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PhD studentship at the Palaeoenvironmental Laboratory, University of Southampton, UK

- Position opportunities -

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The Palaeoenvironmental Laboratory, at the University of Southampton, UK, is offering an exciting opportunity to apply metabarcoding techniques to unearth ancient colonisation and land use patterns.

Rathlin is a small island off the coast of N-Ireland. It has a long and well-studied history of human settlement and land use. First settled in the Mesolithic, deforested in the Bronze Age, the first place in the Irish Sea to be raided by Vikings in AD 795, a population boom to over 1200 inhabitants in the 17th-18th centuries, followed by a population crash because of the 1850s Famine. Rathlin provides a natural gateway to Ireland and so can be used to define the biogeographical border in this region. This PhD project provides a unique opportunity to test out new palaeoecological methods, and particularly sediment DNA (sedaDNA) of determining past ecological history including the timing of species immigration.

Location: Palaeoenvironmental Laboratory University of Southampton, UK

Supervisors: Prof Tony Brown, Dr Paul Hughes, Dr Sandra Nogué-Bosch, Prof Inger Alsos, Dr Maarten van Hardenbroek

Application deadline: **6 January 2017**

Find out more at <https://www.findaphd.com/search/ProjectDetails.aspx?PJID=78989>