



Scottish Group Newsletter

February 2015

www.archaeologists.net/groups/scottish

Training

Training continues to be very active, and there is an upcoming finds training course on offer.

We're always interested to receive feedback from our training events, and to hear ideas for our next events, so do get in touch! And watch this space for further training events to be held in 2015.

www.archaeologists.net/groups/scottish

Archaeological Finds

Hosted by ClfA Scottish Group

Trainer: University of Glasgow

Place: University of Glasgow, The Gregory Building, Glasgow G12 8QQ

Date: 25 February 2015 10am to 4pm

Cost: £5

Run in partnership between ClfA and the University of Glasgow, this CPD event is aimed at anyone who needs an introduction to or a refresher on the range of finds you are likely to encounter in Scotland, from prehistoric to Post-Medieval, and how you should deal with their recovery and study. There will be hands-on workshops where you can examine finds and talk through their identification and treatment on and off site with experts in the periods concerned. There will also be discussion on what needs there might be for further training and professional development in this area.

For more details please visit the event web page at www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/SGIfA-Archaeological-finds.pdf or book directly at the Eventbrite page www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/archaeological-finds-tickets-15437327462

ClfA Standards and guidance

A CPD workshop on standards and guidance, hosted by ClfA Scottish Group and led by Kate Geary, ClfA

standards development manager, took place in Edinburgh on 27 January 2015.

This CPD workshop provided a guide to principles and practice relating to ClfA Standards and guidance with discussion on how these are currently used and likely future developments.

This session was also used to run a trial videoconference link with ORCA and Orkney College, to assess how remote learning might work for members.

Scottish Group Recent Activities

Members of the Scottish Group represent ClfA on a number of other panels and groups, including

- SHED programme management group
- regular BEFS Historic Environment Working Group meetings.
- Archaeological Archives in Scotland discussion group
- Historic Environment Bill stakeholder workshops

ClfA also continues to be involved, through a BEFS taskforce, in the progress of the Scottish Government bill to merge Historic Scotland and RCAHMS into Historic Environment Scotland.

Part of the Group's work is to assist ClfA's main office in Reading in responding to historic environment consultations relevant to Scotland and Scottish members. ClfA recently responded to consultations on

- setting in the Historic Scotland Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes series

Chartership

Chartered Institute launch

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) launched on Tuesday 9 December 2014 at the Museum of London. The sessions recorded at this are now available via YouTube to access at your leisure.

Please follow the link below to access the Workshop session surrounding the launch of ClfA Practice Paper 11, 2014, *An introduction to providing career entry training in your organisation*. Presentations were led by Gill Hey (Oxford Archaeology) and Simon Woodiwiss (Worcester Archive and Archaeology service). This highlights the delivery of innovative training programmes in the archaeological sector by Registered Organisations.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOadXJTpY4M

The next link below will direct you to a recording of the last session of the day which was centred on the Chartered Institute, what this means for organisations and individuals, and future plans for the profession. The keynote speakers for this session were Diana Murray (Former Chair ClfA, RCAHMS), Jan Wills (Chair ClfA), Ben Jervis (Cardiff University) and Natalie Ward (Brecon Beacons National Park Authority) both of whom sit on the committee for the New Generation Group.

www.archaeologypodcastnetwork.com/crmarchpodcast/49-1

What has changed?

As of Tuesday 9 December we ceased trading as the Institute for Archaeologists and instead become the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Although our name has changed, our primary activities and purpose remain the same. ClfA is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas. We continue to promote high professional standards and strong ethics in archaeological practice, to maximise the benefits that archaeologists bring to society.

Members of IfA have transferred to become members of ClfA and accredited members' post-nominals have changed to reflect this (e.g. PIfA has become PCIfA, AIfA has become ACIfA and MIfA has become MCIfA). We will ensure that both colleagues and clients alike are aware of these changes, and are clear about what they mean.

ClfA is governed by its Royal Charter and by-laws so these will replace the Memorandum and Articles of Association for IfA. In terms of the by-laws members have signed up to, these have been replaced by the regulations which members voted on in October 2013.

The biggest change for the Institute itself will be how ClfA is run as an organisation. The former Council has been replaced by a two tier system comprising a Board of Directors (responsible for running the institute) and an Advisory Council (which will focus on policy and long-term strategy). These changes will enable greater representation from ClfA membership with both individual elected members and representation via our Area and Special Interest groups (who will each have a seat on the Advisory Council).

Why have we become chartered?

Becoming a chartered institute will significantly raise the profile of the Institute and the archaeological profession. It brings us in step with other chartered professions such as architects, planners, surveyors and engineers etc and in turn it will raise the profile of accredited members of the Institute. Achieving chartered status for the Institute has been in our Strategic Plan for a long time, and has been something members have been keen to pursue. About four years ago we decided that the Institute was in a position to possibly achieve this recognition and started work to submit a formal application to the Privy Council.

This is something to celebrate, and is a significant step forward for archaeology as a profession. Many members of other professions pay serious attention to the stamp of charter and will look for individuals and organisations who are linked to chartered bodies.

What does Charter mean?

To be clear, at this stage it is the Institute itself that has been Chartered and not its individual members. In the past Royal Charters were the only means of incorporating a body (turning a collection of individuals into a single legal entity). Now this can be done through other means, such as becoming a registered company, so the granting of a Royal Charter is comparatively rare. New grants of royal charters are 'reserved for eminent professional

bodies or charities which have a solid record of achievement' (Privy Council website).

This is a significant step forward for archaeology as a profession and is something to celebrate, but is not the end of the process. Members of other professions will recognise the stamp of charter and look for individuals and organisations who are linked to chartered bodies but we still need to work with members, Registered Organisations and colleagues across a range of bodies including the National Agencies, ALGAO and FAME to ensure that the grant of Charter brings real benefits to the profession.

Board of Directors

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) is governed by its Royal Charter and by-laws. The Board of Directors is responsible for managing the affairs of CIfA in accordance with the Charter and by-laws, with the day to day running of CIfA carried out by the staff.

The Board of Directors has up to twelve members which include the Honorary Chair, Honorary Treasurer, six further elected members, the Chief Executive, a staff member, and the option for two further members to bring in relevant expertise. Elections are for a three-year period with the option of standing for a further three-year term. The Board of Directors usually meets six times per year, and in addition Board members will be invited to attend meetings of the Advisory Council.

Candidates standing for election to the Board of Directors will need to complete a nomination form explaining why they are interested in standing for election, and what skills and qualities they have that are relevant to the Board.

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council represents the interests of the membership and offer thoughtful and detailed advice to the Board of Directors on policy, strategy and potentially controversial decisions.

The Advisory Council has up to 40 members, 20 of which are elected by the membership and up to 20 filled by representatives from each individual special interest or area group. Elections are for a three-year period with the option of standing for a further three-year term. The Advisory Council usually meets twice a year (timings of these are to be decided) and will invite members of the Board of Directors to attend.

Members of the Advisory Council may not be members of the Board of Directors and vice versa. Candidates can stand for election to both, but election to the Board of Directors will take precedence.

Further Information

[Charter and by-laws](#)

[FAQs](#)

News

Historic Environment Scotland: new body moves closer

The Historic Environment Scotland Bill, which creates a new lead body for the historic environment in Scotland, was approved unanimously by the Scottish Parliament on 4 November 2014, and received Royal Assent in early December.

Details of the debate are [here](#)

The Bill as passed is [here](#)

The Scottish Government's consultation website will be carrying a public consultation on the new and revised regulations required to adjust heritage management processes in line with the Bill. This launched on 19 December and will run until 27 March.

Aberdeen City Council: Temporary Provision of Limited Archaeology Service

Bruce Mann MCIfA, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service

As many of you will already know, following on from the retirement of Judith Stones at the end of November 2014 Aberdeen City Council have been without an Archaeology Service. In order to rectify this issue a temporary agreement, starting today and lasting until the 31 March 2015, has been reached whereby Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service will provide the following limited service:

- 1) sign-off of all reports related to archaeological mitigation works that have already been conditioned within Planning Applications. This will also include discussions where appropriate with

contractors over any secondary phases of work which may be required.

- 2) recommendations for work on all new major planning applications and master plans within Aberdeen City Boundary.
- 3) introduction of a guidance note for Aberdeen City Council development management staff over mitigation requirements for new planning applications.
- 4) guidance on Local Development Plan policy and supplementary guidance.

The HER will not be maintained during this period, nor will we be able to provide extracts from it for the purposes of DBAs, EIAs etc.

The aim of this agreement is to ensure that contractors are not hampered or unnecessarily delayed whilst undertaking work within Aberdeen City, and that a basic level of protection is in place for the historic environment. Discussions are ongoing over the future of an archaeology service within Aberdeen City and further updates will be provided in due course.

In the meantime all queries relating to Aberdeen City should be directed to:

bruce.mann@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Prospect Union and the archaeologist.

Daniel Rhodes ACIfA, National Trust for Scotland



I'm an archaeologist and work for the National Trust for Scotland. Before this I worked for nearly 10 years as a commercial archaeologist in Ireland and researcher around the world. I've been a member of the Prospect Trade Union since my first day of work in Scotland over 6 years ago and am currently the Secretary of the National Trust for Scotland Branch. Why?

Since 2010 our union Branch has secured an average pay increase of 11% and worked in partnership with

NTS to establish safe working environments and stress free working lives.

Our membership consist of senior managers, part time, permanent and seasonal staff. I've been called upon to provide advice to members on a broad number of issues ranging from employment rights, pensions and office facilities, to working hours, transport and housing.

As well as issues of employment law and conditions, myself and other members have benefitted from a broad range of support provided by Prospect. Over the years I have received free financial advice when setting up a pension and looking for a mortgage; organised IT training for union members and even learned French through the Union's Learning Reps.

For those of us interested in environmental and social issues worldwide, members are also able to contribute to Prospect's work as Development Advocates and work in partnership with international organisations such as Oxfam to promote responsible purchases and investment by employers and work toward the reduction of global poverty.

Prospect is also working with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist (CIfA), the Digger's Forum and the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME) to improve pay and conditions, training, health and safety, and career development.

It isn't them and us. It's about people. Supporting and improving the day to day opportunities and relationships in the workplace in Scotland and around the world. We all spend the vast majority of our lives at work, so who wouldn't want to contribute to making that a good place for everyone?

If you're interested in talking about the work of Prospect please get in touch with either me (drhodes@nts.org.uk) or John Sinclair (john.sinclair@prospect.org.uk).

Understanding the Marine Historic Environment

Philip Robertson MCIfA, Deputy Head of Scheduling, Marine and Battlefields, Historic Scotland

The recent introduction of a marine planning system, reformed marine licensing, and development of Marine Protected Areas to protect Scotland's

outstanding marine natural and cultural heritage are new tools which can deliver significant benefits for Scotland's cultural heritage. However, a [training needs analysis](#) conducted for Historic Scotland by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) pinpointed the urgent need for awareness training in marine issues to assist the professional heritage and marine sectors to play a constructive role offshore.

Building on recommendations set out in the CIfA report, Philip Robertson, Historic Scotland's marine expert, recently delivered two, day-long training sessions for internal Heritage Management staff, and for members of the Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers (ALGAO). Philip was assisted by staff from Marine Scotland, Wessex Archaeology and the Shetland Amenity Trust.

During the morning, participants gained an insight into the significance of Scotland's marine historic environment, the range of pressures on it, useful sources of information, the policy and legal framework, and management roles and responsibilities. Case studies during the afternoon explored in more detail how heritage is considered in marine planning and offshore development through the perspectives of an archaeological contractor involved in offshore/onshore environmental impact assessment, and a Local Authority Archaeologist advising on the development of regional marine plans. Group discussions identified the foreshore as an area of archaeological significance where marine and terrestrial planning systems overlap and effective collaboration is a high priority.

Historic Scotland's intention is to extend this offer of training more widely, for example to marine planners, licensing authorities, developers, other sea-user groups, and enforcement bodies so that these sectors can learn about the marine historic environment, and begin to play a positive role in protecting significant elements of it for the benefit of future generations. More detailed skills development training in specific areas, for example marine geophysics, can be considered on a case by case basis as further needs arise.

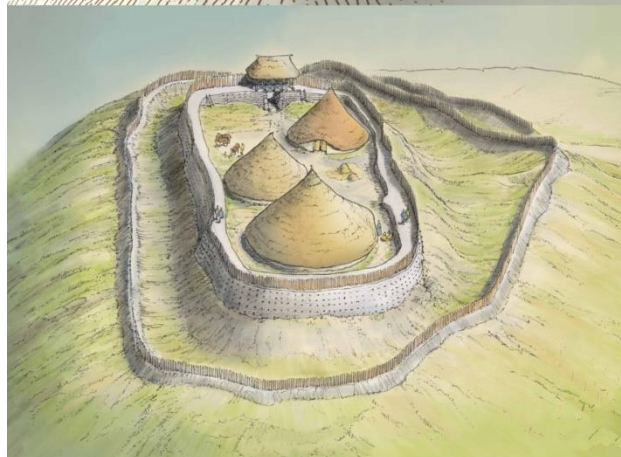
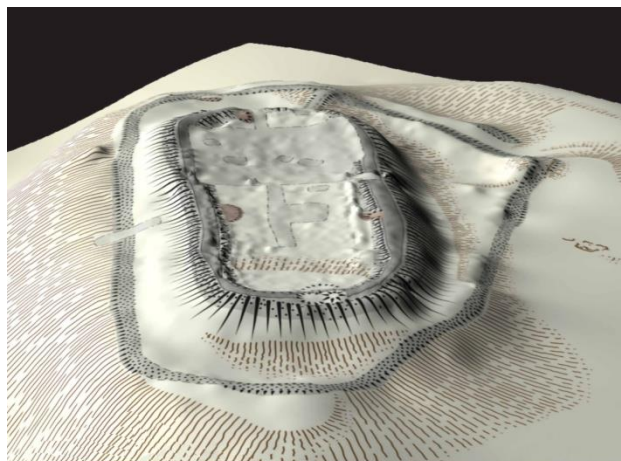
If you are interested in finding out more about this training, please contact Philip Robertson, Deputy Head of Scheduling, Marine and Battlefields, Historic Scotland, 0131 668 8843, or philip.robertson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

A developing resource: CPD and the *Curriculum for Excellence* at Craig Phadrig

Matt Ritchie MCIfA, Forestry Commission Scotland

Forestry Commission Scotland and RCAHMS recently entered into a partnership to help as part of the skills development of an RCAHMS / HLF funded IfA Workplace Learning Bursary scheme placement. The partnership project extended training in survey and recording into archive research and reporting. Craig Phadrig is one of the finest hill forts on Scotland's national forest estate, its substantial vitrified ramparts set in woodland above Inverness and the Beaulie Firth. Following a resurvey by RCAHMS in late 2013, the resulting publication (*Craig Phadrig, Inverness: Survey and Review*) is an excellent overview of a hitherto much studied (but little published) site of truly national importance. With little additional resource - but much collaborative goodwill - we have enhanced the various historic environment records and enabled further CPD on top of the excellent IfA Workplace Learning Bursary Scheme.

The survey was also used by Rubicon Heritage to enhance a terrain model which, in turn, was used by artist Chris Mitchell to inform a series of reconstruction drawings. These drawings depict the hillfort as it may have been in the past - and as it may have appeared during excavation in the 1970s. The drawings will be used to illustrate a forthcoming FCS Pictish learning resource which aims to encourage teachers to include the topic of The Picts in their classroom curriculum. In particular, it aims to encourage the exploration of one of our fine hill forts (such as Craig Phadrig, Knock Farill and Caisteal Mac Tuathall) alongside the investigation of local Pictish carved stones and a visit to their local museum. The resource will be launched as part of *Dig It! 2015* and supports the *Curriculum for Excellence*. The FCS learning resource (developed with input from SCRAN, Historic Scotland, Archaeology Scotland and Highlife Highland) and Craig Phadrig survey project (with RCAHMS) also meet many of the aims and objectives of *Our Place in Time: the historic environment strategy for Scotland*. *Craig Phadrig, Inverness: Survey and Review* is available from www.rcahms.gov.uk/news/craig-phadrig-research-project.



Craig Phadrig was first built in the 4th or 5th Century BC and was later reoccupied in the Pictish period, around 500 to 700 AD. Today, the area around the hillfort has been planted with trees, but the top of the hillfort has not been planted and the ramparts and interior are easy to make out. The hillfort occupied a commanding position overlooking the Beaulieu Firth. These three images depict the hillfort of Craig Phadrig following the RCAHMS archaeological measured survey (the ramparts highlighted on a terrain model by Rubicon Heritage); as it would perhaps have looked when it was occupied; and as it would have appeared during the archaeological excavations over

forty years ago. Using the maps and plans available from the Historic Environment Record, children can draw maps reflecting their own experiences of the site. A supporting series of illustrations by Tom Small (www.smallfindsdesign.co.uk) will help children understand Pictish carvings with a simple visual style that remains faithful to the originals.



On a SURE footing: the NTS Sites and Monuments Record

Stefan Sagrott ACIfA, NTS Archaeological Data Officer

In January 2013, work began on turning the archaeology department's paper based SMR into an electronic resource. The SURE system (established in partnership between RCAHMS and the NTS, and now including a wide range of users) has been utilised to input all the archaeological data collected by the National Trust for Scotland Archaeology Department over the last twenty years into Canmore.

The main aim of the project has been completed with all the 11,336 archaeological sites and monuments managed by the NTS now visible on Canmore, with existing entries enhanced and new sites entered. All sites have been tagged with the NTS property name in the first instance, thus making them easy to search in Canmore. The data input work has been carried out by NTS staff and volunteers, to which we are very thankful.

Alongside this all the sites and monuments have been polygonised as either *known site extents* (a polygon showing the extents of a site) or as a *discovery area* (an area where a site is known from, but the exact location is not known). As well as utilising existing data, historic mapping and aerial imagery for NTS properties was examined to make sure that all features are included. The polygonisation work was carried out using the DSP guidelines produced by RCAHMS, ensuring that they remain consistent with the national dataset produced as part of the DSP project, and it is expected that a copy of the polygons will be handed over to RCAHMS to be added to the national dataset in early 2015.

With the system now in place, Canmore entries will be directly updated as new archaeological work is carried out and it is expected that the entries for the NTS Listed Buildings will be further enhanced over 2015.

For any queries or further information please contact ssagrott@nts.org.uk

New research into the vegetation history of central Scotland

Susan Ramsay

A peat core taken from Ravelrig Bog, close to a number of later prehistoric settlements to the west of Edinburgh, contained palaeoenvironmental material spanning the entire Holocene period. The publication of the results of this work reveals evidence of human impact on the landscape from the Neolithic right up to the present day.

In 2007, the former Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division (G.U.A.R.D.) undertook a vegetation survey and an examination of the peat stratigraphy of an area of raised mire in advance of the extension of Ravelrig Quarry, by Kirknewton, to the west of Edinburgh, on behalf of Tarmac Limited. The survey of peat stratigraphy indicated that the peat that remained extended to a depth of over 7m in places. The peat was characteristic of a raised mire that had developed over a small, rocky basin and held the potential for being an important palaeoenvironmental resource that might provide information on the vegetation history of the area dating back to the early Holocene period. An initial palynological assessment of a core taken from this site showed that pollen preservation was excellent and that the base of the deposit extended back over 10,000 years.

Most previous studies of the vegetation history of central Scotland have concentrated on the last 3,000 years of environmental history. This has tended to be because extensive industrial and agricultural activity in the central belt of Scotland, which was the industrial heartland of the country, has removed many potential sites of palaeoenvironmental importance over recent centuries, and so there have been few chances to construct a pollen diagram from this region that covers most of the Holocene period.

The nearest published sites at comparable altitudes in central Scotland lie over 30 km to the west. The presence at Ravelrig Bog of an area of deep peat in an area that has a rich archaeological record and is also located close to agricultural land provided a unique opportunity to study the effects of human activity on the environment of this part of Scotland.



Ravelrig Bog © GUARD Archaeology

There is plentiful archaeological evidence for human occupation of the area surrounding Ravelrig Bog from the prehistoric until the present day. The most significant archaeological sites are two hillforts that occupy the summits of Dalmahoy Hill and Kaimes Hill. Dalmahoy Hill is unexcavated but from its nucleated fort morphology, it is thought to have been occupied in the pre-Roman Iron Age and again in the early medieval period. In contrast, Kaimes Hill has evidence of human activity dating back to the Mesolithic period, with intensification of activity throughout the Bronze Age but was subsequently abandoned during the later Iron Age, when the focus of settlement may have moved to Dalmahoy Hill. In addition, an Early Iron Age palisaded homestead, approximately 1 km to the north/north-east of the coring site, was excavated in advance of the Ravelrig Quarry extension. Excavations at this palisaded homestead by G.U.A.R.D., which will be published in the forthcoming volume of the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, produced evidence for the use of woodland resources for fuel and building materials, with AMS radiocarbon dating indicating that the main focus of activity was during the period 400 - 800 cal BC.

Pollen analysis of the Ravelrig core has shown that the bog started out as a small lochan, within a rocky hollow that was formed at the end of the last glacial

period. Aquatic plants gave way to marshland and finally raised Sphagnum bog as natural succession progressed. During the early Holocene, the woodlands of the area were dominated by birch, hazel and willow but developed into mixed oak, elm and hazel woodlands by the mid-Holocene.

Previous studies have suggested that the first major woodland clearances in central Scotland occurred in the pre-Roman Iron Age, with the cleared agricultural landscape being maintained throughout the Roman period. However, at Ravelrig, human impact on the landscape is recorded from the Neolithic period onwards, with increasing woodland clearance and agricultural activity in the Bronze Age, and a peak in activity in the pre-Roman Iron Age. Pastoral agriculture was the dominant form of farming in the area, although there is evidence for the cultivation of cereals from the later Bronze Age onwards. These periods of agricultural intensification appear to correspond with known periods of occupation at the nearby hillforts.

There appears to have been a slight decline in agricultural activity around 250 BC - AD 150, which could be the result of the abandonment of Dalmahoy hillfort and could also be associated with the Roman invasion of the area during this period. Birch pollen levels increased significantly, suggesting that land that was previously farmed was abandoned and was gradually colonised by birch woodland - birches being pioneer species that colonise open ground prior to climax tree species, such as oak and elm, which colonised the wooded area later in the succession.

There was a slight increase in agricultural activity for a short period between c.AD 400 - 600, which might correspond with the proposed reoccupation of Dalmahoy hillfort in the early medieval period. There was a further decline in agriculture and a recolonisation of land by alder and birch during the period AD 600 - 1450. This adds to the evidence obtained from other sites in central Scotland for a widespread decline in agriculture, with a corresponding regeneration of woodlands during much of this period. It is not clear what the cause of this agricultural decline might be but further work may be able to determine a more precise date range for this event. It has been suggested that there were some reversions to a colder and wetter climate during the sixth to ninth centuries AD, which could explain why areas once suitable for agriculture perhaps

became too wet to grow crops and agriculture had to be moved to sites with better drainage. This explanation could account for the significant increase in alder (a tree of wetter areas and river banks) that is seen at Ravelrig during this period.



Ravelrig Bog © GUARD Archaeology

The last major episode of woodland clearance began around AD 1450, with the cleared landscape continuing until the present day. Evidence for an increase in pine pollen at the top of the pollen diagram suggests that the bog surface is intact and so a complete sequence has been analysed.

The full results of this research, which was funded by Tarmac Ltd and managed by GUARD Archaeology Ltd, *ARO13: Viewing the Holocene: Vegetation History of Ravelrig Bog, Kirknewton, Edinburgh*, has just been published and is now freely available to download from the ARO website www.archaeologyreportsonline.com.

Update on Recent Archaeology Conferences in Scotland

Doug Rocks-Macqueen, Student member
Director of Analysis, Research and Technology at
Landward Research Ltd

The last quarter of 2014 saw several archaeology conferences take place throughout Scotland. I was fortunate enough to be invited to film the presentations given at these conferences. While not every presentation could be filmed the majority were. What follows is a brief description of these conferences and the links to the videos to watch if you were not lucky enough to attend these conferences or if you want to experience them again.

Tayside and Fife Archaeology conference

www.tafac.org.uk/category/conferences/

On 1 November 2014 the conference was held in Dundee, at the University of Abertay, Bell Street. The keynote speaker was Alison Sheridan, Principal Curator of the Early Prehistory section of the Scottish History and Archaeology Department at NMS. Alison spoke on the Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Bronze Age in 'Tayside and Fife, 4000 – 1500 BC: what we know and what we need to find out'. Alison's talk was sponsored by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Regional Fund and was this year's prestigious Buchan Lecture.

The other speakers were Ally Becket on Pittentian, Derek Hall on Dundee Sugar House, Christina Donald on adding a new dimension to Dundee's carved stones, Melanie Johnson on excavations at Crieff, Alan Miller on digital reconstruction and community engagement, Oliver O'Grady on Royal Scone and discovering the ancient Lomonds, Edwina Proudfoot on Scottish Churches Heritage Research, Jo Hambly on imaging work at Wemyss Caves and Jeff Sanders on Dig It! 2015.

All videos of the conference can be viewed on this playlist:

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBjeGwwG0rtToko1_w_wEvRsS8GrT7cW

Scotland's Community Heritage Conference 2014

www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk/news/scotlands-community-heritage-conference-2014

Scotland's Community Heritage Conference 2014 was held on 8 November 2014 at the Crieff Hydro Hotel in Crieff. The conference was a mix of training workshops, poster talks, presentations showcasing volunteer-led projects and the popular 'one minute madness'! The emphasis, as always, was on contributions from volunteers and community groups, and on providing a forum for networking and the exchange of news and ideas.

Scotland's Community Heritage Conference was organised by a partnership of several organisations: Archaeology Scotland, RCAHMS, Northlight Heritage, the Scottish Civic Trust, Historic Scotland, Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, the SCAPE Trust, the National Trust for Scotland and DigIt2015!

All videos of the conference can be viewed on this playlist:

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBjeGwwG0rtT5IU7THEyzjLgzKQSkabZb

Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders Archaeology Conference

www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/844/archaeology/929/archaeology_whats_on

Held on 21 November this annual conference was organised by City of Edinburgh Council, East Lothian Council and Scottish Borders Council. It provided an important opportunity to hear and discuss first-hand accounts of the archaeological fieldwork and research being undertaken in Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian, and the Scottish Borders.

All videos of the conference can be viewed on this playlist:

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBjeGwwG0rtQbP7uxutRRDpAxkFagRI9O

Royal Scone: A Scottish Medieval Royal Centre in Europe

www.academia.edu/8193468/Royal_Scone_A_Scottish_Medieval_Royal_centre_in_Europe

This conference brought together scholars from Scotland who are researching aspects of Scone's archaeology, architectural history, legal and political history, and colleagues internationally working on royal inauguration and assembly places across northern Europe. Collectively, they explored the physical environment of assembly places, the evolution of the social and political institutions embodied in such locations, the ideologies represented through them, and the resonances and associations which such sites still have in the popular consciousness throughout Europe.

The conference was held on 27 and 28 November in Perth. It was sponsored by Stirling University, St. Andrews University, The Edinburgh Royal Society and OJT heritage.

All videos of the conference can be viewed on this playlist:

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBjeGwwG0rtSwAVzzGobESJ-8w1TOvZKJ

CIfA Conference

The Cardiff 2015 conference (from 15 to 17 April) will be the first as the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists and we are really excited about what discussions and debates will be had.

The conference theme is *The Future of Our Profession*, and the conference and training event will include at least ten research sessions and five discussion seminars, along with CPD training workshops, fringe events, excursions and networking opportunities.

We are delighted to announce that the Welsh Government's Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism will be addressing delegates at the conference opening. The theme - *The future of your profession* - is very apt for this time. Your professional body has taken a huge step forward and we hope the impact of that will be felt across the profession itself. Sessions will be discussing future developments in policy and practice, and also taking a look at what we all might be doing in a few years' time.

Information on how to book, session abstracts and venue information can all be found on the conference web pages:

www.archaeologists.net/conference/2015info

Please note that Friday 6 March is the deadline for standard booking rates. After this the day rate for delegates will increase.

Obituary

Jane Brann, Dumfries & Galloway Council Archaeologist

Jonathan Wordsworth MCIfA, Archaeology Scotland

Friends and colleagues of Jane Brann were saddened to hear of her death on 19 December 2014. Jane graduated from Leeds University in 1980 and worked on excavations in Cyprus as well as in the Sudan. Most of her career was spent on excavations throughout the UK, from Orkney to Barnstaple, but in particular for the Urban Archaeology Unit and RCAHMS before being appointed the first Archaeologist for Dumfries & Galloway Council in 1988. She was responsible for setting up the Sites & Monuments Record (now the

HER with the support of Andy Nicholson appointed in 1999) and added many sites from her own surveys in the course of her duties. She recognised the importance of working closely with local communities, not just the Whithorn Trust and the Dumfries & Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society, but also smaller groups like the Kirkconnel Parish Heritage Society. She was always helpful to visiting professional archaeologists, whether the 2014 Hillfort Study Group or the GUARD archaeologists working on the recent Dunragit Bypass excavations.

Jane realised early on that in a predominantly rural council, development control work through planning control could only be part of her role. As one of the most heavily wooded areas of Scotland, forestry was a major preoccupation and excellent relationships have been built up by her and Andy with local foresters to examine new plantings and commenting on forest plans. She engaged extensively with local farmers through the agri-environment schemes to protect archaeological sites in farmland and, though opportunities were reduced through policy changes, she continued to take a lead in rural issues within ALGAO, recognising the importance of ALGAO as a network for better policies in Scotland. Jane took a holistic view of the countryside and worked through landscape colleagues and latterly as Team Leader for Environmental Planning to integrate natural and cultural heritage interests, making sure that the historic environment was supported at a landscape scale. This involved supporting the use of Historic Land Use Assessment and the identification of significant historic landscape areas in Dumfries & Galloway. This has been vindicated by the work her team has done to identify areas suitable for wind farms.

Jane can best be remembered by SGClfA members actively supporting those working and volunteering in Dumfries & Galloway, and for maintaining her legacy of protecting, managing and promoting the historic environment of the region.

Membership of the Scottish Group is free for ClfA members, and is £10 per year for non-ClfA members. Please feel free to circulate this newsletter and we would ask you to encourage your friends/colleagues to join the Group.

For more information on the ClfA's Scottish Group please see our website, where you can download copies of meeting minutes and past newsletters, and keep up-to-date with the work of the Group and training courses, and our Facebook page:
www.archaeologists.net/groups/scottish

Keep in touch with us via the Scottish Group's Facebook page, where information about events and the work of the Group will be publicised. Search for 'Scottish Group of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' and 'like' us.

Newsletters are published 3-4 times a year and contributions from members are welcome. To make a contribution to forthcoming editions of the Newsletter please email:
mel@cfa-archaeology.co.uk