

Annual Conference media coverage

Royal
Geographical
Society

with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

● AC2011: The Geographical Imagination

Overview

The press team (Lis Parham, Steve Toole and John Williams) produced 16 press releases on a broad range of topics including energy-saving technology, urban food production, the value of the atmosphere, and the geographical impact of welfare cuts. A broad range of media coverage was achieved from national print, broadcast, specialist and online titles.

Highlights

Research from the conference appeared on BBC National Radio (Tom Hargreaves, UEA, on energy meters), BBC World television and World service radio (Jon Anderson, Cardiff, on community coastal conservation and surfing communities), and BBC regional TV and radio (Richard Spalding, UWE, on improving urban areas through local food production). A number of stories appeared in the national press, including the Metro and Mirror (John Thornes, Birmingham, on valuing the atmosphere), Daily Mail (energy meters) and eight high profile regional and local press, including the high-circulation Evening Standard in London (Chris Hamnett, KCL, on the impacts of benefits cuts), as well as the South Wales Echo, Bristol Evening News, and Eastern Daily Press. The research featured in numerous specialist media publications, both in print and online, including the (Times Higher Education, New Scientist, Inside Housing, and Horticulture Week.

By story

Conference theme

01.09.11 – Mirror on the bathroom and Hackney on a plate (article included quotes from Stephen Daniels, Sheila Cavanagh and mention of Mikey Tomkins, Jeremy Wood, 'Imagining the future of the journal' and 'Humour in practice and practising humour': [Times Higher Education](#) (Identical article also appeared in the print edition)

Smart Meters (Dr Tom Hargreaves)

12.09.11 – Dr Tom Hargreaves is interviewed on Radio 4's You and Yours regarding smart meters: www.bbc.co.uk/radio4 (28m.50s & 35.30)

04.09.11 – The not so smart meter: (Sunday Times print edition nib)

02.09.11 - £11 billion 'smart' meters are 'pointless and spark rows': [Mirror.co.uk](#)

02.09.11 – New meters '£11bn waste' (Daily Mirror print edition nib)

02.09.11 – Why smart meters aren't so clever (Daily Mail print edition)

02.09.11 – How smart meters costing £11.3 bn are an expensive flop that trigger family rows: [DailyMail.co.uk](#)

08.09.11 – Smart meters may not change energy use long term, warns researcher: [Energy Efficiency News.com](#)

01.09.11 – Do 'smart' meters really change energy use?: [Environmental-expert.com](#)

13.09.11 – Smart meter? Non adatti ai risparmi a lungo termine (Smart meter? Not suitable for long-term savings) www.rinnovabili.it

13.09.11 – Smart meters, il rischio dell'abbandono secondo un ricercatore inglese (Smart meters and the risk of abandonment according to an English researcher): www.casaclima.com

08.09.11 – Do 'smart' meters really change energy use?: [Building Construction Design \(www.atdonline.eu\)](#)

08.09.11 – Do 'smart' meters really change energy use?: [Architects Datafile \(www.adfonline.eu\)](#)

02.09.11 – The energy smart meter row: is it a flop? [Walletpop.co.uk](#)

09.09.11 – Why keeping people engaged is not easy (Smart Meters/Eco-Housing): Eastern Daily Press (print edition)

Dr Tom Hargreaves was invited to go and present his work at the DECC

Law of the atmosphere (John Thornes)

02.09.11 – Scientists put a price on air: [Mirror.co.uk](#)

02.09.11 – We use £70 air per year (Daily Mirror print edition nib)

02.09.11 – Still breathing? That'll cost you £71.17 a year! (Metro print edition)

02.09.11 – Breathing costs us £71.17 a year: [Metro.co.uk](#)

09.09.11 – It's enough to take your breath away (John Thornes' research): Recharge News print edition

08.09.11 – The money we breathe: [Newscientist.com](#)

(60 seconds nib)

02.09.11 – Average Brit gets through £70 worth of air every year, claims scientist: Bioscholar.com

Welfare cuts (Professor Chris Hamnett)

02.09.11 – Cuts will 'drive 80,000 from capital' [This is London.co.uk](http://This.is.London.co.uk) (Eve Standard)

02.09.11 – Cuts will 'drive 80,000 from capital' (Evening Standard print edition)

08.09.11 – Benefit cuts to widen rich-poor gap: [Inside Housing.co.uk](http://Inside.Housing.co.uk)

08.09.11 – 80,000 LHA tenants 'could be forced to move from London': [Letting Agent Today.co.uk](http://Letting.Agent.Today.co.uk)

08.09.11 – 80,000 LHA tenants 'could be forced to move from London': [Rentman News rman.co.uk](http://Rentman.News.rman.co.uk)

Professor Chris Hamnett was contacted by three London Boroughs, Shelter and the GLA regarding his findings

Towns and cities need surfing lessons (Dr Jon Anderson)

31.08.11 – Dr Jon Anderson, Cardiff University, is interviewed on BBC World with George Alagiah discussing surfing culture, coastal conservation, localism and community cooperation.

31.08.11 – Dr Jon Anderson, Cardiff University, is interviewed on the BBC World Service radio discussing surfing, culture, coastal conservation, localism and community cooperation.

14.09.11 – Towns and cities need surfing lessons, geographer claims: www.cardiff.ac.uk (Cardiff University News)

Sept 2011 – Dr Jon Anderson posts his BBC interview to his own website: www.spatialmanifesto.com/rgs

Cities must grow their own food (Richard Spalding)

06.09.11 – Richard Spalding is interviewed on BBC Points West about community gardening in the Bristol region

01.09.11 – Richard Spalding is interviewed by Steve Le Fevre on BBC Radio Bristol to discuss urban food production

08.09.11 – Cities 'must grow their own food': Bristol Observer (South Gloucestershire print edition)

08.09.11 – Cities 'must grow their own food': Bristol Observer (South West print edition)

31.08.11 – Cities 'must grow more own food': [This is Bristol.co.uk](http://This.is.Bristol.co.uk) (Bristol Evening Post online)

31.08.11 – Cities 'must grow more own food': Bristol Evening Post (print edition)

Eco-friendly means eco-bling (Dr Jenny Pickerill)

15.09.11 – When eco-friendly means eco-bling: www.inloughborough.com

09.09.11 – Why keeping people engaged is not easy

(Smart Meters/Eco-Housing): Eastern Daily Press (print edition)

14.09.11 – Houses dress to impress with eco-bling: www2.le.ac.uk/news/blog (University of Leicester blog)

13.09.11 – When eco-friendly means eco-bling: www2.le.ac.uk/offices/press (University of Leicester) Dr Jenny Pickerill was contacted by the Green Build Expo to be a potential speaker at the 2012 event

Inner city gardens (Professor Paul Milbourne)

15.09.11 – Pride is blooming thanks to inner city gardens: <http://yourcardiff.walesonline.co.uk> (Your Cardiff)

06.09.11 – Pride is blooming thanks to inner city gardens: [South Wales Echo](http://South.Wales.Echo)

12.09.11 – Flower Power changes lives in inner cities: Creativeboom.co.uk

09.09.11 – Gardens foster social change (Paul Milbourne research): Horticulture Week print edition

Edible Hackney (Mikey Tomkins)

01.09.11 – Edible Hackney. More and more people are finding imaginative places for growing food in urban environments: Guardian.co.uk (no conference mention)

Foreign students feel 'unwelcome' (Drs Adam Warren and Elizabeth Mavroudi)

08.09.11 – Visa reform – not welcome here?: [Times Higher Education](http://Times.Higher.Education) (article also appeared in print edition)

Student volunteers (Professor Clare Holdsworth)

06.09.11 - Student volunteers release on the Keele University website: Keele.ac.uk

By outlet

Broadcast

12.09.11 – Dr Tom Hargreaves is interviewed on Radio 4's You and Yours regarding smart meters: www.bbc.co.uk/radio4 (28m.50s & 35.30)

06.09.11 – Richard Spalding is interviewed on BBC Points West about community gardening in the Bristol region

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National

04.09.11 – The not so smart meter: (Sunday Times print edition nib)

02.09.11 - £11 billion 'smart' meters are 'pointless and spark rows': Mirror.co.uk

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01.09.11 – Edible Hackney. More and more people are finding imaginative places for growing food in urban environments: Guardian.co.uk (no conference mention)

Regional

15.09.11 – When eco-friendly means eco-bling: www.inloughborough.com

15.09.11 – Pride is blooming thanks to inner city gardens: <http://yourcardiff.walesonline.co.uk> (Your Cardiff)

09.09.11 – Why keeping people engaged is not easy (Smart Meters/Eco-Housing): Eastern Daily Press (print edition)

06.09.11 – Pride is blooming thanks to inner city gardens: SouthWalesEcho

08.09.11 – Cities 'must grow their own food': Bristol Observer (South Gloucestershire print edition)

08.09.11 – Cities 'must grow their own food': Bristol Observer (South West print edition)

31.08.11 – Cities 'must grow more own food': This is Bristol.co.uk (Bristol Evening Post online)

31.08.11 – Cities 'must grow more own food': Bristol Evening Post (print edition)

Specialist

16.09.11 – Conference speaker tells gardeners to stop worrying about killing slugs: www.hortweek.com (Horticulture Week subscription)

12.09.11 – Flower Power changes lives in inner cities: Creativeboom.co.uk

09.09.11 – Gardens foster social change (Paul Milbourne research): Horticulture Week print edition

09.09.11 – It's enough to take your breath away (John Thornes' research): Recharge News print edition

08.09.11 – The money we breathe: NewsScientist.com (60 seconds nib)

08.09.11 – Visa reform – not welcome here?: Times Higher Education (article also appeared in print edition)

08.09.11 – 80,000 LHA tenants 'could be forced to move from London': [Letting Agent Today.co.uk](http://LettingAgentToday.co.uk)

08.09.11 – 80,000 LHA tenants 'could be forced to move from London': [Rentman News rman.co.uk](http://RentmanNews.com)

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02.09.11 – Average Brit gets through £70 worth of air every year, claims scientist: Bioscholar.com

01.09.11 – Do 'smart' meters really change energy use?: Environmental-expert.com

Online

14.09.11 – Towns and cities need surfing lessons, geographer claims: www.cardiff.ac.uk (Cardiff University News)

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08.09.11 – When eco-friendly means eco-bling: [Architects Datafile \(www.adfonline.eu\)](http://www.adfonline.eu)

08.09.11 – When eco-friendly means eco-bling: [Building Construction Design \(www.atdonline.eu\)](http://www.atdonline.eu)

06.09.11 - Student volunteers release on the Keele University website: [Keele.ac.uk](http://www.keele.ac.uk)

02.09.11 – The energy smart meter row: is it a flop? [Walletpop.co.uk](http://www.walletpop.co.uk)

Other follow-up requests

- Dr Tom Hargreaves was invited to go and present his work at the DECC
- Professor Chris Hamnett was contacted by three London Boroughs, Shelter and the GLA regarding his findings
- Dr Jenny Pickerill was contacted by the Green Build Expo to be a potential speaker at the 2012 event

Press releases:

04.08.11 - [Diary Notice: Royal Geographical Society \(with IBG\) annual International Conference](#)

26.08.11 - [Geographers to address key issues of the world at International Conference next week](#)

31.08.11 - [What is the importance of historic buildings to teenagers?](#) (Professor Mike Coombes, Newcastle University; Dr David Bradley, Newcastle University)

31.08.11 - [Are student volunteers part of Cameron's Big Society?](#) (Professor Clare Holdsworth, Keele University)

31.08.11 – Cities must do more to grow their own food (Richard Spalding, University of the West of England, Bristol)

31.08.11 - [Hackney cabbage - grow your own in the city](#) (Mikey Tomkins, University of Brighton; Richard Spalding, University of the West of England, Bristol)

31.08.11 - [Towns and cities need surfing lessons, according to geographer](#) (Dr Jon Anderson, Cardiff University)

31.08.11 – [Geographers turn to their imagination for this year's conference](#) (Dr Stephen Daniels, University of Nottingham)

01.09.11 - [When eco-friendly means eco-bling](#) (Dr Jenny Pickerill)

01.09.11 - [Walk this way for geographical art](#) (Jeremy Wood)

02.09.11 - [Welfare benefit cuts to hit hardest in old industrial areas of Britain and inner London](#) (Professor Chris Hamnett, King's College London)

02.09.11 - [Do 'smart' meters really change energy usage?](#) (Dr Tom Hargreaves, University of East Anglia)

02.09.11 - [The cost of breathing? - about £65 a year each](#) (Professor John Thornes, University of Birmingham)

02.09.11 - [Foreign students feel 'unwelcome' in the UK](#) (Drs Adam Warren and Elizabeth Mavroudi, Loughborough University)

02.09.11 - [Flower power changes lives in inner cities](#) (Professor Paul Milbourne, Cardiff University)

02.09.11 – Slugs, slime and suburbia – the 'nasty' side of gardening (Dr Franklin Ginn, University of Edinburgh)

02.09.11 – [The secret night-time life of the motorway cafe](#) (Dr David Lawrence, Kingston University)

Other enquiries

The Independent's Mike McCarthy and the Sunday Times' Jonathan Leake had info on smart meters and cost of air before conference

26.08.11 – Utility Week took details of smart meters.

31.08.11 – BBC Radio 4's Today programme lined up Jon Anderson to speak, but cancelled last minute. Moved him to World Service and BBC World News.

31.08.11 – BBC Radio London requested Mikey Tomkins to talk about urban food production, but cancelled last minute.

31.08.11 – The BBC sent Hamish Pritchard (Online and Radio 4) to conference on the Friday

01.09.11 – South West News were very interested in John Thornes' cost of air.

05.09.11 – Hugh Pearman (RIBA and Sunday Times) interviewed David Lawrence on motorway services.

06.09.11 – Matthew Appleby from Horticulture Week interviewed Franklin Ginn, and Garden Answers Magazine also requested details.

06.09.11 – Emma Abbott from Green Places requested more info on Paul Milbourne, as did Meon Valley News.