

Canal boat dwelling: Homes, Welfare and Mobile Citizenship on Britain's Canals

Principal Investigator: Professor Richard Yarwood / Co-Investigator: Dr Agatha Herman

This project is being conducted by the University of Plymouth and Cardiff University to examine the lifestyles of people living on canal boats. We are particularly interested in issues around homes, families, welfare and citizenship and would love to hear your stories as these will help us better understand the benefits and challenges you experience. It has four main objectives, which are to:

1. Examine why people live on canal boats;
2. Evaluate how people living on canal boats access services and employment;
3. Study how canal regulations impact on lifestyles;
4. Understand these issues in the context of mobile, canal communities.

This project is funded by the British Academy and Leverhulme Trust. If you live aboard either with or without a permanent mooring in London or the South West and would like to be involved, please get in touch with Agatha Herman on HermanA@cardiff.ac.uk.

What is expected of me?

If you agree to take part in the research, you will be asked to participate in an interview of approximately one hour at a time that suits you. More than one interview can be scheduled into two or more time slots if that is more convenient for you. We would like to talk to you and members of your family, including children if you would like them to be involved; we both hold current DBS checks. The interview will take place somewhere that is convenient for you.

Voluntary Participation and Confidentiality

Participation in the research is voluntary. Before you decide whether or not to participate, please feel free to ask us questions (see contact details below). You may withdraw from the research at any time without providing a reason and this will not affect your rights in any way.

The interview will be recorded using a digital recorder but no one will be identified by name on the recording. All of the information that you share during the course of the research will be confidential and will be securely stored in a password-protected environment. All personal information will be kept secure and will be destroyed ten years after the project has been completed. In any oral or written publications, each participant will be given a pseudonym and any identifying characteristics in the research material will be removed. None of the information will be shared with a third party.

Contact Details

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