional, city and corporate competitiveness and on the changing world of work. Gregor has led the development of the ActiveAge consortium and the collaboration with Professor Joseph Coughlin, founding director of MIT AgeLab.

David Bell

Professor David Bell is Head of the Department of Economics at the University of Stirling, Scotland. He is also joint director of the Scottish Economic Policy Network and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

His main areas of interest are labour economics, health economics, regional economics and economic modeling and he has published widely on these issues in the academic literature. In addition, he acts as an advisor to the Scottish Parliament's Finance Committee.

Gail Mountain

Gail Mountain qualified as an occupational therapist and was awarded the Master of Philosophy (Mphi) in 1990 and her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in 1999, both from the University of Leeds. Before being appointed by Sheffield Hallam University, Professor Mountain led research within the College of Occupational Therapists as a research and development officer from 1998 to 2001. She has also worked as a researcher at the University of Leeds and the University of York and for various major UK grant giving bodies including the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Sainsbury Trust and the Department of Health.

Gail's research focuses on improving the quality of life of older people, particularly through exploration of the effectiveness of rehabilitative interventions within different localities and settings. Her main areas of interest reflect the years she spent working in services for older people and mental health services as an occupational therapist.

Paul Boyle

Paul Boyle is Professor of Human Geography and Head of the School of Geography and Geosciences at the University of St Andrews. He is President of the British Society for Population Studies (BSPS). He directs the Longitudinal Studies Centre - Scotland (LSCS), which has established and continues to maintain and support the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS), which is one of the world's largest longitudinal datasets for health and social science research. He is co-Director of the recently funded ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC); co-applicant on the recently funded ESRC Administrative Data Liaison Service (ADLS); and co-applicant on the Wellcome Trust Scottish Health Informatics Programme (SHIP). Paul has particular expertise in record linkage and the use of routinely collected data in health and social science research. He has published widely in demography and epidemiology.