

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Postgraduate Forum

TWITTER CONFERENCE

25 AUG - 27 AUG 2020

AUDIENCE GUIDE



@pgf_rgsibg



PGFTC2020
PGFHOME

WELCOME

Hello, and welcome to the first Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) Postgraduate Forum Twitter Conference.

Over the last few months, the geography postgraduate community, like many others working in academia, have been affected by conference and event cancellations. We recognise the value of conferences for networking, particularly as a PGR, and we want to give those who've seen conferences cancelled the opportunity to share their work with a large network of academics!

Twitter conferences allow participants from across the world to interact with one another's work from their own homes, at a time which suits them. Given the current circumstances, we thought it would be a fantastic opportunity to set our own conference up!

We'll be bringing 22 fascinating presentations from across geographical sub-disciplines to Twitter users across the globe and sharing a timely keynote from Professor [@jennypickerill](#) (University of Sheffield).

Our Twitter Conference is happening at the end of this month, from Tuesday 25th August to Thursday 27th August. We're really excited to learn more about our participants' research, and we want to make sure you're ready to get as much out of the conference as you can too. We've written this Audience Guide so you know what to expect, and how to get involved.

How will it work?

The conference will be organised into a number of sessions, based on geographical sub-disciplines. Each session will have a unique hashtag, which we'll share on the [Conference Schedule](#). If you have an interest in a specific area of geography, you'll be able to search for tweets relating to a session based on its hashtag. The [Conference Schedule](#) is available now, so make sure to check out the session timings, make a note in your diary and follow the presenters on Twitter!

Everyone who's presenting their work will also include [#PGFTC2020](#) in their tweets, so you can search for this hashtag to find all of the presenters' threads. Each participant will be presenting 5 tweets, over 15 minutes, to share their work. 1400 characters isn't much, so they'll be getting inventive with their tweets. Expect to see images, videos and charts as the introduce us to their research!

After each presenter shares their 5 tweets, they'll have 15 minutes for a 'live' Q&A. So if you have a question to ask the presenter, please leave a comment within the presenters' thread. The presenter will then be able to respond to your question within their allotted Q&A time.

Though we're asking participants to stop replying when their time is up to give others in their session time to present, the conversation can of course continue and we encourage you to tweet as many questions or comments as you like. If you find someone's work interesting, give them a shout-out and retweet their work.

Top Tips!

- Follow [@PGF_RGSIBG](#)
- Follow the official hashtags [#PGFTC2020](#) and [#PGFHOME](#)
- Follow the presenters on Twitter
- Talk about the conference and the presentations you'd like to see most including shout outs to presenters using their twitter handles and [#PGFTC2020](#)
- Retweet your favourite parts of the PGF Twitter Conference and presentations
- Ask questions during and after the PGF Twitter Conference
- **Get tweeting!** More tweets and retweets = wider participation, so the more everyone gets involved, the more likely we are to get geographers interacting from around the world!

What happens if I don't have a Twitter account?

Details on setting up a Twitter account can be found [here](#).

Once you've set up your account, we'd recommend you follow the Postgraduate Forum, [@PGF_RGSIBG](#); The Royal Geographical Society, [@RGS_IBG](#); and, The Royal Geographical Society Higher Education account, [@RGS_IBGhe](#). You can also follow any accounts which relate to your field of study by searching for them. Most research groups have a dedicated account, so this is a good place to start!

Our junior Annual Conference Officer, Tammy Harvie-Erdal, recently joined Twitter, and reflects on her experience here:

"To tweet or not to tweet...a predicament I found myself in recently after being a newly elected member of the RGS Postgraduate Forum committee with no Twitter account. I had been aware of Twitter for a long time, but I had steered away from yet another social media platform. If the truth be told, I was rather nervous of using it, so I googled 'first time using Twitter' and came across a blog giving tips on how to get the most out of the platform. Armed with this information and more confidence, I dived in. What I found was a world of information, events to attend and links to relevant studies and papers. What a good tool for networking... now for my first tweet..."

If you would prefer not to set up an account at all, you can make use of Twitter's *Explore* function by going to twitter.com/explore, and searching for the relevant hashtag. Something to bear in mind is that whilst you will be able to see the conference tweets, if you do not have an account, you will be unable to interact with presenters and other participants.

Inclusivity statement

Our conference has been designed as a space that is welcoming and inclusive. Lively debate and constructive comments are welcome, but please note we will not tolerate any form of harassment or discrimination in any of our presenters' threads. You can read more on Twitter's harassment policy [here](#).

All presenters have been asked to make their images and videos accessible by including image descriptions and transcripts with any of their uploads.

Keep an eye on the [@PGF_RGSIBG account](#) as we'll be tweeting out the schedule and other conference related news in the weeks running up to the event. We look forward to joining you in conversations about our participants' work!