

# Quality in Ageing and Older Adults



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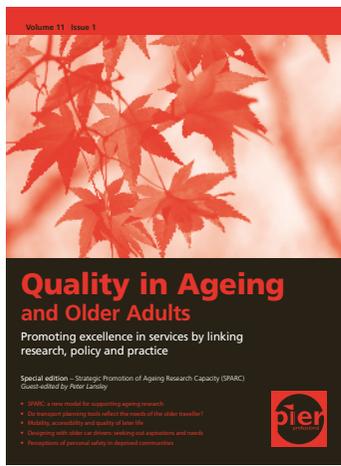
Special edition – Strategic Promotion of Ageing Research Capacity (SPARC)  
Guest-edited by Peter Lansley

- SPARC: a new model for supporting ageing research
- Do transport planning tools reflect the needs of the older traveller?
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*Quality in Ageing and Older Adults* will help you to make sense of current research and policy in working with older people at a time of demographic change. The Journal particularly considers the implications of policy and research in managing and commissioning services and will arm you with practical information about the promotion of quality of life in later years as well as offering guidance on appropriate service provision. The Journal's high-quality, peer-reviewed

articles consider the role of older people within their wider communities with the overall goals of promoting the potential for independence, control and enhanced well-being.

### Recent articles

- Transitional aged care and the patient's view of quality (11,2)
- What works well in community care: supporting older people in their own homes and community networks (10,4)
- The effects of eight-week balance training or weight training for the elderly on fear of falling measures and social activity levels (10,4)
- Elders, drama and the good life (10,4)

### Recent special editions

- Strategic Promotion of Ageing Research Capacity (SPARC) (11,1)
- Promoting partnerships in quality, culture change and service development: a relational approach (10,3)
- The implications of longevity for society (10,2)

### Who needs it?

*Quality in Ageing and Older Adults* is a vital source of information and intelligence for commissioners, managers, policy-makers, researchers, practitioners, universities and colleges, health boards, mental health services, education, local authorities, NHS and primary care trusts, the voluntary and community sectors, service users, carers and students.

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# SPARC: A new model for supporting ageing research

PETER LANSLEY

*Professor of Construction Management at the University of Reading*

Volume 11, Issue 1

## Abstract

The development of national capacity to undertake ageing-related research is vital to ensuring that the challenges arising from an ageing society faced by government, society and individuals are adequately understood and quality of life enhanced. A campaign was mounted to support newcomers to ageing research, especially those in early career, eventually resulting in SPARC (Strategic Promotion of Ageing Research Capacity). This was a four year programme to pump-prime newcomers to ageing research, to publicise the outcomes of ageing research to all stakeholders and to lobby policy makers about the value of ageing research. This end-of-programme review suggests that those supported with pump-priming awards have been fast-tracked into the highly competitive world of ageing research, that the workshops have been very well received and that the advocacy activities have been influential. A new model for promoting ageing research has been established.

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Ron encourages and advises health professionals to write of their experiences and observations. He is particularly interested in developing the Journal to publish more papers on policy and practice issues.

Research reports, scholarly and academic papers as well as commentary pieces on any aspect of maintaining quality in later life are all welcomed. Please contact Ron at [ron.iphofen@googlemail.com](mailto:ron.iphofen@googlemail.com) if you wish to discuss a proposal for a paper or a themed issue.

The great benefit with this Journal is that on acceptance of your article, the editor undertakes to publish it within a year.