

Author biographies

Dr Katharine Betts is Adjunct Associate Professor of Sociology at Swinburne University of Technology and was Joint-Editor of the demographic journal *People and Place* from 1993 to 2010. She wrote *Ideology and Immigration* (MUP 1988) published in a second edition as *The Great Divide* (Duffy and Snellgrove 1999). Recent works include articles on attitudes to immigration and population growth in Australia (2010) and the demographic and social implications of ageing (her most recent paper is entitled ‘The ageing of the Australian population: triumph or disaster’, an online publication through the Monash Centre for Population and Urban Research, April 2014). She was a member of the Sustainable Population Sustainable Development Panel chaired by Bob Carr, in 2010, and served on the National Council of the Australian Population Association from 1996 to 2000, and from 2002 to 2006.

Dr Bob Birrell is Reader in Sociology at Monash University. He was the founding director of the Centre for Population and Urban Research (CPUR) at Monash University and founder and Joint-Editor of the demographic journal *People and Place* from 1993 to 2010. He has advised successive Australian governments on immigration policy, most recently as part of the Evaluation of the General Skilled Migration Categories which reported in 2006. His work covers the environmental, social and economic implications of population growth in Australia. Recent publications include *Immigration and the Resources Boom Mark 2* (CPUR 2011), *The End of Affordable Housing in Melbourne?* (CPUR 2012) and *Immigration Overshoot* (CPUR 2012).

Dr Paul Collins is a historian, broadcaster and writer. A Catholic priest for 33 years, he resigned from the active priestly ministry in 2001 due to a dispute with the Vatican over his book *Papal Power* (1997). He is the author of 13 books, the most recent of which, *The Birth of the West*, was published in New York in February 2013. He is well known as a commentator on Catholicism and the papacy and he also has a strong interest in ethics, environmental and population issues. He