

News and comment

Radical Statistics Group Annual Conference and AGM Saturday March 4th

During resident week-end March 3rd - 5th 2006

'Who controls the numbers? using statistics in campaigns'

An interesting programme is being prepared, to focus on a review of the work of the RadStats Group and RadStats members over the years and an examination of the effectiveness of using statistics in radical campaigns. Sessions are likely to relate to: crime, unemployment, poverty and benefits, migration and health.

The venue is **Hathersage Youth Hostel**, which is close to Hathersage Station. The hostel is easily accessible by train or bus from Sheffield, but note that parking space is **extremely** limited. (www.yha.org.uk)

The village of Hathersage is on the White Peak Way circular walk and is overlooked by Stanage Edge. We shall organise a walk to take advantage of the location on Sunday March 5th.

The sessions will be more informal because of the setting and up to 40 of us can be accommodated over-night. Others could stay at other places not far away. Early booking is advised if you want to stay at the hostel. You will find a tear-out booking form in the centre of this issue.

Photographs of the hostel taken by David Symes can be found at <http://www.davidsymes.co.uk/HathersageYHA/RadStats2006Venue.html>. Further details about the venue, programme, bus and train times, and of course, social events will be placed on the website www.radstats.org.uk at a later date.

Members will receive information on announce-radstats@jiscmail.ac.uk.

Tear out Booking Form on pages 22 & 23

Third Radical Statistics Critical Essay 2006

**Speak your mind and
win a prize!**

Submit an original essay (3,000 words maximum), by 1st May 2006, that addresses a current social research/policy question, with critical use and interpretation of relevant data sources.

**First prize £300,
Second prize £200**

in two categories of entry: Student or Open,
awarded on the basis of readability, clear presentation of statistical material,
critical perspective and convincing argument.

Age and experience will taken into account by the judges:

Simon Briscoe,	Statistics Editor of the Financial Times,
Len Cook,	National Statistician, (2000-2005)
Professor Ruth Levitas,	University of Bristol,
Professor Denise Lievesley,	Health and Social Care Information Centre,
Dr. Susan Starkings,	London South Bank University.

The essay awarded first prize will be featured on the Radical Statistics website and published in a special issue of 'Radical Statistics', the newsletter of Radical statistics. Judges decision will be by 1st July 2006. More detailed information can be found on the website www.radstats.org.uk.

Applications are encouraged well before deadline. Enter, by sending your essay by e mail, labelled : Radstats Critical Essay, including full name, address, age and number of years for which you have been engaged in social research, statistics, or the social sciences to janet.rmshapiro@btopenworld.com.

Radical Statistics Group
Annual Conference
Hathersage Youth Hostel

Castleton Road, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S32 IEH
3rd –5th March 2006

Booking form:

Name:

I *am* / *am not* a current subscribing member of Radstats (please delete as appropriate)

Address:

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Telephone number:

Email:

The charges are shown in the table.

I / we would like to attend the Radical statistics Group Annual
Please indicate which of the following applies:

Reserve ____ places for the **day only** March 4th 2006, £_____

Reserve ____ places for **one night stay** Friday March 3rd £_____

Reserve ____ places for **one night stay** Saturday March 4th £_____

Reserve ____ places for **two nights stay**
Friday & Saturday 3rd & 4th March £_____

Please note that most accommodation is in multi-occupancy rooms. If you have a preference for sharing with particular people, let us know by February 10th and we shall try to devise an allocation that satisfies all.

Saturday lunch

The fee for the day includes morning and afternoon tea/coffee and lunch and we need to know of any dietary restrictions.

Tick next to the item if you are:

- a vegetarian:
- a vegan:

or have other dietary needs (please specify):

I / we enclose a cheque for _____ made payable to **Radical Statistics**.

I / we enclose a deposit of _____ and will pay the remainder _____ on the day – just reserve my place(s).
(Please do pay in advance if possible.)

An early response would be helpful. Please return the completed form with your cheque to:

David Symes
66 Stumperlowe Park Road,
Fulwood, Sheffield
S10 3QP

who will respond to enquiries either on tel: 0114 2303145 or by e-mail at admin@radstats.org.uk.

Check the website later, www.radstats.org.uk - for further information, such as travel directions with online map, accommodation advice etc. which will be compiled. hathersage@yha.org.uk

Please get in touch with us above if you have any special physical needs at the venue.

The charges are shown in the table. Note that for those staying overnight, breakfast is included but is self-service.

Period of attendance	Saturday	1 night	2 nights
Waged current Radstats member	£25	£50	£60
Unwaged Radstats member	£15	£40	£50
Waged new or lapsed subscribers to the Radstats Journal *	£30	£55	£65
Unwaged new or lapsed subscribers to the RadStats Journal *	£20	£45	£55

* this includes one year's subscription to the Radical Statistics Journal

Additional Social Events

Arrangements for social events for the evening of Friday March 3rd, Saturday evening and Sunday will be announced later.