

# The Landscape of Occupations in Pre-Industrial Britain and Continental Europe, c.1400 – 1750

8th and 9th April 2014

Occupational identity and the economic activity of individuals have seen growing attention from historians and historical geographers over the past thirty or forty years. While earlier generations of historians, including Postan and Tawney, addressed occupational structure as an aspect of the general structure of agricultural and industrial production, researchers are increasingly focusing upon the question of economic activity from the perspective of the individual. It is increasingly recognized that occupational identity was neither definite, nor fixed. How did households combine economic strategies in response to opportunities, challenges, and natural cycles? How did economic and occupational identity change throughout an individual's lifecycle? Indeed, how did occupational identity actually reflect economic activity?

This two day workshop brings together sixteen research papers by scholars from across the UK and western Europe, addressing the theme of occupation and identity from a range of angles ranging from demographic quantification to detailed biography. Central to all is the question of how work was defined, and how it in turn affected the lives of individuals in pre-modern Europe.

**Registration** is now open for delegates until **1st March**, at a rate of £70 or £35 for registered postgraduates, including refreshments (day rates also available). Accommodation and an evening meal are also available for delegates.

Registration form and further details available at: <http://practitioners.exeter.ac.uk/>

or

<http://humanities.exeter.ac.uk/history/research/centres/medicalhistory/newsandevents/events/>



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## Outline Programme

Demographic Approaches (Tuesday 1pm)

**Human capital formation from occupations: The 'deskilling hypothesis' revisited** Alexandra M. de Pleijt and Jacob L. Weisdorf, (University of Southern Denmark, Utrecht University and CEPR)

**Civilians at war: English archers and their occupations 1350-1415** Sam Gibbs (University of Reading)

**Debt and Occupation: The Trades of Debtors Imprisoned and Absconded in the 1720s** John Levin (University of Southampton)

Specialisation (Tuesday 3pm)

**'Working lives and the historical record in Newcastle upon Tyne, 1600-1710'** Andy Burn (Durham University)

**Movement and interconnectivity in the 'scientific' instrument trade of early modern London** Dr Alexi Baker (University of Cambridge)

**Bakers and Occupational Specialisation, 1350-1550** Dr James Davis (Queen's University Belfast)

Plenary Talk (Tuesday 5pm)

**Managing uncertainty and privatizing apprenticeship: status and relationships in English medicine** Dr Margaret Pelling (University of Oxford)

Medical Occupations (Wednesday 9.00am)

**Medical career trajectories in Early Modern Portugal** Laurinda Abreu (University of Évora)

**Medical Practice in Bristol, c. 1500 - c. 1800** Prof. Jonathan Barry (University of Exeter)

**Plotting Practitioners: GIS and Spatial Patterns in Early Modern Medical Provision in England and Wales** Dr Justin Colson (University of Exeter)

Household & Family Economies (Wednesday 11am)

**Independent women? Female labour force participation in the Dutch Republic** Daniëlle Teeuwen (International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam)

**Intergenerational mobility in early modern Surrey** Raphaelle Schwarzberg (LSE)

**Early modern rural by-employments: a re-examination of the probate inventory evidence** Sebastian A. J. Keibek (presenting) and Leigh Shaw-Taylor (University of Cambridge)

Identity and Work (Wednesday 1.30pm)

**'The Honest Tradesman's Honour': Work and Identity in Seventeenth-Century England** Dr Mark Hailwood (St Hilda's, Oxford)

**Occupational and religious identities: the example of the Johnson Company 1542-c.1557** Dr Laura Branch (Oxford)

**Mary Beale, Artist 1633-1699** Sarah Birt (Independent Scholar)

Concluding Remarks and Open Discussion led by Dr Patrick Wallis (LSE)