Publish without perishing

Alasdair Rae
University of Sheffield

@undertheraedar
Perish without publishing

Alasdair Rae
University of Sheffield
@undertheraedar
Short introduction, then I’m going to go through different kinds of publishing practices before finishing with my **worst rejections** and some top tips.

Plus brief tangent about citations, etc.
Who am I?

Who are any of us?

Who am I?

Who are any of us?

I research and write about neighbourhoods, cities, regions, and anything in between, newspaper pieces to blogs, tweets, TV, and even animated gifs. If you want to see some of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning. I've put this page together in case you need the social media links below.
This is the place to be for the next 20 minutes

1. Journal articles
2. Book chapters
3. Books
4. Other stuff
   a. Blogs
   b. Twitter
   c. News media
   d. The Conversation etc
   e. TV
5. What do you want out of this? (and what is ‘this’ anyway?)
6. My worst rejections (finish on a positive)
7. Some tips
The journals I have published in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Impact Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Studies</td>
<td>3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLOS ONE</td>
<td>2.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers, Environment and Urban Systems</td>
<td>2.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephron</td>
<td>2.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment and Planning A</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Studies</td>
<td>1.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment and Planning B</td>
<td>1.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Studies</td>
<td>1.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Theory and Practice</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Geographical Journal</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Economy</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Planning Review</td>
<td>0.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of European Real Estate Research</td>
<td>0.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The journals I have been rejected from

- Journal of Urban Studies
- Regional Studies
- Journal of Planning Literature
- PLOS ONE
- Habitat International
- Journal of Planning Education and Research
- Journal of Maps
- Research and Politics
I am not a massive fan but they can be quite useful
Books

Easy to start, hard to fini

(kind of like a PhD)
Other stuff (blog)

This is what really excites me because ‘publishing’ isn’t just about journal articles.
Twitter (not for everyone of course)

---

BEWARE!
“However, we should emphasise that these are not proposals for new council areas.”
Scotland has too many councils and almost half of them should be scrapped to save money, a report has suggested.

Scraping half of councils ‘will save cash and boost efficiency’
Scotland has too many councils and almost half of them should be scrapped to save money, a report has suggested. The number of local authorities ...

thetimes.co.uk
TV - what’s the worst that could happen?

No matter what, it’s soon forgotten about.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>CITED BY</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum likelihood from incomplete data via the EM algorithm</td>
<td>55146</td>
<td>1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Dempster, NM Laird, DB Rubin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of the royal statistical society. Series B (methodological), 1-38</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical analysis with missing data</td>
<td>24560</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJA Little, DB Rubin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Wiley &amp; Sons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayesian data analysis</td>
<td>22441*</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Gelman, J Carlin, H Stern, DB Rubin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC press</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The central role of the propensity score in observational studies for causal effects</td>
<td>21072</td>
<td>1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR Rosenbaum, DB Rubin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biometrika 70 (1), 41-65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple imputation for nonresponse in surveys</td>
<td>16691</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DB Rubin, John Wiley &amp; Sons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inference from iterative simulation using multiple sequences</td>
<td>9338</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Gelman, DB Rubin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical science 7 (4), 457-472</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sally Hardy
Professor of Mental Health and Practice Innovation, London South Bank University
Verified email at lsbu.ac.uk
Mental Health Nursing  Practice Based Innovation  Public Mental Health

An exploration of intent for narrative methods of inquiry
S Hardy, S Gregory, J Ramjee
Nurse Researcher (through 2013) 16 (4), 7

Exploring nursing expertise: nurses talk nursing
S Hardy, R Garbett, A Titchen, K Manley
Nursing Inquiry 9 (3), 196-202

Changing patients’ worlds through nursing practice expertise. Exploring nursing practice expertise through emancipatory action research and fourth generation evaluation
K Manley, SE Hardy, A Titchen, R Garbett, B McCormack
Royal College of Nursing, London

Work-based learning in the context of contemporary health care education and practice: A concept analysis
K Manley, A Titchen, S Hardy
Practice Development in Health Care 8 (2), 87-127

Mental and physical health comorbidity: Political imperatives and practice implications
S Hardy, B Thomas
International Journal of Mental Health Nursing 21 (3), 288-298

N.B. Not THE Sally Hardy
Citations by Years Since PhD

H-Index by Years Since PhD

Mean Median
“When this question has been asked in the past, the answer typically is that your h score is good if it is equal to or greater than the number of years since finishing your PhD. That varies based on your departmental expectations, etc.”
What do you want out of ‘this’?

A nice life?
A happy life?
Lots of citations?
Lots of friends?
No friends?
Lots of papers?
To make a difference?
Everything?
My worst rejections - some quotes

Reviewer 1: “The manuscript is not well written. The paper contains numerous inconsistent statements and internal contradictions. At many points it is not clear just what the author is attempting to say.

Given this, my recommendation is to reject the manuscript and to not encourage resubmission.”

Reviewer 2: “Yes it is extremely well written—there is a logic to it and a clear and well argued narrative”
My worst rejections - some quotes

“This is just a bunch of visualizations of an open source data that does not go beyond doing some fancy looking maps and displaying things we already know.”

(why, say what you really think)
My worst rejections - some quotes

“I think the experience is therefore best documented in a blog post on the data blog rather than academic journal.”
My worst rejections - some quotes

“As it stands the data presented does not really add a lot to academic debates and any potential policy implications are not really articulated. The conclusion is limited and does not really develop or advance wider debates. For these reasons I am unfortunately recommending rejection.”
My top tips

- Think ahead (this is a really boring and obvious tip, sorry)
- Rejected? Take a day to mope around and then move on
- Read tales of failure and success - the two are close partners
- Some rejections are ‘I don't like your clothes’ and some are ‘you stink’ so be honest with yourself and try to tell the difference
- Choose good journals - but what is good?
- Make the most of your writing (but I don’t mean salami slicing)
- Don't think publishing = journal papers only
- Don’t think you’re not good enough - we’re all imposters at some point
- Choose the right journal
- Accept that it takes time