

Local Population Studies Society

NEWS-SHEET and INFORMATION
FOR MEMBERS

31 October 2024



Local Population Studies Society Autumn Conference 2024

New Research in Local Population History
An online conference, Saturday 30 November 13:00 – 15:15

- 13:00 Conference welcome
- 13:10 Harry Smith (University of Exeter) [*The Material Culture of Wills, England 1540-1790*](#)
- 13:45 Emily Chung (University of Cambridge) *Mapping Residential Differentiation in Manchester, 1851-1901*
- 14:20 Andrew Hinde (Editor, Local Population Studies) *Developments in the 404PLUS Project*
- 14:55 Flash talks
- Phil Batman, *Left Behind – Families Divided by Chain Migration*
- Claire Connor, *title to be confirmed*

Please contact Romola Davenport (rjd23@cam.ac.uk) to register.

British Association for Local History Annual Dymond Lecture

This year's Annual Dymond Lecture will take place on Thursday 5 December 2024 at 7.00 p.m. The speaker will be Craig Lambert and John McAleer of the University of Southampton, who will be presenting a talk entitled 'English merchant shipping and early modern maritime communities, c.1588-c.1765'.

The talk will examine how England's merchant fleet developed over these two centuries, who sailed in the ships and what roles the sailors played in their local communities; and how war, politics and regional differences affected English seaborne trade.

The lecture is free to members of the British Association for Local History and costs £5 for everyone else. To book, visit <https://www.balh.org.uk/dymond2024>.

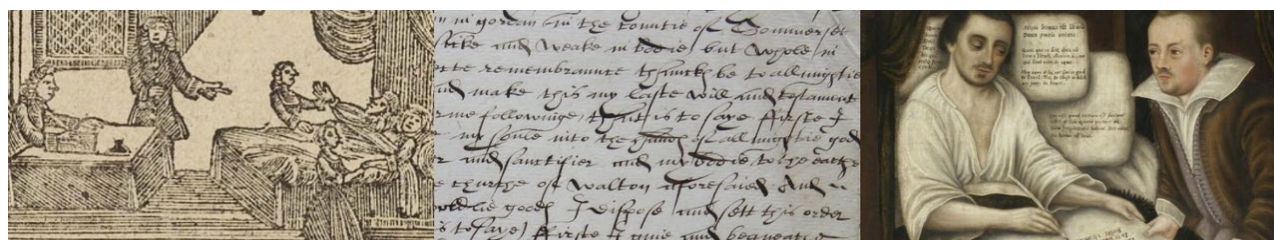
Local Population Studies Society (LPSS) Committee

You may be aware that there were no expressions of interest for the post of LPSS Secretary at the recent Annual General Meeting. Rowena Burgess has agreed to continue, temporarily, while discussions take place, especially around subdividing the role, probably around membership, conference support and secretarial support for the Committee.

LPSS is a charity which is run by a number of volunteers (your Committee) who look to further the charity's aims and objectives. As a charity we do not pay our trustees.

The Committee currently has vacancies for three members, of whom two would be ordinary members and not specific role holders. The third vacancy is for the post of Secretary mentioned above. This post includes responsibility for some of the running of the Society, and would involve a period of shadowing and training before the postholder was expected to take over fully. Ordinary members of the Committee on the other hand are not required to take on any specific roles, but are expected to attend Committee meetings and to contribute to discussions and to decisions taken by the Committee.

If you would like to talk, either about the role of Secretary or ordinary membership of the Committee then please contact Rowena Burgess at Rowena.Burgess@uea.ac.uk.



Call for 'Zooniverse' participants The Material Culture of Wills: England 1540-1790

A Leverhulme-funded research project based at the University of Exeter and The National Archives
<https://sites.exeter.ac.uk/materialcultureofwills/>

We are looking for participants to help us transcribe a sample of 25,000 English wills that were made between 1540 and 1790. Using the online 'Zooniverse' platform, you'll be joining a research project which aims to reveal how ownership of, and attitudes towards, objects changed in a period of profound economic transformation. By helping us transcribe these wills, you will make a vital archive of English history more accessible, and lay foundations for future initiatives to widen access to the manuscripts held in [The National Archives](#).

We have automatically transcribed the contents of wills from five periods across the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries 1538-1552, 1604-1608, 1664-1666, 1725-1726 and 1785-1786, totalling 25,000 wills in total. You will be contributing by checking these transcriptions and suggesting corrections where needed. You will have the opportunity to improve your reading of early modern handwriting—training is provided on our 'Zooniverse' site. You are welcome to contribute as much or as little as you would like as the 'bite-size' transcription checking tasks are designed to fit around other commitments.

To find out more, have a look at our Zooniverse site:

<https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/hjsmith/the-material-culture-of-wills-england-1540-1790>