

Members eBulletin, March 2023

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Cifa NEWS ROUNDUP

Registration for CIFA Conference 2023



NOTTINGHAM

Registration for [Cifa2023](#) is still open. We have extended the conference registration deadline to 23:59 on Monday, 10 April 2023.

There are two registration pages: one for the [live conference in Nottingham](#), the other for the [livestreamed conference online](#). If you are looking to book a group of attendees, please email conference@archaeologists.net.

There are also still spaces for interested parties to exhibit at conference. We encourage exhibitors from a range of archaeological backgrounds. Our [exhibitor brochure](#), booking form, and further information can all be found on the [conference website](#).

The Archaeologist - final call for articles



This is the final call for articles for the summer issue of *The Archaeologist*, which will showcase environmental archaeology, its central role in telling the stories of the past, and in navigating the environmental challenges of the future.

With climate change at the top of agendas across the sector, and an enhanced interest in past, present and future environments, the role of the environmental archaeologist has never been more important.

The deadline for contributions is 1 April, and more information can be found about how to [submit an article here](#).

Published three times a year, the latest editions of The Archaeologist magazine are available to CIFA members, with back issues also available for non-members to download (see the link above).

We need you for Validation committee and application panels!



Are you interested in ensuring that archaeologists have the knowledge, skills and professionalism to meet the needs of society, clients and stakeholders in the future? If so, we need you!

The role of our Validation committee is to carry out a peer review process to assess individual applications against the requirements for CIFA accreditation for both ethical and technical competence. We have been holding them virtually this last year and hope to hold one in person later this year.

We have welcomed three new committee members this last year, but we are always looking for accredited members at any grade (PCIFA, ACIFA, MCIFA), to get involved to ensure we have a wide representation for this process, particularly for the specialisms. This helps applicants but also benefits individuals and can count towards your CPD. Find out more about [getting involved here](#).

Accredited at Member (MCIFA)?

We are also seeking panel members to undertake the professional review interviews for MCIFA accreditation and will offer training and support for this.

We have vacancies for professional review panellists to help us assess competence through our professional accreditation processes.

We are just concluding our March interview window and the next window is week commencing 11 September. Training will be provided.

Are you interested?

Please email Lianne to find out more lianne.birney@archaeologists.net

Membership Update

Join over 3000 accredited professionals!

Accreditation demonstrates you have the skills and professionalism to carry out your work and that you've committed to work in accordance with CIfA's professional Code of conduct.

[Find out more about joining here](#)

This brings our total membership to 4133, divided into 3193 accredited and 940 non-accredited.

The break-down is as follows:

Honorary MCIfA	11
MCIfA	1596
ACIfA	741
PCIfA	845
Affiliate	421
Student	519

The first meeting of 2023 has continued to see an increase in the number of new and upgrading applicants, in particular new Practitioner (PCIfA) applicants, many of which were successful. We are pleased to tell you that 11 existing members successfully upgraded, and 26 new applicants were successfully accredited.

Since January 2023 we have validated 31 Student and 9 Affiliate members, plus 8 successful re-joiners at accredited grades.

We are also continuing our free workshops to help applicants complete the application process for accreditation, which have proved useful to those who have attended, many of whom have made successful applications. Look out for more dates soon!

We look forward to receiving your application!

[Find out more here](#) and [apply online here](#). If you need any help, please contact Lianne or Ellen at membership@archaeologists.net.

CIfA subscription renewal information

The subscription renewal notices for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 were circulated this month. If you have not received yours, please let us know or [renew your subscription online](#).

To renew your subscription online you will need to log in to your account. If you have any problems, please see our [CIfA website login instructions](#).

Once you have paid your subscription fees you will be able to download your most recent card from your member dashboard via a PC or smart phone/tablet. If you require a hard copy of your member card, please email admin@archaeologists.net

Being part of a professional body isn't just about products, discounts and services, but it's always useful to know that CifA membership is [tax deductible](#) and gives you a [15% discount from Cotswold Outdoor](#), plus many other [membership benefits](#)!

[The Historic Environment: Policy and Practice journal](#)

There are four issues of the journal per year available to CifA members at a reduced annual subscription fee and we now offer different ways that you can receive these.

Print only £34.00 | Print and online £44.00 | Online only £17.00

You can sign up to one of these options when joining CifA and you can change your preference when renewing your subscription.

If you have any queries regarding your CifA subscription renewal, please see the [subscriptions page](#) of our website and [subscription FAQs](#). Do not hesitate to contact us if you cannot find the answer you are looking for.

Best wishes

Laura Beasley

[Subscriptions and Business Support Manager](#)

Registered Organisation update

Registered Organisation scheme inspections

We have now completed almost all 28 inspections for the 2022-23 period. Seventeen of those organisations have been registered to date. One has not progressed any further with registration. Four new organisations have joined the scheme and one has left voluntarily. Currently there are eighty-four organisations registered on the scheme.

Between the seventeen organisations registered so far, there have been 8 conditions of registration, 34 recommendations to implement and 28 recommendations to consider. These have covered training and development, reports, archives, public benefit, volunteers, conflicts of interest, quality assurance, CifA accreditation, as well as organisation issues, H&S, staffing and terms and conditions.



Several conditions and recommendations have been made in regard to training, particularly for career starters. There are various reasons for this including the impact of Covid-19 on training, the requirements for new organisations to meet the standards expected of RO's and the fact that more organisations are taking on trainees in order to develop and retain staff due of lack of capacity.

Generally around 6 reports are requested by each panel and scrutinised in detail as part of the inspection, including the accompanying WSIs. This has resulted in recommendations covering several different issues, particularly around quality assurance.

Half the organisations registered received a recommendation to increase their ratio of CIfA accredited members. This is because it is the opinion of the Registration Committee (Organisations) that RO's should be supporting and promoting individual accreditation as part of their duties under the Code of conduct. Individual accreditation is an assurance that staff are competent and committed to maintaining their CPD, and they are expected to comply with and be accountable to the Code of conduct.

The conditions and recommendations will be summarised once the final organisations have been registered. In the meantime the headlines for the previous two years can be on [this page](#).

Call for inspection panel members 2023-24

We have now set the inspection schedule for the coming year and we are finalising arrangements for inspection panels. We aim to have three people on each inspection panel in addition to the CIfA representative and we welcome expressions of interest from across the membership. Those people who have been involved in past inspections have reported it to be a positive and interesting experience and great CPD. The details can be [found here](#).

Registration Committee (Organisations)

The Registration Committee (Organisations) processes applications for registration and advises the Board of Directors on the development of the RO scheme. Several members of the committee are coming to the end of their tenure and spaces are available for new members. We welcome applicants of all grades. Information about the work of the committee [can be found here](#) along with the application form and person specification.

If you would like an informal chat about joining an inspection panel or the Registration Committee (Organisations), or have any questions about any aspect of the RO scheme contact Kerry.wiggins@archaeologists.net, Direct dial: 0118 304 8518, mobile: 07808 780951

Book Reviews

CIfA Standards and universal guidance consultation



Have your say - consultation on the revised Standards and universal guidance for archaeological fieldwork

CIfA is updating and reformatting its suite of technical Standards and supporting guidance for archaeological practice to ensure the information is fit-for-purpose and applicable to all those engaged in archaeological work, wherever they may be based.

As part of this process, you are invited to review and comment on the redrafted Standard and guidance information for field evaluation, archaeological excavation, and archaeological watching brief. The deadline for feedback is Thursday 6 April 2023. Further information [can be found here](#).



You can find our full list of books available for review [here](#).

If you are interested in sending in a publication to be included in our reviews please send an email to admin@archaeologists.net

If you need any further information please see our [book review guidance](#)

Events/training

Keep up-to-date with all our events via our [events webpage](#).



Lunchtime chat: reviewing CIfA'S Code of conduct

30 March | 12.30 - 13.15 | online

Join Peter Hinton, CIfAs Chief Executive at this informal consultation session to share your views on potential updates to CIfA's *Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology*

[Register here](#)



Lunchtime CPD: OASIS and Research Frameworks

24 April | 12:30 – 1:15pm | online

This short session will take a short walkthrough (with Q and A) demonstrating the updated results page of OASIS and how this links to Research Frameworks.

[Register here](#)

Other Events



IHBC NI Retrofit for the Future CPD Event

3rd May | 9.30 - 14.00 | Belfast

The UK and Ireland has committed to net zero by 2050. The challenges of retrofit are many, including protecting the external integrity & the traditional construction from inappropriate or un-informed intervention. Our 3 speakers will share their experiences as they have wrestled with this subject.

[Register here](#)

The Northern Ireland branch of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation, in partnership with CIfA amongst others, will be hosting a CPD event in Belfast on 3rd May, entitled Retrofit for the Future.

The UK and Ireland has committed to net zero by 2050. Traditional, built heritage or just plain older buildings present amazing opportunities to reduce energy use and take advantage of the existing embodied carbon. The challenges of retrofit are many, including protecting the external integrity and the historic fabric or traditional construction from inappropriate or un-informed intervention or 'improvements'. Three speakers with a wealth of expertise will share their experiences as they have wrestled with this subject.

For further information and to register for this event, [click here](#).

Other News



The Roman Finds Group is holding its Spring Conference in Nottingham from 21st – 22nd April, when it will examine New Research on Finds from the Roman Midlands and Beyond.

There will be five sessions of papers, with 21 illustrated talks on various aspects of finds from recent work in the Roman Midlands and further afield, with the conference taking place both live and online.

For further information, and to book your place, visit the Roman Finds Group website www.romanfindsgroup.org.uk

CIfA's Annual Conference is also taking place in Nottingham, from 19th – 21st April, so this would be an ideal opportunity to attend both conferences: www.archaeologists.net/conference

Updated guidelines for the Destructive Sampling of Archaeological Human Remains for Scientific Analysis published

The Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE) has published an updated version of [Science and the Dead: A Guideline for the Destructive Sampling of Archaeological Human Remains for Scientific Analysis](#).

Those responsible for the care of collections of archaeological human remains are increasingly being approached with requests from researchers for removal of bone or tooth samples for the purposes of scientific analyses, including DNA, isotope, radiocarbon dating and histological studies.

The updated guidelines aim to provide a framework to help organisations in responding to such requests, taking into account legal, ethical and scientific considerations. It is available as a free download from the [Historic England website \(Science and the Dead. Second edition \(historicengland.org.uk\)\)](https://www.historicengland.org.uk).

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