Sarah Harper is Director of the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing at the University of Oxford and Senior Research Fellow at Nuffield College. Her current research concerns globalization and global population ageing. In particular she considers the impact at the global, societal and individual level of the age-structural shift from predominantly young to predominantly older societies, addressing such questions as the implications of the widespread falls in fertility and growth in extreme longevity on labour markets and social structures. Sarah is the author of Ageing Societies: Myths, Challenges and Opportunities (Hodder Arnold, 2006), Population Challenges: growth, decline and migration (Oxford University Press, forthcoming) and Population and the Environment (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). Sarah also co-edits the Journal of Population Ageing, published by Springer.

Kate Hamblin received her PhD from the University of Bath in 2010. Her thesis addressed the changes to policies for work and retirement transitions for those over 50 in EU15 nations over the period 1995–2005, with a particular focus on the uneven impact of these reforms on different sub-groups within this age category. She has worked on the ‘Carers@Work. Combining Job and Care – Conflict or Opportunity’ project, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation. This project sought to address the experience of combining paid work with looking after an older person in terms of the difficulties faced and the strategies used to create a balance. Kate currently works on the AKTIVE project (Advancing Knowledge of Telecare for Independence and Vitality in later life). The AKTIVE project explores the potential of telecare to: improve the quality of life of older individuals with dementia or susceptibility to falls and sustain their independence; enable family caregivers to continue their care and support of older family members alongside work and other roles; and enhance and modernize social care/support in a cost-effective way.