

EDITORIAL

I/we had hoped – yet again - that this issue would include some of the conference papers but it was not to be. However, my rather hopeless intervention at the beginning of the London Conference, which most – including myself – thought unlikely to be successful has, in fact generated several papers from new authors that not only filled the previous issue but provided a surplus for this issue (although none for the next!).

Contents of this Issue

The result of course is that the contents of this issue are again a mixed bag, so they have been put in the reverse order of author's surnames (to distinguish from the previous issue). We start, with a critique of statistics as reification from Simeon Scott, including diatribes on Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics, Bolshevism and Statistics, IBM and the Nazis, Identity Politics, the Neutrality of Numbers, the Mean value as Reification, Big Data, the Data Scientist, Econometrics concluding with the Tyranny of Numbers. It is followed by a novel approach by Daniel and Burns to map real pedestrian catchment areas by factoring in elevation to the street networks to understand daily journey-to-work commuting behaviour, taking Milton in Galasgow as an example. As expected, the 'real' 'ped-shed' is smaller than the 2D 'ped-shed' for both current and proposed networks. This research builds on existing established practice in walkability analysis, and prompts a discussion on other factors which may affect walkability and could be included in a more sophisticated walkability index.

After that there are two short articles. Houghton contributes an expose of corruption and mismanagement in Irish Credit Unions, set up to be an ethically 'cleaner' than the disgraced banking sector, in their operation of prize draws (Misappropriation of funds; Mismanagement of prize draws funds; Poor systems and controls; Lack of independence where officers of the credit union have been prize-winners). The last article is a final contribution by Roy Carr-Hill on meta analyses, examining the specifically statistical issues. The issue is completed by a comprehensive report on the 2018 Conference in London.

Prospects for RSN 122

We now have no material for the next issue RSN 122, due late January 2019. We would like it to be at least partly devoted to the 2018 conference papers, and the Editor has written to each of the speakers asking if they can produce a paper but we think it would also be very useful if any of those who attended (or did not attend) have any ideas or thoughts on the subjects raised could make a contribution, however short. I/we have written to all of the authors individually and circulated all members asking them to submit anything they want to write on one or more of the themes addressed in the conference.

The themes addressed at the conference were the issue of inequality as it relates to income, reproductive health and intimate partner violence, while the fourth explored the feasibility of low-carbon towns. The day included workshops specifically related to these themes, and one on the role of the statistician in the age of alternative facts; and reports of these workshops are included in the report at the end of this issue..

Please send anything directly to Roy Carr-Hill roy.carr_hill@yahoo.com with **Subject Title:** Contribution on 2018 London RadStats Conference: theme Income Inequality **OR** Reproductive Inequalities **OR** Inequality and Intimate Partner Violence **OR** Feasibility of Low-Carbon towns **OR** Role of statistician in the age of alternative 'facts'.

Roy Carr-Hill