

# TRANSGENERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND INTERACTIONS FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

Perspectives and Narratives

Hannah R. Marston • Linda Shore • Laura Stoops • Robbie S. Turner

### **Transgenerational Technology and Interactions for the 21st Century**

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# Transgenerational Technology and Interactions for the 21st Century: Perspectives and Narratives

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## List of Abbreviations

ADLActivities of Daily LivingAFCCAge-friendly Cities and CommunitiesAIArtificial intelligenceARAugmented realityARPAAdvanced Research Projects AgencyATAssistive technologyATATAdapt Tech, Accessible TechnologyAWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career researchERDFEuropean Regional Development Fund	AARP	American Association of Retired Persons
AIArtificial intelligenceARAugmented realityARPAAdvanced Research Projects AgencyATAssistive technologyATATAdapt Tech, Accessible TechnologyAWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ARAugmented realityARPAAdvanced Research Projects AgencyATAssistive technologyATATAdapt Tech, Accessible TechnologyAWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIYDo not resuscitateDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	AFCC	Age-friendly Cities and Communities
ARPAAdvanced Research Projects AgencyATAssistive technologyATATAdapt Tech, Accessible TechnologyAWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	AI	Artificial intelligence
ATAssistive technologyATATAdapt Tech, Accessible TechnologyAWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	AR	Augmented reality
ATATAdapt Tech, Accessible TechnologyAWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	ARPA	Advanced Research Projects Agency
AWOCAgeing without childrenBABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	AT	Assistive technology
BABritish AcademyBBCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDDDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	ATAT	Adapt Tech, Accessible Technology
BRCBritish Broadcasting CorporationBMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	AWOC	Ageing without children
BMBCBarnsley Metropolitan Borough CouncilBMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	BA	British Academy
BMEBlack, Minority EthnicCASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
CASEConcept of Age-friendly Smart EcologiesCCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	BMBC	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
CCTControlled clinical trialsCDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	BME	Black, Minority Ethnic
CDCCenter for Disease ControlCFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	CASE	Concept of Age-friendly Smart Ecologies
CFConsultative ForumCVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	CCT	Controlled clinical trials
CVCurriculum vitaeDCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	CDC	Center for Disease Control
DCWDigital Communities WalesDDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	CF	Consultative Forum
DDDigital divideDDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	CV	Curriculum vitae
DDRDeutsche Demokratische RepublikDIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	DCW	Digital Communities Wales
DIAWDigital Inclusion Alliance for WalesDIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	DD	Digital divide
DIYDo it yourselfDNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	DDR	Deutsche Demokratische Republik
DNRDo not resuscitateDSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	DIAW	Digital Inclusion Alliance for Wales
DSHSGerman Sport University CologneECREarly career research	DIY	Do it yourself
ECR Early career research	DNR	Do not resuscitate
	DSHS	German Sport University Cologne
ERDF European Regional Development Fund	ECR	Early career research
	ERDF	European Regional Development Fund

ESA	Entertainment Software Association	
EU	European Union	
GCSEs	General certification of Secondary Education	
Geron	Gerontology	
GEVH	Grimethorpe Electronic Village Hall	
GP	General Practitioner	
GT	Gerontechnology	
H&W SRA	Health and Wellbeing Strategic Research Area	
HCI	Human Computer Interaction	
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council	
HEI	Higher Education Institute	
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle	
ICT	Information Communication Technology	
IDR	Interdisciplinary research	
IoTs	Internet of Things	
ISG	International Society of Gerontechnology	
IUD	Intrauterine Device	
IVF	in vitro fertilization	
KESS	Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series	
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer	
LLTCs	life-limiting/threatening health conditions	
LTC	Long-term care	
mHealth apps	Mobile health applications	
MIT	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	
MoD	Ministry of Defence	
MR	Mixed reality	
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization	
NCB	National Coal Board	
NFP	Not-for-profit	
NHS	National Health Service	
NI	Northern Ireland	
NIA	Northern Irish Assemble	
NPL	National Physical Laboratory	
NUM	National Union of Mineworkers	
NVQ	National vocational qualification	

ONS	Office for National Statistics	
РАНО	Pan American Health Organization	
PC	Personal computing	
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy	
PHE	Public Health England	
PHW	Public Health Wales	
PTSD	Post-traumatic stress disorder	
QoL	Quality of Life	
R&D	Research and Development	
RCT	Randomized control trials	
RCUK	Research Councils UK	
RDD&D	Research, development, design and distribution	
RDG	Research development groups	
SAfE	Smart Age-friendly Ecosystem	
SD	Standard deviation	
SES	Socio-economic status	
SSAFA	Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association	
TAM	Technology Acceptance Model	
TART	Transgenerational Assistive Robotic Technology	
TAT	Transgenerational Assistive/Accessible Technology	
TG	Transgenerational Gaming	
TILL	Technology In Later Life	
TLCC	Transgenerational Living Communities and Cities	
TT	Transgenerational Technology	
UCD	User Centred Design	
UK	United Kingdom	
UKRI	UK Research and Innovation	
UML	Unified Modelling Language	
UN	United Nations	
USA	United States of America	
UX	User Experience	
VAs	Virtual assistants	
VR	Virtual reality	
WDH	Wakefield District Housing	
WG	Working group	

#### xviii List of Abbreviations

WHO	World Health Organization
WI	Women's Institute
XR	Extended reality

### **About the Authors**

Hannah R. Marston conducts interdisciplinary research and holds a PhD from Teesside University, UK in Virtual Reality and Gerontology. Since 2010 she has worked in Canada and Germany as a researcher, prior to moving back to the UK in 2015. She has published over 40 peer-reviewed journal papers, and most recently she was part of the 'The Smart Homes and Independent Living Commission'. Her research areas include gerontechnology, UX (User eXperience) of transgenerational technologies and videogames, gender, age-friendly cities, and communities and in 2020 she led an international, multi-site COVID-19 research project focusing on technology use.

Linda Shore is a UX Designer/Researcher and currently works as part of the DHI (Digital Health & Care Innovation Centre) at Glasgow School of Art, Scotland. Her research areas include User-Centred Design (UCD) approaches that explore perceptions and adoption of emerging wearable technologies by older adults and the impact of amputation/age-related conditions on quality of life. Additional areas of research interest include service blueprint development for healthcare and transgenerational technologies for the future and how these can enhance the worlds, lives, and experiences as we age.

Laura Stoops is the Impact and Evaluation Manager at Age NI, a charity that supports older people in Northern Ireland to love later life. Her professional interests are using technology-based solutions to support older people or those with a disability and assessing the impact and evaluation. She has a keen interest in using research skills to support the voluntary sector and to share this knowledge widely. She holds a PhD (2011) in Computer-Based Assessment and Diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease from the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland. As part of her PhD work, she has written and published five journal papers including a paper entitled *Assessment of Bradykinesia, Akinesia and Rigidity Using a Home-Based Assessment Tool* which was published in the International Journal of Assistive Robotics and Systems (2009).

**Robbie S. Turner** is a Co-founder and Senior Consultant at Spektrum-Group, a company that supports potential suppliers in penetrating government, defence, and humanitarian markets by lending them over 20 years of experience in this field. He is regarded and foremost an expert in this specialist market, and

#### xx About the Authors

thoroughly enjoys the process of knowledge exchange and translation, knowledge that directly impacts and enhances a company's ability to participate and succeed in a perceivably exclusive environment.

#### Foreword

Listening to the views of older people and giving them a voice is central to Age NI's work. Through this book, we were delighted to have the opportunity to work in consultation with older people to better understand their digital technology needs, now and in the future.

Age NI has witnessed first-hand the impact that the pandemic, and its resulting social isolation, has had on older people in Northern Ireland. It has also dramatically affected the way we deliver our services, which are so heavily focused on social, face-to-face interaction.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made us all realise the power of technology. Thinking about all generations, from home-schooling through to zoom quizzes, we might wonder how we would have coped without it. For older people, with the help of digital devices, many were able to connect to friends and family – and to our services, newly delivered online.

For some, this involved adopting a new mindset, and often required offering one-to-one support to utilise the technology. For those who succeeded, the benefits of this new connectivity greatly outweighed the challenges.

However, while many have gained from digital technology, we know that there is a large section of older people missing out. Without their normal social interactions, a lack of digital connectivity has left them desperately isolated and lonely. Very sadly, we know that loneliness can be a killer, and as a nation renowned for its warm welcome, friendliness and sense of community, we believe it shouldn't have to be this way.

Although the number of older people who are digitally connected continues to rise, across the UK there are still around 5 million people over the age of 55 who are not online. And while factors such as income and levels of education play a part, age is still the biggest indicator of digital exclusion.

Through our work on this book, hearing the experiences of those older people who are embracing technology has thrown into stark relief the experiences of those who are still missing out.

Through research and innovation, we're looking at ways of supporting older people to get online, to benefit from digital communication and to do confidently and safely.

We are very grateful to the older people who have given so generously of their views and time to inform the content and narrative of this book.

The insight of this publication offers on what older people want and need, is pivotal to the current and future connectivity of older people. We believe this has a vital part to play in the mission to end loneliness.

Linda Robinson BEM Age NI CEO

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