

# Welcome to ISG-Grandmaster Anthea Tinker!

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## Abstract

Anthea Tinker, 7th Grandmaster of the International Society for Gerontechnology (ISG), has a passion for technology and older people, while stressing, for instance, housing for Ageing-in-Place as early as 1976. Currently in her eighties she is still active in international projects. The breadth and depth of her passion is shown in this issue of *Gerontechnology* journal.

**Keywords:** older people, technology, ageing-in-place, housing policy

## INTRODUCTION

We, the ISG-Grandmasters welcome Anthea Tinker to our ranks as the 7th inaugurated Grandmaster of the International Society for Gerontechnology.

The title ISG-Grandmaster is granted by the General Assembly of the International Society for Gerontechnology to those who have made exceptional contributions to the development of the field of gerontechnology in relation to research, education, and policy. Professor Tinker's qualifications are beyond any doubt. As to research, she has an outstanding publication record (Tinker, 2023). She also is an effective teacher with not only many successful students, but also with great contributions to the ISG In-

ternational Master Classes (Tinker et al., 2018). As to Policy, Anthea Tinker is recognized both nationally (Tinker & Ginn, 2016) and internationally (Sixsmith, 2023) for contributions to senior housing policy. It made her one of the pioneers in looking at technology and Older People. This issue of the journal 'Gerontechnology' pays tribute to the great influence she has on gerontechnology's art and sciences as an offspring of both gerontology and technology.

Not only the past performance of prof. Anthea Tinker is impressive. Today, over 80 years old, she is still active (inter)nationally (Rees et al., 2023; Samuel et al., 2023). The breadth and depth of her passion is also shown by other contributions to this issue, such as Eco-cognitive Ageing (Fletcher, 2023), Ethics of AI (Ryan & Gutman, 2023), and different types of Robotic devices for Older Persons (Bayles et al., 2023; Blocker et al., 2023; Ishihara & Ishihara, 2023).

Few of us know Grandmaster Anthea Tinker as a mother of three, who regularly moved with her children and husband, a clergyman, from one university city or town to another, after having started her career in the cardboard industry (Tinker, 2010). Her research career for Older Persons started afterwards, but as early as 1976 (Tinker, 1976). One of her main research interests has always been easy and suitable housing. It is typical Anthea, who is currently still living herself in the center of London with 55 treads in the stairs from kitchen to bedroom. Her large garden is where she used to let her students legally picnic during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Figure 1. Founding of the WAGT, World Academy for Gerontechnology, Nice, September 27, 2016, by some current ISG-Grandmasters (from left to right): James L. Fozard, Anthea Tinker, Alain A. Franco, Johanna E.M.H. van Bronswijk and Herman Bouma (Photograph by courtesy of Alain Franco)

# Introduction to the Special Issue

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