**International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology 2017 World Congress**

**July 23rd 9-10.30 Moscombe West Building.**

**Chair: Dr Angela Kydd: Challenging Attitudes to Ageing and Ageism.**

**Presentations from Scotland, the USA, Ireland, Malta, (Spain) with our discussant from Israel.**

The developed world is ageing with the largest increase being those aged 80 and over (United Nations, 2014). Retirement ages have increased, once at aged 60 for women and 65 for men (the age at which ‘old age’ was thought to start) now at aged 66 – with a projection to 70 in the UK. ‘Older People’ is a nebulous concept – how old is old?

Yet however nebulous this may be, ageism remains rife is many societies and can be very damaging type of prejudice.

This symposium comprises of members of the Cost Action on Ageism and our discussant is Professor Liat Ayalon, the founder of the Cost Action.

In this symposium negative attitudes and ageism are discussed; amongst older people, with caregivers, amongst professionals, with housing providers, and at discourse level