Overview
It is well documented that societies are ageing, with the average age in Europe set to continue rising throughout the twenty-first century. This demographic trend presents substantial social policy challenges, as the number of people of retirement age increases in relation to those in paid employment. However, it is not just that people are living longer, but that the subjective meanings people attach to their own ageing are also changing. For example, rising longevity and a relatively affluent retirement are expanding the possibilities of later life for many. A simple division between young and old is thus increasingly misleading as the lifecourse become more complex and diverse. With changes occurring at both macro and micro-levels of the social fabric, it is vital that social scientific research is methodologically equipped to engage with the multifaceted challenges of ageing.

The Spring Workshop
Participants will present on their submitted paper and will receive valuable feedback on their work from their peers, and senior academics. The aim of this workshop is to critically reflect on the changing nature of ageing in societies. This will enable consideration of the empirical challenges of addressing experiential, relational and sociocultural dimensions of ageing. Participants will be able to discuss how they are applying the methodology of their research to the explication of these dimensions. We welcome applications from PhD-students and early-career academics/researchers in sociology, social policy and related social sciences.

Senior academics will also deliver keynote presentations at the workshop. Confirmed keynote speakers are:

- Prof Mary Beth Happ, Ohio State University
- Prof Paul Higgs, University College London
- Prof Chris Phillipson, University of Manchester

Apply
Abstracts with a maximum of 250 words should be submitted by 10th January 2016

To apply, please send your abstract to Dr Edward Tolhurst: e.tolhurst@staffs.ac.uk

Workshop cost: €200 – including accommodation for two nights, and all meals. ($190 for members of the ESA’s RN1 network)

For any further information, please don’t hesitate to contact Edward.