

**BEN JARMAN** *Experienced prisons researcher, with extensive experience in voluntary sector and academic organisations*

Capable early-career researcher, with a recently completed doctorate on life imprisonment and varied research and practitioner experience in criminal justice. Brings first-class research training, strong publication record, project management experience, and strong people skills to any role.

**I. EDUCATION**

**University of Cambridge, UK** . . . . . **2018 – 2024**  
PhD, Criminology (pass with no corrections)

**University of Cambridge, UK** . . . . . **2016 – 2017**  
MPhil, Criminological Research (pass with distinction)

**UCL Institute of Education, UK** . . . . . **2006 – 2007**  
Postgraduate Certificate in Education, Secondary History (pass))

**University of Cambridge, UK** . . . . . **2000 – 2003**  
BA (Hons), History & Religious Studies (II:1)

**II. EXPERIENCE**

**University of Southampton** . . . . . **Dec 2024 – present**  
Anniversary Fellow  
Southampton, UK  
Postdoctoral research fellowship investigating parole decisions in England & Wales.

**Birkbeck, University of London** . . . . . **Jul 2022 – Nov 2024**  
Senior Research Associate  
London, UK  
Overall responsibility for research on ‘Unlocking potential’, a comparative project on prison work and prison labour in three countries. Desk research and write-up, designed study, carried out remote and in-person research and fieldwork.

**Prison Reform Trust** . . . . . **Oct 2021 – Apr 2022**  
Knowledge Exchange Fellow  
London, UK  
Collaboration: research and write-up of a prisoner policy consultation; roundtable events with senior practitioners and stakeholders; contributions to independent commission report on sentencing policy (see Publications)

**Institute of Criminology** . . . . . **Nov 2017 – Apr 2018**  
Research assistant  
Cambridge, UK  
Research assistance on two projects: archival research commissioned by HMPPS to inform its responses to a judicial inquiry (see ‘Publications’ below); and analysis of qualitative interviews with senior prison leaders.

**Clinks** . . . . . **Oct 2015 – Jul 2016**  
Valuing Volunteering Project Manager  
London, UK  
Project manager for *Valuing Volunteering in Prison* (see Selected Publications). Conducted practitioner and prisoner interviews, analysis, write-up, commissioned and project-managed contributions from 14 partner organisations, on a very tight timescale amid evolving funder demands.

**Fine Cell Work** . . . . . **Oct 2012 – Sep 2015**  
Volunteers & Programmes Manager  
London, UK  
Programme manager. Led support, recruitment, training, and management of volunteers working in 25 prisons nationally. Project-managed rollout of new accredited qualifications built around the programme.

**Clinks** . . . . . **Oct 2011 – Sep 2012**  
Volunteering Development Officer  
London, UK  
Liaison with member organisations, research and write-up of case studies, good practice guidance and policy briefings.



- Quaker Council for European Affairs** . . . . . **Sep 2010 – Oct 2011**  
Valuing Volunteering Project Manager Brussels, Belgium  
International comparative research on prisoner social reintegration policies in Council of Europe member states.
- Immanuel College** . . . . . **Aug 2007 – Jul 2010**  
Valuing Volunteering Project Manager Bushey, UK  
Classroom teacher of pupils aged 11–18, professional mentor of trainee teachers, curriculum development specialist.
- St Francis Xavier College** . . . . . **Jan 2005 – Jul 2006**  
Teacher of Student Support London, UK  
Classroom teacher and teaching assistant working with young people with specific learning difficulties in a 16–19 Further Education college.
- Advertising Standards Authority** . . . . . **Jul 2003 – Nov 2004**  
Investigations Executive London, UK  
Investigations into public and B2B complaints about advertising and marketing.

**III. GRANTS, AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

---

2024–present | University of Southampton Anniversary Fellowship 2021 | ESRC Knowledge Exchange Fellowship 2018–2022 | ESRC Studentship (co-funded by ESRC and Quakers in Britain) 2017 | Manuel López-Rey Graduate Prize, *Proxima accessit* (Univ. of Cambridge, Criminology) 2017– | Member: British Society of Criminology, European Society of Criminology 2013–2014 | Successful £150k bid to the Tudor Trust to set up a new mentoring service at HMP Wandsworth 2008 | General Teaching Council for England: Qualified Teacher Status (Secondary History) 2003 | Lightfoot Prize (Univ. of Cambridge, History)

**IV. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS<sup>1</sup>**

---

**PhD**

2024 | *Moral messages, ethical responses: Punishment and self-governance among men serving life sentences for murder*. University of Cambridge, 2024.

**Peer-reviewed articles**

2024 | Prison work in law and reality: comparative perspectives from Brazil, the UK, and the US. *European Labour Law Journal*, 2024 (with Catherine Heard).

2022 | Life Imprisonment in Mature Adulthood: Adaptation, Risk, and Reform Later in the Life Course. *Prison Service Journal*, 2022.

2021 | False Accounting: Why We Shouldn't Ask People Who Commit Crimes to Pay Their Debts to Society. *Working Notes*, 2021 (with Alice Ievins and Thea Reimer).

2020 | Only One Way to Swim? The Offence and the Life Course in Accounts of Adaptation to Life Imprisonment. *The British Journal of Criminology*, 2020.

2019 | A Poor Prospect Indeed: The State's Disavowal of Child Abuse Victims in Youth Custody, 1960--1990 *Societies*, 2019 (with Caroline Lanskey).

**Briefings and reports**

2024 | *Working Prisoners in the UK: Laws, Policies, and Practical Realities*. Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research, (with Helen Fair).

*Working Prisoners in the USA: Laws, Policies, and Practical Realities*. Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research, (with Helen Fair).

---

<sup>1</sup>Click titles for links. Full list: <https://benjarman.uk/publications>.



2023 | *Labouring behind bars: Assessing international law on working prisoners*. Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research, (with Catherine Heard).

2022 | *Voice, Representation, Relationships: Report of the Open Qualitative Research Working Group*. University of Cambridge, (with Margaret Westbury, Mathieu Candea, Jennifer Gabrys, Sara Hennessy, Ben Jarman, Kiera McNeice, and Curtis Sharma).

*Making Progress? What Progression Means for People Serving the Longest Sentences*. Prison Reform Trust, 2022 (with Claudia Vince).

*Making sense of sentencing: Doing justice to both victim and prisoner*. Prison Reform Trust, 2022 (Credited as adviser; drafted chapters and edited report).

2018 | *Safeguarding Children in the Secure Estate, 1960-2016*. University of Cambridge, (with Lucy Delap, Louise Jackson, Caroline Lanskey, Hannah Marshall, and Loraine Gelsthorpe)

## Keynotes

2024 | *Getting What We Deserve? Imprisonment and the Challenge of Doing Justice*. 2024 Swarthmore Lecture. Woodbrooke Quaker Learning and Research.

## V. SELECTED KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES

---

2022 | Two roundtable events bringing together senior prison managers and civil servants to discuss the findings of PRT consultation on progression and parole for long-term prisoners in England & Wales (see 'Employment' above)

2021 | Adviser to the Independent Commission on the Experiences of Victims and Long-Term Prisoners, attending meetings, writing briefings, and drafting report chapters (see 'Employment' and 'Selected Publications' above)

2019 | Led workshop on desistance and long-term prisoners for staff and volunteers working with the Community Chaplaincy Association

2018 | Practitioner training for prison staff on findings of the Safeguarding in the Secure Estate project (see 'Employment' above)

## VI. KEY RESEARCH SKILLS

---

**Qualitative** | Research methods training: *Qualitative Research in Practice* (Univ. of Cambridge). Experienced in sensitive research topics; semi-structured interviews; focus groups; qualitative analysis with NVivo/Atlas.ti; historical/archival research; team research; research data management; AI transcription using open-source LLMs.

**Quantitative** | Research methods training: *Introducing Quantitative Analysis* and *Factor Analysis* (Univ. of Cambridge). SPSS, SurveyMonkey.

**Publishing** | Self-taught user of document publication systems (WordPress, Markdown, Typora, VSCode, Pandoc, Quarto, GitHub Pages, Typst); self-taught user of software packages and platforms relating to Open Access publishing and version control systems (PubPub, Symplectic Elements, Git); has published on the ethics of open research and data publication in qualitative research featuring confidential and sensitive data.

**Prison-specific** | Negotiating access and recruiting participants in challenging environments; working with prison staff; building rapport; conducting research ethically in complex circumstances.

