

# Representing homelessness

**Thursday 18 - Friday 19 July 2019**  
**University of Lincoln**

**Convenors:**

**Dr Owen Clayton**, University of Lincoln

**Katie Dorr**, University of Lincoln

**Nigel Horner**, University of Lincoln

**Professor Peter Somerville**, University of Lincoln

Homelessness is routinely captured in different kinds of texts: newspapers, TV, novels, expert research, government policy documents, and the law. This multidisciplinary conference examines the 'textuality' of homelessness across a range of areas, bringing together activists, journalists, artists, academics, and people who have personal experience of homelessness.



The British Academy

## Day 1: Thursday 18 July 2019

- 09:30      *Registration and refreshments*
- 10:00      Welcome from organisers
- 10:15      **Keynote:** Professor Peter Somerville (University of Lincoln)  
‘Representing homelessness: too visible or not visible enough?’
- 10:45      **Session 1: Reporting homelessness**  
Chair: Alex Andreou (formerly homeless writer, newspaper columnist, and theatre company director)
- Dr Juliet Foster (King’s College London)  
The representation of homelessness in British newspapers
- Dr Owen Clayton (University of Lincoln)  
Analysis of early twentieth century street newspapers
- InsightShare, participatory video facilitators (InsightShare Ltd)  
Presentation about the participatory video *Not Just Homeless*
- Samir Jeraj (author and freelance journalist)  
‘Look at his shoes’: learning the world from homeless people
- 12:15      *Lunch*
- 13:00      **Keynote:** David Ford (Founder and Head, Expert Link)  
‘The Full Story’
- 13:30      **Session 2: Homeless life stories**  
Chair: Dr Amanda Roberts (University of Lincoln)
- Emma Forshaw, Richard Curtis and Paul Atherton (group of people with experience of homelessness), with Nigel Horner.  
Participants will discuss their life stories and the importance of representation and self-representation in living as homeless people
- Radcliffe Royds (spoken-word performer)  
A discussion of Radcliffe’s life on the streets and battles with drug addictions, as well as self-representation in his recent work as a spoken-word performer
- Alex Andreou (formerly homeless writer, newspaper columnist, and theatre company director)  
A discussion of his life as a formerly homeless person and the importance of representation and textuality to his work as a writer, newspaper columnist and theatre company director
- Professor Phil Brown and Professor Peter Somerville (University of Salford and University of Lincoln)

The importance of using biography in the study of homelessness, particularly related to their ESRC-funded project 'Losing and finding a home: a life course approach'

- 15:15      *Break*
- 15:45      Keynote: With One Voice  
With One Voice and the Manchester Homeless Charter
- 16:15      **Roundtable and Q&A on 'Homelessness and Representation in Lincolnshire'**  
Chair: Nigel Horner (University of Lincoln)
- Babs Jobling (YMCA, Nomad)  
Dr Amanda Roberts (University of Lincoln)  
Thomas George (University of Lincoln)  
Jonny Goldsmith (P3)  
Let Them Eat Cake volunteer outreach group  
Lynsey Collinson (Development Plus)
- 17:15      Film screening of *Not Just Homeless*
- 18:00      End of first day of conference

## Day 2: Friday 19 July 2019

- 09:00      *Registration and refreshments*
- 09:30      Keynote: Jess and Matt Turtle (Museum of Homelessness)  
              ‘Dehumanised perception, object story-telling, and shifting  
              perceptions of Homelessness’
- 10:15      **Session 3: Homelessness and expertise**  
              Chair: Professor Peter Somerville (University of Lincoln)
- Tessa Buchanan (Garden Court Chambers)  
              Homelessness and public law: how rough sleepers can use the  
              law for their protection
- Dr Beth Watts (Heriot-Watt University)  
              The ethics of public and policy responses to homelessness
- Dr Ligia Teixeira (The Centre for Homelessness Impact)  
              The scientific method and public policy
- Jon Kuhrt (Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local  
              Government)  
              Theological representation: the relevance of biblical texts in a  
              context of homelessness
- Martine Martin (Crisis)  
              ‘Reframing homelessness: the campaign to repeal the Vagrancy  
              Act (1824)’
- 12:15      *Lunch*
- 13:00      Performance by Streetwise Opera, an award-winning charity for  
              people who have experienced homelessness
- 13:30      **Session 4: Homelessness and the arts**  
              Chair: Dr Owen Clayton (University of Lincoln)
- Nigel Horner (University of Lincoln)  
              Powerful learning: understanding others through the fictions of  
              Charles Dickens and beyond
- Dr Tymon Adamczewski (Uniwersytet Kazimierza Wielkiego,  
              Poland)  
              Literature and the experience of homelessness
- Dr Susan A. Phillips (Pitzer College, USA)  
              Street graffiti in Los Angeles’ Skid Row
- Anthony Luvera (Coventry University)  
              *Assisted Self-Portraits and Frequently Asked Questions:*  
              speaking out with people who have experienced homelessness

15:00 Concluding remarks

15:15 End of conference