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# The ARCHAEOLOGIST



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2010 AND THE  
IfA ANNUAL  
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Welcome to the autumn edition of *The Archaeologist* which as usual focuses on our annual conference. The overall theme of this year's conference was professionalism, which was explored through the opening address and the sessions on commercial archaeology, PPS5, heritage crime and underwater cultural heritage, as well as the CPD workshops and discussions about training. Professionalism had a part to play in many of the other sessions too, whether they were discussing how archaeology interacts with the media, how the profession innovates, what new IT resources are available to us or how specific areas of archaeology are developing. Although we are a young profession, we are growing and developing rapidly. As we do so, our responsibilities to the historic environment and society at large have to be considered and the Institute is ideally placed to focus the sector on that responsibility.

It's been a busy year so far for the Institute. We have continued to deal with the results of the changing economic climate, welcomed a new Planning Policy Statement for England, and published a new strategic plan which will guide us through the next ten years by refocusing on what we are, what we do, and who we do that for. We are a professional institute and as such our core purpose is setting standards and offering guidance, and acting as a means by which the sector can regulate itself. We are a democratic organisation, and that democracy was also demonstrated at conference through an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss matters relating to remuneration, and vote on a change to the *Code of conduct*.

We have the usual session reviews, and several speakers have kindly allowed us to publish their papers in this issue. In addition to this we have articles on self employment, insurance and the next steps to implement the new PPS. Alison will take back the role of Editor for the next issue which will be on the management of rural sites, and then in Spring *TA* will look at archaeology on the islands.



**Kathryn Whittington**  
kathryn.whittington@archaeologists.net



Photograph: Kirsten Collins

### Notes to contributors

#### Themes and deadlines

Winter: Management of rural sites  
deadline: 1 October 2010

Spring: Archaeology on the islands  
deadline: 1 January 2011

**Contributions and letter/emails** are always welcome. *TA* is made digitally available through our website and if this raises copyright issues with any authors, artists or photographers, please notify the editor. Accessed digitally, web links are especially useful in articles, so do include these where relevant. Short articles (max. 1000 words) are preferred. They should be sent as an email attachment, which must include captions and credits for illustrations. The editor will edit and shorten if necessary. Illustrations are very important. These can be supplied as originals, on CD or as emails, at a minimum resolution of 500 kb. Copyright of content and illustrations remains with the author, that of the final design with IfA (who will make it available on its website). Authors are responsible for obtaining reproduction rights and for providing the editor with appropriate captions and credits. More detailed *Notes for contributors* for each issue are available from the editor. Opinions expressed in *The Archaeologist* are those of the authors, and are not necessarily those of IfA.

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# FROM THE FINDS TRAY

### ALGAO: UK conference – Surviving the peace: public access, conservation and military heritage 30 September – 1 October Culloden, Inverness

Sites associated with Britain's military past, ranging from historic battlefields to Cold War installations, present a number of challenges to those wishing to see them preserved and appreciated. ALGAO is hosting a workshop at the Culloden battlefield to explore the various ways that these challenges might be met. Participants will include curators, representatives of government agencies, members of community trusts, tourism managers and others actively engaged in this growing field who will present a variety of case studies. Tickets are £50 each. For further information please contact either John Lawson (john.lawson@edinburgh.gov.uk) or Natasha Ferguson (n.ferguson@archaeology.gla.ac.uk)

### New IfA website

We have a new website, which by the time this goes to press you should be able to see at the same address we've always had (www.archaeologists.net). If not then it will be there very soon... It was developed in response to member feedback and we hope it addresses the problems our old site had, so information is easier to find. There is also a members-only area which you can join and access the latest issues of *TA*, *JIS*, meeting minutes, and update your contact details online. Please do have a look at it and if you have any comments contact Kathryn at kathryn.whittington@archaeologists.net.



The new IfA website

### Herculaneum Conservation Project

Thanks go to Sarah Court (4659), Communications Officer at the Herculaneum Conservation Project, for taking time out of her busy schedule to talk to IfA members who were visiting Herculaneum in June. Kirsten Collins (6090) and Rosalind Aitken (6232) were treated to a tour of some closed areas while learning about the conservation work being carried out to make them safe so they can be reopened to the public, as well as important work with the local community

# FROM THE FINDS TRAY

## British Archaeological Awards – winners

This year's award ceremony was attended by the DCMS Minister for Tourism & Heritage John Penrose MP, and hosted by historian and broadcaster Michael Wood. It is a key event within the Council for British Archaeology's two-week Festival of British Archaeology.

More information and full details of the winners can be seen on the CBA website ([www.britarch.ac.uk/news/100719-baa](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/news/100719-baa)). The Institute passes its congratulations on to all winners, in particular IfA Registered L-P Archaeology who designed the website for the Thames Discovery Programme ([www.thamesdiscovery.org/](http://www.thamesdiscovery.org/)), winner of best representation of archaeology in the media.



TV presenter Michael Wood at the British Archaeological Awards.  
Photograph: Chris Sharp

## Latest job loss figures

The figures for job losses in the first quarter of 2010 are now available online on the recession page ([www.archaeologists.net/profession/recession](http://www.archaeologists.net/profession/recession)).

## Use your vote!

Members should be aware that the AGM is coming up on 4 October where amendments to our constitutional documents will be voted upon. We have had poor voting figures in recent years. It is of utmost importance that members engage with their Institute's democratic process. All members are sent voting and proxy forms and replacements are available online. The Institute needs your input in order to best represent you, so please make sure you participate.

## Employment tribunal ruling

At the end of December last year an Employment Tribunal sitting in Reading ruled that unpaid interns in receipt of expenses could not be classed as volunteers and were therefore entitled to the National Minimum Wage. The use of unpaid internships is common in certain industries, especially film and television, where it is used as a means for graduates to gain experience. This ruling does not affect IfA's policy on the use of volunteers which can be seen at [www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/inPages/docs/codes/policy\\_statements.pdf/](http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/inPages/docs/codes/policy_statements.pdf/)

## Archeological work arising through the planning process and IfA Registered Organisations: a legal view

Peter Hinton and Tim Howard

IfA has commissioned a formal opinion from counsel on the lawfulness of local authorities requiring archaeological work to be done by Registered Organisations. IfA's Honorary Legal Advisor briefed counsel about the objectives, scope and administration of the Registered Organisations scheme. Counsel researched the relevant legislation, case law, PPG 16, and the consultation draft PPS5 and its practice guidance. While these latter documents restrict the application of his advice to England, it seems unlikely that it would not hold elsewhere in the UK.

### IfA asked three questions

- 1 whether local authorities, when requiring archaeological work to be carried out in the planning process, can stipulate that it is conducted to a specified standard by professionally accredited organisations and individuals
- 2 whether registration by IfA might be legally justifiable and specifiable measure of such accreditation
- 3 whether a requirement that work is done by an IfA Registered Organisation might lawfully be included in the wording of a planning condition

### Counsel advised that

- 1 a local authority is entitled to require that work to be carried out prior to, or consequent upon, the grant of permission is undertaken to a satisfactory standard by professionally accredited organisations or individuals. Such a stipulation would be defensible as fair if the authority deemed it proportionate and necessary
- 2 since a central objective of IfA is self-regulation of the archaeological profession via a quality assurance mechanism, as the *Code of conduct* does not impact on market share, and as the terms of Registration are reasonable and do not interfere in matters such as pricing or advertising by a Registered Organisation, IfA registration could be a justifiable measure of such accreditation



- 3 there is no competition law bar to the imposition of such a requirement and Registration could be a justifiable measure of accreditation for the purposes of a planning condition

Counsel's advice cannot be definitive (nor can he accept any liability to any other party arising from this advice) and each case has to be viewed on its own facts. Depending on the questions asked, local authorities and others could obtain contrary views. However, the great value of this opinion is that we can confidently challenge blanket assertions that any such requirement by local authorities offends competition law. While there remain plenty of ways of imposing restrictions unlawfully, and unwise commissioning of legal opinions about potential problems would no doubt produce a voluminous response, we can now argue authoritatively that with commitment and care about due process, local authorities can choose to require work to be done to IfA Standards, by Registered Organisations; and they can make such provisions through conditions of planning permission.

IfA in concert with ALGAO UK can now discuss the implications for local authorities throughout Britain (and in Northern Ireland should devolution of planning functions to reformed local authorities restart). IfA will argue that local authorities can best meet their responsibilities for good planning, and government's objectives England as set out in PPS5, by ensuring that work is conducted by quality assured, professionally competent Registered Organisations.

Peter Hinton MIfA, Chief Executive IfA

Tim Howard Affil, Policy and Recruitment Manager IfA



risk solutions

Archaeology & Heritage Division

### GOING FREELANCE: WHAT ARE YOUR RISKS?

If you work for an independent archaeology organisation, or for a university or council, their policy cover will not extend to cover your work in a freelance capacity. Whether you are a specialist consultant working from home, or going out on a third party site as a sub-contractor, you need to have your own insurance in place.

In this issue of *The Archaeologist*, we hope to give some helpful and practical advice around the essential covers you need should you decide to work in a freelance capacity.

#### PUBLIC LIABILITY

An essential for most freelancers, Public Liability protects you against claims in respect of loss, damage or injury received from a third party. Wherever your work takes you, it is necessary to protect yourself with Public Liability insurance should an incident occur. This is especially prevalent when working manually on site where your risks invariably increase.

#### Claim scenario 1

You're out on site and accidentally dig through an underground power cable, which wasn't where the plans said would be. The resultant damages for cable repairs are claimed against you by the energy company.

#### Claim scenario 2

A visitor to your premises trips over some equipment left near the entrance, falls and injures their wrist. The visitor decides to go to a no-win-no-fee solicitor and claims £3,000 in compensation.

#### The solution

Your Public Liability policy will cover you to your chosen limit, which is usually no less than £2m.

David Cawdeary

#### PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY

This cover protects you against professional negligence and faults, whether actual or alleged, should your advice or service result in a financial loss to the third party. This type of policy protects against that loss including any legal costs incurred.

#### Claim scenario

You receive a job specification that's a little unclear, but you proceed with the job and do your best to work with the client to fulfil the requirements as best you can. You submit your report to the client only to have it rejected, as they don't feel you interpreted the job specification correctly. The client refuses to pay you for the work undertaken and so, understandably aggrieved, you decide to take the client to court to try and recover your fees.

The client, however, puts in a counter claim against you for professional negligence. Your Professional Indemnity insurers end up settling out of court for a greater amount than your fees in the first place.

This example stresses the importance of having Professional Indemnity in place for any contract of work you enter into should a dispute arise.

#### The solution

Our limits of cover on offer start at £100,000 and go up to £5m. Higher limits are available with excess layers on request.

#### EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY

This cover is legally required if you have any volunteers or employees, whether full-time, part-time or sub-contracted. It offers you protection against claims made against you by employees who may have suffered injury or loss whilst working under your care or instruction.

#### Claim scenario

You are working on site when one of your employees suffers serious back injuries after tripping over a low rope fence and falling into a trench. The employee ends up unable to work for over two years, and the ongoing claim ends up paying out £250,000 including lost wages, medical costs and compensation awards.

#### The solution

Employer's liability cover usually has a £10m limit as standard. Higher limits available with excess layers on request.

#### WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU

Towergate can offer practical advice on all aspects of insurance risk management, whether you're a freelance archaeologist or an archaeology unit.

We also offer specialist travel insurance if you're working abroad, and even Directors' and Officers' insurance to protect you against wrongful acts committed in your capacity as a Director.

#### CONFERENCE REVIEW

Towergate were once again delighted to sponsor the IfA conference, hosted this year in the seaside town of Southport. We hope that as industry professionals you found the event to be both interesting and fulfilling to your needs.

In early 2010, Towergate launched the Archaeology and Heritage Division to deliver a more distinctive brand to the industry, and also offer further benefits to the heritage community. The commercial combined insurance scheme was put to tender in 2009 to establish the best market for the product.

Following extensive negotiations with a wide range of household name insurers, we are delighted to announce that Aviva has been appointed as the new scheme underwriter, a decision that will offer additional benefits to our customers.

The next year is certainly going to present challenges to both our industries with the change of Government and the ever-testing economic climate. We look forward to working closely with the IfA and archaeologists through this period to ensure we take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves.

Call today: **0844 892 1638**,  
email: [archaeology@towergate.co.uk](mailto:archaeology@towergate.co.uk)  
or visit: [www.towergate.co.uk/archaeology](http://www.towergate.co.uk/archaeology)

**David Cawdeary**  
Marketing Coordinator, Towergate Risk Solutions



The IfA's committee for working practices has set up a working group to look into the practice of self-employment in archaeology with a view to producing guidance to members considering self-employment. As part of that guidance, the working group seeks to distinguish between legitimate self employment and the use of supposedly self-employed staff by organisations to avoid their legal obligations as employers. Issues we will be considering include whether IfA guidance on good practice should go beyond the minimum legal requirements, whether, by definition, those undertaking archaeological work on a self-employed basis should be of MIfA status and whether the charge-out guidance for specialists published in TA63 should be extended to inform a minimum salaries requirement for self-employed archaeologists. The following article by Gerry Martin highlights some of the benefits of self-employment to individual practitioners and to the sector as a whole. IfA welcomes comments from members which can be sent to [kate.geary@archaeologists.net](mailto:kate.geary@archaeologists.net). Further information on self-employment can be found at [www.hmrc.gov.uk/selfemployed/](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/selfemployed/) and [www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/layer?r.s=tl&r.l1=1073858805&r.lc=en&topicId=1085161962](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/layer?r.s=tl&r.l1=1073858805&r.lc=en&topicId=1085161962)

Self-employment in archaeological fieldwork can be appropriate as projects tend to

- be short-term
- have a wide geographical distribution
- comprise discrete specialist tasks within a project
- require specialist archaeological field skills based on experience

While it will not be suitable for all, self-employment may present a solution to some of the challenges presented by a career in archaeological fieldwork. The attrition rate in archaeology is considerable as many skilled field practitioners leave the sector to find other, financially more secure, employment. This leaves field practice with an imbalanced profile. There is a cut-off around the age of thirty that is particularly acute amongst female archaeologists, leaving considerable numbers of inexperienced staff who have yet to acquire a broad grasp of field skills and technique. Moreover, the collective pool of archaeological knowledge based on first-hand experience is lost whenever a skilled practitioner leaves the profession.

One solution is to introduce flexibility into the discipline, with a greater variety of employment models. Self-employment or sole trading provides a method that can make budgets for archaeological work go further and has the potential to provide greater benefit through improved remuneration for the skilled practitioners undertaking the work.

Self-employment requires the archaeologist to be

- logical, organised, realistic, responsible and good at achieving targets
- out-going and confident
- decisive, independent and single-minded
- able to take advice
- adaptable and flexible
- opportunistic and ambitious
- hard-working, determined and committed
- imaginative and creative
- perceptive

and to have good communications and leadership skills with strong family or personal support. It is most likely to be appropriate for experienced archaeologists who wish to maintain archaeological careers but who require a greater degree of flexibility than that offered by traditional employment practice. In particular

- archaeologists with young families who cannot commit to either regular hours or specific days
- those with multiple careers or other important outside interests e.g. caring responsibilities, volunteer work
- archaeologists who require new challenges and want to work independently
- those in part-time or ongoing education
- those who may not wish to or cannot work full-time through incapacity

- archaeologists who live in rural areas where the level of archaeological activity is low perhaps necessitating second jobs
- archaeologists working abroad for part of the year
- those who wish to initiate and innovate new practices but are currently constrained by unit-based models of work

For many fieldworkers, there are considerable financial and lifestyle benefits. Costs such as administration, an office at home, computers, equipment, mileage, travel, materials, business fees, professional membership and tools are considered as legitimate business costs and can be claimed against tax. Rates of remuneration (ie daily rate charges) need to take into account desired annual income, plus allowances for pension contributions, sick leave, holidays, time spent training etc as appropriate divided by weeks worked divided by five days. Further information on determining daily rates for specialists was published in TA 63 ([www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/index.php?page=40](http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/index.php?page=40)).

There are a number of other issues which a self-employed archaeologist needs to consider. Adequate insurance is essential, especially if they are the primary contractor for an archaeological project. Professional Indemnity Insurance is highly advisable if the work includes the provision of professional advice (see page 7).

It is the responsibility of the individual to inform the local tax office of self-employment status. Weekly National Insurance contributions are payable and a self-assessment tax form must be completed at the end of the financial year. The extra discipline required may at first appear daunting. Good record keeping is essential, the use of an accountant assists in providing transparency to the tax authorities in order that the correct dues are paid. However, the benefits far outweigh the short time taken by any legitimate contractor to complete this task.

## Conclusion

Self-employment is a big leap for many people taking individuals out of their personal comfort zone. However, if we wish to maintain and improve archaeological field standards then the industry must collectively recognise that we currently haemorrhage skilled colleagues through poor remuneration that cannot sustain evolving lifestyles. Self-employment is a viable alternative to formal paid employment offered in many cases on a short-term basis that may help to prevent the loss of skills from the sector.

The challenge to traditional archaeological contractors is to view self-employment and independent researchers not as a threat to their hegemony but as a complementary addition to their portfolio of services, whereby the collective body of skills and experience is maintained whilst improved remuneration is available to those who pursue the option of individual financial responsibility.

By liberalising employment arrangements, it is possible that the archaeological world can achieve greater diversity and pursue the path that leads to improved professional and working practices for the benefit of all practitioners.

Gerry Martin MIfA

Self-employment or sole trading provides a method that can make budgets for archaeological work go further and has the potential to provide greater benefit through improved remuneration for the skilled practitioners undertaking the work.



Southport boulevard. Photograph: Kirsten Collins

**PPS5 represents one of the most significant opportunities in decades for archaeologists, their client sector and the public to get more from archaeology.** So agreed the delegates at the IfA conference in Southport in April 2010. In order to realise that opportunity, the conference recognised that the whole sector would have to think creatively and radically about how archaeology is practised and how the PPS may best be implemented. To take this forward a group was asked to reconvene to scope the potential, the aims and the means of achieving them. The group hopes to reach all parts of our multi-disciplinary sector, and is committed to promoting a broad and rapid debate across England, and, as far as planning policy permits, across the UK. It intends to stimulate contributions from the sector and beyond. It is proposed to issue frequent updates on the discussion, and produce a draft report for debate at the IfA conference in April 2011. This report will contain preliminary recommendations to heritage and property organisations, government and decision-makers on what is necessary to deliver the stated goals, as set out below. The group proposes to complete its report and wind itself up in July 2011.

### ■ The vision

We believe that we can achieve archaeological practice which demonstrably produces even greater public benefit, which is more cost-effective for those that commission it and which is more rewarding for those that undertake it

#### For the property sector

- 1 More efficient implementation of the planning system, helping the property sector to meet nationally consistent, fair and proportionate obligations, and to be recognised for the contribution it makes to society through the work of archaeologists

#### For the public

- 2 Better public understanding and appreciation (key to sustainable development) through
  - a wide range of publications and accessible media
  - a network of staffed resource centres, linked to local authority Historic Environment Records, around which public and professionals alike can coalesce to explore and research the past of their locale
  - more opportunities for participation in decision-making and the archaeological process, working with but not supplanting professional experts

#### For our profession

- 3 Strong recognition of our skills, versatility and range of their professional services to clients and society

### ■ The policy

The policy framework has never been more robust. The Government's vision on the potential of the historic environment, published alongside the PPS, envisions that 'the value of the historic environment is recognised by all who have the power to shape it; that Government gives it proper recognition and that it is managed intelligently and in a way that fully realises its contribution to the economic, social and cultural life of the nation.' Government and the historic environment sector now agree that the historic environment is a resource with huge potential for understanding identity and place, for contributing to the quality of life, for sustainable growth and for delivering a wide range of economic, social, cultural and environmental agenda. As such the historic environment is a key driver for our future.

### ■ The potential

PPGs 15 and 16 (and especially 16) were groundbreaking. They enabled a robust level of practice and produced enormous quantities of new information and understanding. But the extent and quality of public benefits that government – and archaeologists – desired could not be delivered consistently because of failures in the way in which the market functioned.

PPS5 changes everything. It gives us the potential consistently

- to help the property sector get the best out of development-led investigations
- to deliver stronger research through a more collaborative approach
- to focus on understanding and enhancing cultural significance
- to promote public participation and support
- to build the expectation of professionally accredited quality

But we need to do so in the face of the challenge from substantial cuts that could significantly weaken local government historic environment services and alter the way in which development-led archaeology is managed.

### ■ The project

The group is planning seminars with a wide range of audiences to gather and develop ideas that will refine the goals and improve delivery, delivery that will help defend PPS5 principles from being weakened or lost in reform of the planning process.

The outputs of the project will need to draw on good practice case studies and will include detailed recommendations for improved standards, guidance and training for planners, the archaeological sector and others. Such guidance should cover how to design, manage and implement investigation and understanding of all elements of the historic environment - built, buried, and submerged – in a way that realises the public benefits that PPS5 envisages.

### ■ The Southport group

The group consists of individuals who have volunteered to help facilitate and report on these cross-sectoral discussions. The members have strong links with the curatorial, contracting and consulting sectors; local authority conservation officers and buildings conservation professionals; academia; archives; museums; the property and construction sectors; community archaeology groups; and archaeology training and skills development groups. The working party at July 2010 comprises: Dave Barrett, Karen Bewick, Duncan H Brown, Stewart Bryant, Chris Gosden, Mike Heyworth, Peter Hinton (secretariat), Taryn Nixon (chair), Adrian Olivier, Liz Peace, Adrian Tindall and Roger M Thomas.

Southport@archaeologists.net

Southport beach.  
Photograph: Peter Hinton



# AAI&S IfA AAI&S – merger with IfA?

Steve Allen and Peter Hinton

The Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors (AAI&S) is an association for archaeological graphics and imaging specialists. Founded in 1978, it has approximately 250 members, of whom Members (MAAIS) are only admitted after interview and a careful assessment of a portfolio of their work and Licentiates require two references from employers or clients. Since 2004 AAI&S has been a partner of IfA in supporting the IfA Illustration and Survey Special Interest Group (ISSIG), a resource for members of both bodies and a vehicle through which various shared initiatives have been developed, including a fully worked up proposal for a Standard and guidance for measured survey.

With an AGM mandate from AAI&S members and the endorsement of IfA Council, Steve Allen and Peter Hinton, representing the Association and the Institute respectively, have met on several occasions over the last year under the guidance of Rob Read, ISSIG Chair, to discuss the future. Two messages are clear from AAI&S's discussions

- it wants to continue to push its agenda for the benefit of illustrators, surveyors and the wider archaeological community
- it does not have the resources to do this on its own

The conclusion we have reached is that it would be in the best interests of both organisations for AAI&S to merge into IfA. IfA Council has agreed in principle to take on AAI&S's assets and liabilities should the Association vote to wind itself up, and has offered all MAAIS members automatic transfer to MIfA and all Licentiate members automatic transfer

to PlfA, subject to signing the IfA *Code of conduct*. Many Licentiates will meet the criteria for IfA, but will have to apply in the normal way. Other AAI&S grades will transfer into Affiliate or Student membership of IfA. AAI&S members' presently pay lower subscription fees, and in the event of AAI&S's dissolution transferring members subscriptions would be brought into line in a phased way. Recognising AAI&S members' concerns about the potential loss of identity as specialists and the very clear focus of their Association on particular areas of archaeological practice, Council has made commitments to the continuation of ISSIG as an IfA forum, offering the Group a dayschool to substitute for the Association's annual conference, a newsletter and other publications, and a website gallery. More importantly, IfA is pledged to continuing and accelerating the work begun by AAI&S by developing CPD, training and practice guidance for illustrators and surveyors, and to promoting archaeological visualisation to other bodies within and beyond the sector.

No agreements have been entered into. AAI&S is a democratic organisation and its members will decide what should be done. IfA hopes that AAI&S members will see the advantages of being part of the same institute as other archaeologists – the people they most need to influence - having the same recognition and respect as that of other IfA members, and playing a much greater role in assessing the competence of new applications by illustrators and surveyors for IfA membership. Working with other archaeologists, they will be able to lobby politicians, civil servants and heritage bodies to make changes to improve archaeology. IfA Council believes that our combined resources would give us financial security, more investment, more authority and an assured future for the essential work begun by AAI&S.

Steve Allen MAAIS, Chair, AAI&S  
Peter Hinton MIfA, Chief Executive, IfA

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The Annual  
Conference for  
Archaeologists

14–16 April 2010

## Conference Review



Photographs: Peter Hinton







Photographs: Kirsten Collins

*“Excellent mix of business practice and actual archaeology”*

*“All sessions I attended were good, especially the PPS one on the last day. This reflected the quality of the presentations and the relevance of the sessions”*

*“Opportunities to talk to and network with colleagues – and the vibrant and positive discussion in the training session”*

*“I really enjoyed the conference and it made me reflect on how strongly I support the IfA and its principles and how I should endeavour to become more actively involved in the organisation in the future”*

This year’s annual conference was in sunny Southport on the north-west coast of England. It focused on the themes of professionalism and ethics, which began with an address from IfA’s Chief Executive and Hon Chair and then continued as a theme through the rest of the sessions. These included sessions on Heritage Crime, the new PPS, underwater cultural heritage, and the archaeology of love. A new type of session was provided by the Information Management Specialist Interest Group in the form of a BarCamp which proved to be highly successful.

The conference was considered a great success, one of our best for sessions, and we’ve received some really positive feedback from attendees.

To increase on the success of this year’s conference we recently carried out a survey of the membership to determine what you would like to see more or less of at Conference. We are now going through the responses to determine what is feasible and will make most people happy.

We hope those who came enjoyed it, and would like to thank our sponsors, session organisers and speakers, as well as the staff at the Southport Theatre and Convention Centre. Next year the conference theme will be ‘Assessing significance’. The call for sessions has now closed but we will be opening the call for papers soon. On the following pages you will find reviews of the 2010 sessions and tours as well as some of the papers.

## The archaeology of love

Alison Taylor and Andrea Bradley

Our session organiser, **David Jennings** (Oxford Archaeology), asked why, as archaeologists, we study warfare, conflict and violence, but never consider how love is represented in the archaeological record. His challenge was for us to find archaeological evidence for different aspects of love, and to consider how our own understanding and experience of love influences our understanding of the past.

David took us on a journey around the world, to explore some of the extraordinary buildings monuments and objects created out of love – from England to India, Japan and South America. David searched for love in our archaeology, in our cultural practices and in our literature – for romantic love, for familial and platonic love. His journey included a visit to the most famous monument to love – the Taj Mahal - as well as an introduction to lesser known objects, such as tapestries woven by Chilean women in remembrance of the ‘disappeared’.

**Alison Taylor** (IfA) chose death, mostly visible through burial practice, as a field in which to hunt for indications of love and affection as drivers of human behaviour. She argued that, given all the trouble the bereaved went to, and the consumption of resources, we have to ask why? Is it all about status and confirmation of an heir? Obvious answers include hygiene, status/identity, demands of religious and lay authorities, claiming kin/succession/inheritance, having a memorial, fear of ghosts etc, concern for the dead person’s afterlife as well as, surely, to express love. Ranging from Bronze Age Scotland (flowers at Forteviot) to military cemeteries of the First World War (Fromelles) she found indicators of tender and personal care outside the norms of their period, but admitted these were scant and ambiguous. She discussed evidence from archaeology and literature for (apparently) sentimental practices such as use of flowers, fragrant leaves and herbs, incense, perfumes and tresses of female hair in male graves. Some epigraphs too, eg for a Roman slave boy, demonstrate genuine emotion for those of no obvious status.

**Andrea Bradley** (IfA) took up the challenge of finding love in a contemporary archaeological context – using modern material cultural symbols and objects



Arpillera by Gaby Franger: Cueca Sola / They Dance Alone, courtesy of the Museum of Free Derry

to engage with 20th- and 21st-century experiences of love and its celebration. In the process she aimed to develop a method for understanding the symbols and rituals of love that might give us new ways of talking about and understanding love in the past. Through her investigation of the ritual of Valentine’s Day in countries around the world, and her comparison with the way our multicultural society practises the ritual in London, she was able to draw conclusions about the nature of 21st-century society, the hidden love buried in the commercial ritual, and ways in which archaeology has the means to reveal it.

**Alison Taylor** MIfA, Editor IfA  
**Andrea Bradley** MIfA, Workplace Learning Programme Coordinator IfA



Symbol of love on death – a heart-shaped purse containing a lock of female hair and a gold cross, found with a soldier’s burial at Fromelles, Northern France

# NIGHTHAWKS and DAYHAWKS: heritage thieves with metal detectors

Suzie Thomas

Nighthawking is currently a hot topic in archaeology, owing to media interest in Oxford Archaeology's 2009 report and the highly publicised discoveries of the Staffordshire and the Stirling Hoards. Earlier this year there was also the first ever prosecution made under the *Treasure Act 1996* (Dolan and Alberge 2010), 13 years after the Act came into force, although it is unclear whether it was directly connected with metal detecting. What is actually meant by the term 'nighthawking'? Furthermore, what does the current interest in the issue mean for the relationship between archaeologists and 'responsible' metal-detector users?

Nighthawking, 'the illegal search for and removal of antiquities from the ground by criminals using metal detectors, without the permission of the landowners, or on prohibited ground such as Scheduled Monuments' (Oxford Archaeology 2009: 1) occurs in England and Wales in a number of circumstances (the different procedures and legislation in other parts of the UK are not discussed in this article). While the term implies that this activity only takes place at night, it can occur in the daytime, which has led some metal-detector users to use the term 'dayhawk' as well. In England or Wales, in order for activities to constitute nighthawking, a metal-detector user may have discovered a Treasure find, but failed to declare it within the required time (fourteen days); detected on private land without permission (with anything found constituting theft from the landowner, or the Crown if Treasure); detected on a Scheduled Monument without authorization, violating the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act*

*The name, 'nighthawk' offers the activity an element of danger or glamour that it does not deserve. Perhaps perpetrators should just be called 'looters' or 'thieves', since this is what they are.*

1979 (Part III, Section 42 – OPSI 2010); or, failed to disclose to a consenting landowner what had been found, especially items of financial value and/or Treasure (theft from the landowner and/or the Crown).

Additionally there are 'grey areas' of questionable activity, which, while not necessarily nighthawking, are certainly connected. For example, as there is no legal obligation to record non-Treasure finds with the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), there is no clear way of making sure that all finds are recorded with their correct findspots. Sometimes finds are not reported to avoid drawing attention to sites where the landowner has stipulated that the exact location must not be disclosed (perhaps due to fear of nighthawks, or that land may become scheduled). In other cases, it may be that deliberately incorrect provenances are created as a means of legitimising finds that have actually been discovered illegally, for example from trespassing on a scheduled area. Incorrect finds recording can cover the tracks of actual nighthawking. At the very least this muddies waters of the archaeological record, possibly throwing doubt

on all findspot data in databases such as PAS. Unauthorised (and unchecked) export is also a problem. If a metal-detector user from overseas detects in England or Wales and wishes to take finds, especially undeclared Treasure, out of the country, there are knock-on issues regarding export regulations and the illicit trade in antiquities.

As many will know, the relationship between archaeologists and metal-detector users in England and Wales today is very different from that of thirty years ago, when the STOP (Stop Taking Our Past) Campaign was in full swing across the UK, headed by seven national heritage organisations. STOP was at loggerheads with the Detector Information Group (led by metal-detector users and manufacturers). Some metal-detector users are now concerned that the publication of the *Nighthawking Survey* (Oxford Archaeology 2009) and the media attention inspired by the Staffordshire Hoard (such as Mike Pitts' BBC Radio 4 documentary 'In Pursuit of Treasure' and the National Geographic and Channel 4 special on the Hoard, both in 2010), has brought focus away from the law-abiding hobby and onto the (much smaller) criminal element. Metal detecting online discussion forums and detecting magazines frequently cover this. One comment in the April edition of *The Searcher* argued the publicity represents, 'the covert aspirations of English Heritage ...using the problem of Nighthawks to support their scaremongering tactics to dupe land owners and the public' (McGorry 2010: 60). Ahead of a recent conference co-organised by the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) and Newcastle University, the National Council for Metal Detecting, withdrew their participation, removing two speakers and a chair. They stated in a letter circulated to conference delegates, that they were concerned at the 'continued use of the issues and opportunities the current focus on nighthawking has given to attacking the hobby of metal detecting rather than the criminals and damage that this costly English Heritage project (*the Nighthawking Survey*) was intended to address' (Wells 2010, author's explanatory text in brackets).

After the Newcastle conference (see [www.britarch.ac.uk/cba/events/portants2010](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/cba/events/portants2010)), metal-detector users that did attend indicated they welcomed the opportunity to talk openly about shared issues and concerns, including nighthawking. Speaking at that conference, and also the IfA's Heritage Crime session, was Chief Inspector Harrison, on a twelve-month secondment to English Heritage to reduce heritage crime. His appointment demonstrates a positive development towards focussing efforts on finding solutions for, or procedures to follow when dealing with, many of the criminal threats to heritage. It also reminds us that

nighthawking is only one threat to the historic environment. Harrison's suggestion that metal-detector users could assist the police by providing evidence of rural crimes has captured the imagination of many hobbyists.

Recent observations indicate that at least some metal-detector users perceive an 'intentional' association by the media of nighthawking with responsible metal detecting. However, it is clear from within the heritage sector that this is only an imagined threat, with no plans afoot to launch any repeat of the STOP Campaign. Nonetheless, nighthawking can never be acceptable. Despite the indications from the *Nighthawking Survey* that the scale of illegal activity may have decreased (also suggested by contacts within the metal detecting community), the fact that nighthawking occurs at all is damaging to archaeological heritage, as well as a cause for concern to landowners due to the trespassing and theft that are involved. The name, 'nighthawk' offers the activity an element of danger or glamour that it does not deserve. Perhaps perpetrators should just be called 'looters' or 'thieves', since this is what they are.

Suzie Thomas, Council for British Archaeology

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# Heritage crime

Monika Lowerre

What distinguishes a metal detector enthusiast from a nighthawk? What constitutes architectural theft? Can we charge people who loot our maritime heritage? Shall we even bother the police when our excavation site has been vandalised? Those were a few of the questions raised at the well attended 'Heritage Crime' session. However, the real issue is: 'What can we actually do about it in the long run?'



Forensic examination of an incursion to Bronze Age barrow in Hertfordshire: from L-R: David Kenny HEFA, Michele Johnson CAT, and Kent Police Volunteer Debbie Priddie IAM, John Ette IAM. Photograph: Mark Harrison 2010

To address this key question, English Heritage has launched its 'Heritage Crime' initiative. Chief Inspector **Mark Harrison** has been seconded from Kent police force for twelve months to establish a sustainable strategy that will enable us to strike back at heritage crime. In this paper he showed convincingly that the positive results achieved in Kent through collaboration between Kent Police, archaeologists and local people has proven to be the right formula, and he can build on that positive experience.

The same sentiment featured in the paper by **Suzie Thomas**, CBA, highlighting past and current issues concerning day- and nighthawking. She emphasised that archaeologists and police need to engage with the metal detectorist community to build useful relationships and erode the mistrust that has been fuelled by undifferentiated media reports. She elaborated that nighthawking is an ongoing issue despite recent studies that may suggest otherwise. She also raised a very interesting question concerning the extent of nighthawking in relation to export, speculating whether legally acquired metal detectorist finds that are subsequently not declared when taken abroad might constitute nighthawking (see article p16).

The wider implications and issues relating to the trade of antiquities were covered by **Michael Lewis**, Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS). He also explained the problems with the export of antiquities and the lack of policies and/or legislation that would enable finds tracking: under the current system they are often lost for good. Conscious of the opinion held by various archaeologists that the trade in antiquities should be illegal, period, Michael Lewis urged the sector to be more flexible and to engage with the business rather than condemn it. He argued that cooperation does not necessarily condone an action, but it might lead to better legislation. The inadequacy of current legislation to protect heritage assets, and charge and convict the perpetrators, is demonstrated by the lack of knowledge of what legislation applies when. The information is probably out there but it is not common knowledge.

**Richard Ellis** from Ecclesiastical Insurance, and **Julian Radcliffe**, Chairman of the Art Loss Register (ALR) both gave excellent papers. Julian showed the ALR to be a useful tool in combating heritage crime, and both illustrated vividly that criminals who deal in illegally acquired art and architecture are to be taken seriously. The enormity of these criminal undertakings and the speed at which these stolen heritage assets are turned around is breathtaking. The ALR, a private international database of stolen and lost art antiquities and collectibles, has assisted in the recovery of over 1,000 registered assets with an estimated value of £100 million. However, the success is dwarfed by the damage done by architectural theft alone which has been estimated to be £300 million annually.

Do we do nothing in the face of these seemingly overwhelming odds? **Mark Harrison** says on the contrary and he will look into it. Twelve months is a small window of opportunity to raise awareness let alone facilitate change, but it is a start in the right direction. All speakers agreed that only through cooperation of all stakeholders can we do something meaningful about heritage crime. As was rightly pointed out, the real success of English Heritage's 'Heritage Crime' initiative will emerge when new strategies and policies to combat heritage crime eventually become part of organisational structures, rather than depending on engaged individuals.

Monika Lowerre

## ANNUAL REPORT

Covering the period to June 2010, with financial statements for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010



2010



# INSTITUTE OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGISTS

(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Trading as 'the Institute for Archaeologists'

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## DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

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### REPORT OF THE HONORARY CHAIR

The year ending 31 March 2010 has been a challenging one for the Institute, for our profession, and for our sector. The recession has continued (whatever official statistics may say) and its effects continue to be felt throughout the sector, now more on the public sector side rather than the commercial side hit last year. Certainly your Hon Chair won't hazard a guess as to the course or outcome, but we can review our responses to this and to the other challenges and events of the past year.

One important response to the economic situation is our decision to maintain as many services for members as possible, leading to a decision to spend some of our reserves in the process, and building into our planning a means for financial recovery in future years. Our Treasurer Martin Newman will be writing of this in more detail.

In 2009 we reported on the absence of the Heritage Protection Bill for England and Wales, and while that absence remains, we did welcome the publication of PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment and its associated Practice Guide. We believe that these documents give us the opportunity to change fundamentally commercial archaeological practice in England, addressing many long-term problems – so there will be no let-up in IfA investment in that area of our activity, regardless of our more straitened circumstances. We hope to make similar progress in Wales when work starts on revised planning guidance there later this year, and in Scotland where PAN 42, which supports the relatively new Scottish Planning Policy, is now scheduled for revisions. We continue to press for the necessary primary legislation in England and Wales, and in Scotland where the process is now racing ahead we intend to work with ALGAO Scotland, Archaeology Scotland and others in the Built Environment Forum Scotland to amend the Historic Environment (Amendment) Scotland Bill to include a provision for statutory Historic Environment Records. In Northern Ireland the process of Reform of Public Administration is paused, and thus planning responsibilities have not been devolved to local government as planned. IfA will watch the situation here and will intervene when the moment is right to promote improvements to archaeological practice.

The Institute is now embarking upon its second Strategic Plan – this one should form the foundation for our activities and growth for the next ten years. We plan that in 2020 all professional archaeologists will have the skills, integrity and versatility to ensure that the study and care of the historic environment brings real benefits to people's daily lives. IfA will need to be even more strategic and focussed to deliver its objectives with reduced resources.

At an EGM held at our annual conference we amended our *Code of conduct* to regulate archaeological involvement with projects which would lead to dispersed artefactual and informational archives. One obvious concern is with so-called 'marine salvage' and indeed this brings us into accord with the UNESCO Conventions, but the amendment is much broader in its intent and applicability. Whether the wording of the amendment is 'right' will – as always – be tested through its application and the regulatory effects of disciplinary allegations.

The 2010 Conference in Southport was a great success. We have received a great deal of very positive feedback from attendees, especially about session content. It focussed on professionalism and ethics, two of our major functions and issues which it is important not to lose sight of during these difficult times.

The Institute has continued to develop the Registered Organisation scheme as an effective and increasingly widely used benchmark for ethical practice. This year, Council has balanced this with consideration of becoming a chartered institute, which would consequentially enable us to offer chartership to individuals, thus elevating that level of membership in step with the Registered Organisation scheme as the sine qua non for individual professionalism.

Benefits to members and the issues of 'salary minima' were hotly debated – and the recession tended to polarise views. However, a consensus emerged to move towards recommended starting salary ranges and to require the Registered Organisation inspection process to consider wide employment packages and benefits rather than simply pay.

Our work with the Institute for Historic Building Conservation continues particularly at a policy and advocacy level. Efforts to build on our Memorandum of Understanding and use membership in one organisation in some way as a qualifier in the other institute have foundered because we reflect the diversity of our membership through a less structured, more individually tailored, approach to assessing ethical and technical competence of historic environment practitioners. That is not a judgemental statement: professional institutes have many ways of testing the competence of their members, and we have every confidence in the reliability of IHBC's approach, as we do in our own. While there is work to do here, we are making good progress in our relationship with AAI&S.

New Special Interest Groups are also an important sign of the continuing health of the Institute. The last year has seen the introduction of a new Special Interest Group for Information Management and a new London Area Group, with more on the horizon.

The year 2010-2011 looks to be as exciting as the past year has been. We will be continuing to press for new legislation, and seeking to guide government on its development policies as well as the initiatives mentioned above. Our message to government as well as to our partners in the heritage sector remains that the IfA through the Registered Organisation scheme and perhaps chartership is the best way of securing public benefits from work arising from the planning control process.

**Gerry Wait**  
Hon Chair of Council

### REPORT OF THE HONORARY TREASURER

The Institute's accounts to 31 March 2010 show an operating deficit of £118,987 (after bank interest and corporation tax) with the balance sheet showing our reserves now standing at £310,337.

Council budgeted for a deficit this year in view of the difficult economic climate and the need to keep subscription costs to the minimum. Never the less, like others in the sector, the end of year deficit was higher than planned.

Council continues to try to support the Institute's members and Registered Organisations by keeping the majority of the recession package in place for this year, allowing members to upgrade their membership for free, transfer subscription category if they lose work or move onto the retired rate. It has continued to drive the Institute forward and our reserves have been invested in a number of initiatives which are covered in more detail in the Hon Chair's and Secretary's reports. These initiatives form part of the ten-year strategic plan, for which Council has budgeted accordingly for the forthcoming financial year, in order to ensure that the Institute is on the best footing to deliver the Plan, and keep as tight a control as possible on our costs.

**Martin Newman**  
Hon Treasurer



## EMPLOYEES OF THE INSTITUTE

Kenneth Aitchison MfA	Head of Projects and Professional Development	Full time
Beth Asbury AfA	Membership Administrator (resigned April 2010)	Full time
Lynne Bevan MfA	JIS Compiler	Part time
Anne Bobby Affil	Administrative Assistant (employed April 2010)	Full time
Andrea Bradley MfA	Workplace Learning Programme Coordinator (resigned March 2010 re-employed May 2010)	Full time
Kirsten Collins MfA	Office Manager	Full time
Kate Geary MfA	Training and Standards Manager	Full time
Peter Hinton MfA	Chief Executive	Full time
Tim Howard Affil	Policy and Recruitment Manager	Part time
Gina Jacklin PlfA	Finance and Administrative Assistant	Part time
Natasha Kingham Affil	Workplace Learning Bursary Coordinator (resigned March 2010)	Part time
Claire Soper	Project Assistant (resigned December 2009)	Part time
Alex Llewellyn MfA	Head of Administration	Full time
Alison Taylor MfA	Editor	Part time
Kathryn Whittington AfA	Public Relations Coordinator	Full time
Karina Williams AfA	Administration Assistant (resigned March 2010)	Full time
Samantha Bax	EPPIC placement (to April 2010)	Full time
Stuart Churley	EPPIC placement (to April 2010)	Full time
Claudia Fantino	EPPIC placement (to April 2010)	Full time
Therese Kearns	EPPIC placement (to April 2010)	Full time
Anna Komar	EPPIC placement (to May 2010)	Full time
Roisin McCarthy Affil	HLF placement (to Sept 2009)	Full time
Matthew Nicholas	HLF placement (to Oct 2009)	Full time
Johanna Roethe PlfA	EPPIC placement (to July 2009)	Full time
Tom Sparrow	HLF placement (to Jan 2009)	Full time
Tara-Jane Sutcliffe	EPPIC placement (to April 2010)	Full time
Mariangela Vitolo	EPPIC placement (to April 2010)	Full time
Hannah Waugh	EPPIC Placement (to May 2010)	Full time

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF INSTITUTE OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGISTS (COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

We have audited the financial statements of Institute of Field Archaeologists (Company Limited By Guarantee) for the year ended 31 March 2010, set out on pages 6 to 11. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 3, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

### SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the APB's website at [www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/uknp](http://www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/uknp).

### OPINION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2010 and of its loss for the year then ended
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### OPINION ON OTHER MATTER PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

### MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements and the Directors' Report in accordance with the small companies regime.



PETER BROWN FCA  
Senior Statutory Auditor

for and on behalf of:  
Ross Brooke Limited, Statutory Auditor

Date: 4 August 2010

2 Old Bath Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire RG14 1QL

**PROFIT AND LOSS  
ACCOUNT FOR  
THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2010**

	Note	2010 £	2009 £
Turnover		1,008,034	1,136,192
Cost of sales		(624,525)	(720,571)
<b>Gross surplus</b>		<b>383,509</b>	<b>415,621</b>
Administrative expenses		(503,791)	(432,041)
<b>Operating deficit</b>	2	<b>(120,282)</b>	<b>(16,420)</b>
Other interest receivable and similar income		1,639	14,866
<b>Deficit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>		<b>(118,643)</b>	<b>(1,554)</b>
Tax on deficit on ordinary activities	3	(344)	(3,248)
<b>Deficit for the financial year</b>	9	<b>(118,987)</b>	<b>(4,802)</b>

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET AS  
AT 31 MARCH 2010**

	Note	2010 £	2009 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	4	2,232	2,946
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks		13,802	41,238
Debtors	5	123,383	168,358
Cash at bank and in hand		549,536	562,113
		686,721	771,709
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	<b>(378,576)</b>	<b>(345,290)</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>308,145</b>	<b>426,419</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>310,377</b>	<b>429,365</b>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Income and expenditure account	9	310,377	429,365
		310,377	429,365

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 14 July 2010 and signed on its behalf by:



MARTIN NEWMAN  
Director

**NOTES TO THE  
FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS FOR  
THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2010**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

**Cash flow statement**

The accounts do not include a cash flow statement because the company, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirements to prepare such a statement.

**Going concern**

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

**Turnover**

Turnover represents the value of income earned and services provided during the year.

**Long-term contracts**

Sales and foreseeable profits on long-term contracts are recognised in line with the activity of each contract. Invoiced sales in excess or deficit of recognised sales are carried forward in payments on account or accrued income. The balance of costs recognised that are in excess or deficit of invoiced costs are carried forward in accruals or work in progress. Provision is made in accruals for any foreseeable losses.

**Fixed assets**

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:  
Office equipment 50% reducing balance

**Stock and work in progress**

Stock and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs.

**Foreign currencies**

Profit and loss account transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the closing rates at the balance sheet date and the exchange differences are included in the profit and loss account.

**Operating leases**

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

**Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Area and special interest groups**

The institute has a number of area and special interest groups, who organise comparatively small scale events, conferences and other activities. The income, expenditure and funds held by these groups is incorporated into the accounts of the institute.

**2 OPERATING DEFICIT**

Operating (deficit)/surplus is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2010 £	2009 £
The audit of the company's annual accounts	4,700	12,138
Foreign currency losses/(gains)	9,288	(14,380)
Loss on sale of fixed assets	-	295
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,958	1,793

**3 TAXATION**

Analysis of current period tax charge

	2010 £	2009 £
<b>Current tax</b>		
Corporation tax charge	344	3,122
(Over)/under provision in previous year	-	126
UK Corporation tax	344	3,248

**4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	2010 £	2009 £
<b>Cost</b>		
As at 1 April 2009		25,067
Additions		1,244
As at 31 March 2010		26,311
<b>Depreciation</b>		
As at 1 April 2009		22,121
Charge for the year		1,958
As at 31 March 2010		24,079
<b>Net book value</b>		
As at 31 March 2010		2,232
As at 31 March 2009		2,946

**5 DEBTORS**

	2010 £	2009 £
Trade debtors	27,896	27,134
Prepayments and accrued income	95,487	141,224
	123,383	168,358

**6 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2010 £	2009 £
Payments received on account	201,363	208,357
Trade creditors	45,906	23,829
Corporation tax	345	3,122
Social security and other taxes	13,105	8,691
Other creditors	28,476	20,230
Accruals and deferred income	89,381	81,061
	378,576	345,290

**7 PENSION SCHEME**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the period represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £25,757 (2009 - £21,315).

Contributions totalling £28,476 (2009 - £20,230) were payable to the scheme at the end of the period and are included in creditors.

**8 COMPANY STATUS**

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

**9 RESERVES**

	Income and expenditure account £
Balance at 1 April 2009	429,364
Transfer from income and expenditure account for the year	(118,987)
Balance at 31 March 2010	310,377

**10 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS**

As at 31 March 2010 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2010 £	2009 £
Operating leases which expire:		
Within one year	2,541	2,541
Within two and five years	1,284	1,284
	3,825	3,825

**DETAILED PROFIT  
AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2010**

	2010 £	2009 £
<b>Turnover</b> ( <i>analysed below</i> )	1,008,034	1,136,192
<b>Cost of sales</b>		
Direct project costs	245,557	138,706
Core staff project salaries	66,384	69,693
Non-core staff project salaries	312,584	512,172
	<u>(624,525)</u>	<u>(720,571)</u>
<b>Gross surplus</b>	383,509	415,621
<b>38.05%</b> (2009 - 36.58%)		
<b>Administrative expenses</b> ( <i>analysed below</i> )		
Employment costs	364,100	305,377
Establishment costs	13,490	9,582
General administrative expenses	110,306	124,351
Finance charges	13,937	(9,357)
Depreciation costs	1,958	2,088
	<u>(503,791)</u>	<u>(432,041)</u>
<b>Operating deficit</b>	(120,282)	(16,420)
<b>Other interest receivable and similar income</b>		
Bank interest receivable	1,639	14,866
	<u>(118,643)</u>	<u>(1,554)</u>
<b>Deficit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>		
<b>Turnover</b>		
Subscriptions	290,809	277,722
Application Fees	3,357	4,215
RO Fees	54,571	64,371
Conference income	39,841	75,065
Adverts	5,148	4,978
Publications	60	659
JIS subscriptions & adverts	11,625	16,445
Building group fees	270	1,410
Total project income	602,353	691,327
	<u>1,008,034</u>	<u>1,136,192</u>
<b>Employment costs</b>		
Core staff overhead salaries	306,838	258,006
Temporary staff costs	18,789	17,548
Staff recruitment	3,356	1,675
Staff training	64	3,637
Committee travel	13,444	10,535
Group funding	6,235	2,287
Staff pensions (Defined contribution)	15,374	11,689
	<u>364,100</u>	<u>305,377</u>
<b>Establishment costs</b>		
Premises costs	13,490	9,582
	<u>13,490</u>	<u>9,582</u>
<b>General administrative expenses</b>		
Telephone and fax	5,121	4,204
Venue Hire	572	2,752
Computing & IT	9,597	6,759
Printing, postage and stationery	27,689	22,875
Sundry expenses	929	229
JIS costs	1,187	1,034
Publications: TA	23,765	20,871

	2010 £	2009 £
Insurance	4,540	6,271
Staff expenses – conference	1,960	1,691
Travel and subsistence	10,836	18,472
Promotional material	10,647	10,811
Hospitality	255	869
Magazine and institution subscriptions	2,526	1,341
Accountancy fees	-	1,120
The audit of the company's annual accounts	4,700	12,138
Auditors' remuneration - non audit work	1,500	2,000
Payroll costs	1,613	830
Consultancy fees	-	6,386
Legal and professional fees	2,869	3,082
Bad debts written off	-	616
	<u>110,306</u>	<u>124,351</u>
<b>Finance charges</b>		
Bank charges	4,649	5,023
Foreign currency losses/(gains)	9,288	(14,380)
	<u>13,937</u>	<u>(9,357)</u>
<b>Depreciation costs</b>		
Depreciation	1,958	1,793
Loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets	-	295
	<u>1,958</u>	<u>2,088</u>

**REPORT OF THE  
HONORARY  
SECRETARY**

In 2009/10 IfA Council (consisting of twenty-two elected and co-opted members) has continued to focus on strategic development, culminating in the publication of our new Strategic Plan (please see the IfA website for details). Council has also had to work on the difficult task of dealing with the economic climate, which has affected the Institute as well as the individuals and organisations it represents. The Institute has responded to 39 consultation responses with input from members. IfA committees for working practice, professional training, membership, registration and the editorial board have all been of great assistance. Committee membership is voluntary so we thank all those who give up their time.

**Membership and Registered Organisations promotion and recruitment**

The Institute has continued to process a good number of applications for both individual membership and Registration despite the tough economic climate, although some organisations and members have suffered and unfortunately had to leave membership/registration. Membership figures have remained stable, but we haven't seen the overall growth that we have become accustomed to year-on-year.

There are currently 64 Registered Organisations with several others awaiting consideration and a growing interest in registration, especially since the publication of PPS5 in England. There are over sixty applicants currently going through the validation process for individual membership. The membership figures for the end of the reporting period are as follows, with 2009 numbers in brackets.

Honorary members	15	(15)
Members	1116	(1104)
Associates	624	(618)
Practitioners	385	(415)
Students	242	(234)
Affiliates	477	(420)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2859</b>	<b>(2806)</b>



### **Pay and conditions**

The implementation of Council's decision to increase minimum salaries has been delayed due to the current economic climate but Council is still committed to this course of action. The Benchmarking Archaeological Salaries report has been updated with figures for 2009/10 and a working group has considered a methodology for determining advisory 'reasonable' starting salary ranges which is currently undergoing consultation with members.

### **Standards**

Limited progress has been achieved on the *Standard and guidance for Historic Environment Advisory Services* (formerly *Curatorial archaeology*) as we are awaiting a decision on funding. A review of the content of the *Standard and guidance for desk-based assessments* has started, in light of the new English PPS. New *Standard and guidance for geophysical survey* and *Standard and guidance for forensic archaeologists* have been put forward for adoption in draft form at the 2010 AGM in October.

### **Training and professional development**

We secured additional HLF funding to continue the Workplace Learning Bursary programme for a further eighteen months. Thirteen NVQ candidates have now been successful in completing their qualifications and we have over fifty candidates working towards their qualifications. Council and the committees carry on their good work in promoting the Institute, which would not function without the staff, so thank you to all of you.

**Joanna K. F. Bacon**  
Hon Secretary

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## **AREA AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

The Institute currently has seven Special Interest Groups and three Area Groups. Below are reports from some of them.

### **REPORT OF THE DIGGERS' FORUM**

Over the past year the Diggers' Forum committee has held one meeting to discuss numerous topics, including the current operation of the DF and issues confronting the industry. One of the most important items on the agenda was the negative impact on pay and working conditions caused by the economic down turn.

Recently Diggers' Forum members on IfA Council have been campaigning on three key issues: preventing the decoupling of IfA minimum pay levels from the requirements of Registered Organisation membership, the re-introduction of the adopted above inflation increases to the minimum salary recommendations, and the closer monitoring of job adverts in JIS to prevent any jobs being advertised below the IfA minimum salary levels.

The next Diggers' Forum AGM will take place within the next three months. Unfortunately, due to difficulties caused by the currently economic situation and the limited number of members currently sitting on the committee, the Diggers' Forum has not been able to organise or participate in activities it would wish to normally undertake. The committee is currently addressing this situation and hoping to increase the number of committee members over the next six months.

**Chris Clarke** PI(A),  
Group Chair

### **REPORT OF THE FINDS GROUP**

The Finds Group has held four committee meetings over the last year in May, September, November and January, and AGMs in November 2009 and at the IfA conference in April 2010. General and special interest/CPD meetings have been scheduled, but due to a lack of take up, have had to be postponed.

Meetings this year are being scheduled; amongst them are sessions on osteology, community archaeology, and leather.

The community event is envisaged to be an educational event for the voluntary sector assisting them with such topics as first aid for finds, best practice for handling finds during excavation and post-excavation treatment.

At the last AGM held in November Teresa Gilmore took over from Nicola Powell as Secretary, and Phil Mills remained as Chair.

We hope to hold the group's AGM at the IfA conference each year from now. A committee meeting will be held at the same event.

**Phil Mills** MIfA  
Group Chair

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### **REPORT OF THE GEOPHYSICS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP**

The Geophysics Special Interest Group currently has over 200 members. The group is run by a committee which meets two or three times per year and includes representatives from other groups such as International Society for Archaeological Prospection (ISAP), European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE), Near Surface Geophysics Group and Forensic Geoscience Group (both part of Geol. Soc. of London), European GPR Association (EuroGPR), English Heritage and ALGAO.

One of the group's prime objectives has been to establish a *Standard and guidance for archaeological geophysics* to go before the IfA AGM this year for approval. A sub-group was set up to look at geophysical survey data archiving, and produced an interim report earlier this year following an extensive consultation of the sector. A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the group secretary Dave Sabin at the email address below.

The group are working with ALGAO Scotland and the Scottish Group of the IfA to run a one-day seminar in Edinburgh on 24 November 2010 on the use of geophysics within the planning process in Scotland.

The group's AGM will be held on Friday 22 October 2010 at a venue yet to be decided. If you are interested in joining the group please contact [groups@archaeologists.net](mailto:groups@archaeologists.net). If any group members wish to join the committee please contact Peter Barker or Dave Sabin. We would like to hear from you.

**Peter Barker** MIfA  
GeoSIG Chair  
[peter.barker@stratascan.co.uk](mailto:peter.barker@stratascan.co.uk)

**Dave Sabin** MIfA  
GeoSIG Secretary  
[david.sabin@archaeological-surveys.co.uk](mailto:david.sabin@archaeological-surveys.co.uk)

## REPORT OF THE ILLUSTRATION & SURVEY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (ISSIG)

The ISSIG survey into the two specialist areas of archaeological illustration and survey has been made available as a downloadable document on the group's webpage, giving members of the ISSIG and the AAI&S the first opportunity to see detailed survey results about their profession. Discussions about the survey's conclusions will continue and areas of concern to members will be addressed.

One of the major areas already identified within the survey response is training. The ISSIG has been seeking funding to support the research for and potential of creating CPD course units aimed at both entry/amateur level and at advanced level addressing requirements of existing specialists. Some funding has been found and the consultation phase will begin this spring.

**Rob Read** MfA  
Group Chair

## REPORT OF THE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

The IMSIG held a committee meeting in October 2009 at the British Academy. The meeting was well attended and allowed the group to discuss key activities such as the newsletter, including the upcoming conference sessions, AGM and potential guidance papers.

Martin Newman organised a session at the December TAG conference on behalf of the IMSIG. The session, 'On the record: the philosophy of recording', was well attended with papers covering a range of subjects including viewing databases as examples of material culture, relating landscape and records of Scheduled Monuments and classification in Wales, reconstructing historical classification, how social relationships in archaeology are produced by technology and the archiving of digital archaeological ephemera. Professor Julian Richards from the University of York and the ADS acted as discussant. A selection of the papers from the session will be published in *Internet Archaeology* in late 2010.

The IMSIG held its AGM at the IfA Conference at Southport in April 2010 prior to its session. A new committee was voted in including the following post holders: Martin Newman (Chair), Edmund Lee (Treasurer) and Alison Bennett (Secretary). At the conference the IMSIG organised a session based on a 'Barcamp'; rather than each presenter speaking in turn, small groups discussed topics with a demonstration or presentation. This was organised in advance online via a wiki where details of what was discussed are available <http://ifa-information-management-sig.wikispaces.com/IMSIG+Barcamp>

The IMSIG currently has over 200 members. Looking to the future the committee intends to organise more events along similar lines to the Barcamp to promote awareness and networking across the sector.

**Martin Newman** MfA  
IMSIG Chair

## REPORT OF THE MARITIME AFFAIRS GROUP (MAG)

This year has been another busy year for the group. MAG has been represented on a number of committees and at several meetings (for example JNAPC, ALGAO Maritime Group, TAF, the Archaeological Archives Forum and the Maritime and Marine Historic Environment Research Framework). This is a valuable reminder that much of the group's work regularly goes on behind the more visible communications. Committee members also sit on IfA's Council and Validation committee, the latter owing to an increasing number of applications for membership from maritime and underwater archaeologists. The group has also provided a number of responses to consultations relating to heritage and the marine environment.

We continued to publicise the poor state of archive provision for marine archaeological investigations, and to represent maritime issues on the Archaeological Archives Forum. This year has seen the completion of the 'Securing the Future of Maritime Archives' funded by EH, HS,

RCAHMS and SMA which has produced three reports that explore current archive provision, appraise current demand and assess future demand (for further details see <http://www.hwtma.org.uk/maritime-archaeological-archives>).

Communication with the MAG membership has continued through our two annual bulletins, which update members on the latest activities and projects. The MAG email information service has been very active and we have continued to update the blog (<http://ifamag.wordpress.com/>). The group also organised the 'In situ preservation of the underwater cultural heritage – methods and approaches: a dialogue between policy and practice' session at the 2010 IfA annual conference, and provided advice to the amendment of the IfA *Code of Conduct* which was discussed at an EGM at the same conference. We have been working on publishing the proceedings of the second MAG conference, which considered issues of significance in relation to managing the resource, and some papers are being published through the MAG Bulletin and blog. The group will consider in 2011 how frequently they wish to hold the MAG conference series.

**Dr Vir Dellino-Musgrave** MfA  
Group Chair

## REPORT OF THE WALES/CYMRU GROUP

The AGM of the Wales/Cymru group was held on 12 June 2009 and the Wales/Cymru committee met on two occasions.

There were two main foci for the group's activities. One was the two dayschools held during the year, and the other was the ongoing coordination of the Research Framework for Wales.

The summer dayschool was based on the theme of the IfA Standards and guidance for desk-based assessments and archaeological watching briefs. The aim of the day was

- to introduce the standards to those who are not familiar with them
- refresh the memories of those that are
- discuss how the Standards and guidance work in practice
- put forward suggestions as to revisions that could be made

The autumn dayschool on 27 November was on 'Agri-environment schemes: looking back looking forward' with contributions from the Welsh Archaeological Trusts, Cadw, the Countryside and Community Research Institute and Denbighshire County Council.

Maintenance of the website for the Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales ([www.archaeolog.org.uk](http://www.archaeolog.org.uk)) has been carried out by Andy Williams of Orchardweb, Llandeilo.

In September 2009 the Welsh Heritage Minister announced his action plan, which included a review of the Research Framework led by IfA Wales/Cymru. The review process has now started, with support and coordination from IfA Wales/Cymru. A conference in September 2010 will present the findings and allow further discussion before the completed review is made available via the website by the end of December 2010.

David Maynard attended The Archaeology Forum on 21 January in Cardiff on behalf of IfA Wales/Cymru, and the group is represented on the *What's in Store* Archaeological Archives panel

The IfA Wales/Cymru group web page and details of meeting are added to the new IfA meetings calendar. Dayschools have also been advertised on Britarch, Facebook and LinkedIn. Articles have been written for *The Archaeologist* and CBA Wales newsletter.

**Jenny Hall** MfA  
Group interim Chair

## 2009/10 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

### COUNCIL

Gerry Wait (Hon Chair)  
Joanna Bacon (Hon Secretary)  
Patrick Clay (Hon Vice Chair Standards)  
Martin Newman (Hon Treasurer)  
Mark Collard (Hon Vice Chair Personnel & Membership)  
Geoff Morley (Hon Vice Chair Outreach)  
Dan Atkinson  
Paul Belford  
Virginia Dellino Musgrave  
David Divers  
Stuart Eve  
Kasia Gdaniec  
Victoria Hunns  
Mark Newman  
Jayne Pilkington  
Nick Shepherd  
Roland Smith  
Andy Towle  
Sadie Watson  
Roger White

### COMMITTEES

#### Validation committee

Rachel Edwards (chair)  
Paul Adams (IMSIG rep)  
Simon Atkinson  
Jo Bacon (Exec/Council and ISSIG rep)  
Evelyn Baker  
Beverley Ballin-Smith (Scottish Group rep)  
Paul Belford  
Chris Constable  
Hester Cooper-Reade (FAME rep)  
Jane Evans  
Andy Holland (CBA rep)  
Kirsten Holland (vice chair)  
Oliver Jessop  
Clare King  
John Lord  
Geoff Morley  
Susan Ovenden (Geophys SIG rep)  
Helen Parslow  
Elizabeth Pearson  
Emily Peto  
Nicky Powell (vice chair/Finds Group rep)  
Julie Satchell (MAG rep)  
Dan Slatcher (vice chair)  
Jez Taylor (Diggers' Forum rep)  
Bob Zeepvat

#### Committee for Working Practice

Patrick Clay (Chair)  
Phil Bethell  
Paul Chadwick  
Richard Cuttler  
Kasia Gdaniec  
Chiz Harward  
Hannah Heard  
Edmund Lee  
Michael Lewis  
Richard Lewis  
Fiona MacDonald  
Phil Mills  
Geoff Morley  
Mark Newman  
Taryn Nixon  
Mark Spanjer  
Carol Swanson  
Jez Taylor  
Andy Towle

#### Registered Organisations committee

Laura Schaaf (chair)  
Evelyn Baker  
Stewart Bryant  
Chris Clarke (Diggers' Forum rep)  
Patrick Clay  
Chris Constable  
Hester Cooper-Reade  
Bob Croft  
Sue Davies (corresponding member)  
Rachel Edwards  
David Elks (Geophys. SIG rep)  
Phil Emery  
Noel Fojut (HS rep)  
Amanda Forster  
Claire Halpin  
Mark Houliston  
David Jennings (FAME rep)  
Clare King  
Andrew Marvell  
Ken Murphy  
Jonathan Parkhouse  
Steve Parry  
Andrea Smith  
Roland Smith  
John Sode-Woodhead  
Paul Spoerry  
Kim Stabler  
Dave Start  
Gerry Wait (corresponding member)  
Roger White  
John Williams  
Bob Zeepvat

#### Editorial board

Catherine Cavanagh (Chair)  
Jo Bacon  
Stephen Briggs  
Christopher Catling  
Stuart Eve  
Bill Moss  
Andrew Petersen  
Tracy Wellman

Minutes to: Patrick Clay

#### Membership Appeals committee

Lesley Collett  
Stewart Hoad  
John Sode Woodhead  
David Divers (Council)  
Nick Shepherd (Council)  
Andy Towle (Council)

#### Professional Training committee

Roger White (Chair)  
Jo Bacon  
Catherine Cavanagh  
John Collis  
Claire Halpin  
Don Henson  
Bob Hook  
Geoff Morley  
Fiona MacDonald  
Mark Newman  
Guy Salkeld  
Anthony Sinclair  
Sue Wintersgill

Minutes to: Rachel Edwards  
(Chair validation committee)

## Fairgrounds for debate: celebrating the heritage of amusement parks

Michelle Stratton

Have you ever enjoyed a ride on a water chute, loop the loop, or dodgems? If you have, you probably haven't been on a listed rollercoaster, not yet anyway. Only two rides in the UK are listed, but while this year's conference was running, English Heritage was assessing the rides at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. More may receive protection if amusement parks around Britain continue to close and have their rides sold off or destroyed. Challenging traditional notions of the content and nature of the historic environment, this session set out to explore the history, heritage and future of amusement parks.

Recognition of the amusement park's historical significance arose through the growth of tourism history, which led to a widening appreciation of the economic and cultural significance of the seaside in British society and beyond. In this type of international academic field cross-comparative research is necessary. **John Walton** demonstrated this in his opening paper. He traced the development of different amusement parks in international settings, situating the phenomenon in a global context.

**Josie Kane** gave an overview of the emergence of amusement parks in Britain at the turn of the 20th century. She examined their meaning, highlighting how a modern experience of mass pleasure came to be defined, commodified and made acceptable by their architecture and technology in the early 1900s. However, from the 1930s competition from other entertainment sectors and criticism from social reformers marked the beginning of a change in their fortunes.

The Festival of Britain, in 1951, was a controversial celebration of modernity and consumerism. It was the last event of its kind for some time. Battersea Park Funfair formed part of this exhibition and outlived it by two decades. The legacy of this prototype theme park, now partly forgotten, was



explored by **Ian Trowell**. Using a variety of materials, Ian paid particular attention to the park's heritage, technology and theory of space. His case study reminds us that many parks flourished at the urban core as well as the coastal periphery, despite the latter's connotations of excitement and escape.

**Anya Chapman's** paper used interview data from employees and customers to investigate amusement park culture at Southport's Pleasureland. Continuing with a comparison of the tangible and intangible elements of the amusement park, Anya reviewed issues affecting the operation and regeneration of this type of attraction, including the community, tourism infrastructure and growing disillusionment with modernity and its cultural associations.

Further consideration was given to the durability of these tourist products in the paper by **Nick Laister** – planner, developer and the creative force behind the world's first heritage amusement park at Dreamland, Margate. After reviewing the causes behind multiple park closures (including Dreamland in 2002), Nick gave an in-depth account of the challenges faced by the project and the support being gained from the DCMS and HLF.

Amusement parks occupy a liminal space, but this session demonstrated that their study should not. The topic is engendering interest across academic and professional spheres, and the session explored the fields of industrial, technological, social, and cultural history. Discussion identified the potential for oral history projects along with other areas for future research, including: innovation, design, aesthetics, business and family history. It seems that amusement park heritage is not divorced from traditional notions of heritage after all. The future of amusement parks will require 'constant change and dynamism', a maxim that holds true for how we conceive of, and protect our heritage in general. **Jason Wood** is planning to bring the session papers together for publication, which will make a valuable contribution to the literature on amusement park heritage.

Michelle Stratton

Southport's Funland.  
Photograph: Peter Hinton

# IN DREAMLAND



Jason Wood



Brooklands Racers  
(Margate Museum)

Jason Wood's session at this year's conference focussed on the heritage of amusement parks. In this article he describes a unique and exciting project to create the world's first heritage amusement park in Margate.

In October 2006 Blackpool Pleasure Beach put up for sale its 1935 American-built Turtle Chase ride cars. 'Buy your own piece of history on Ebay now' read the advertisement on the Pleasure Beach website. The cars sold for the ridiculously low price of £155, and prompted a hasty trip to Blackpool armed with camera and accompanied by my bewildered daughter complaining that 'no-one goes on holiday to see historic rides that don't work'. She had a point. But it got me thinking. Perhaps people would go on holiday to a place where historic rides *did* work.

Fast forward one year. I am not alone in my thinking. Nick Laister, a leading authority on the UK theme park industry, has a plan. His concept, on paper at least, is simple. Acquire a representative sample of classic rides from closed or soon-to-be-closed amusement parks; restore and re-erect them in a single location; and create the world's first heritage amusement park dedicated to preserving and operating historic rides. And the place where this dream will come true is, appropriately enough, Dreamland – the former amusement park in the seaside resort of Margate.

The Dreamland site has been a leisure venue for over 140 years and today is home to the iconic Scenic Railway built in 1919-20 – the oldest surviving roller coaster in the UK and the third oldest of its type in the world. It was also the first amusement park ride to be listed (Grade II in 2002, and currently being considered for upgrading to II\*).

The impetus behind the project is the unprecedented rate of closures of amusement parks in the UK, and consequently the increasing number of historic rides under threat of destruction. Some 15 traditional seaside amusement parks and inland theme parks have shut down since 1999, with more closures expected in the coming years. At those parks that remain, major changes are being planned which will further erode what heritage survives. These losses and changes are not without controversy. In Southport, for example, popular concern for the Pleasureland amusement park led to public protests but ultimately failed attempts at heritage designation to prevent disposal of a rare Cyclone roller coaster built in 1937.

The closures of amusement parks have not been due to lack of demand – quite the opposite. Dreamland, in its heyday, attracted 2m visitors annually, and Blackpool Pleasure Beach until recently regularly topped the list of the UK's free attractions, with 5.5m visitors in 2007. During the property boom of the late 1990s land increased in value and the owners of amusement parks were encouraged to sell for housing and retail development. The irony is that many of these sites are now derelict because the firms that bought them have gone bust.

Proposals to create the world's first heritage amusement park were initially put forward in April 2007 by the Dreamland Trust. Nick Laister, Chair of the Trust and instrumental in securing the listing of the Scenic Railway, first set out the case in a preliminary report on the availability of genuine historic rides and an assessment of space requirements. Based on this, a masterplan for the site adjacent to the Scenic Railway was drawn up; the latest version, launched in March 2009, being by architects Levitt Bernstein and the internationally renowned amusement park designer Jean-Marc Toussaint. This masterplan details the size, shape and indicative layout of the proposed nine-acre park. In the meantime the Trust has already started to acquire



Scenic Railway rollercoaster (Margate Museum)

several historic rides from Pleasureland in Southport, Ocean Beach in Rhyl and Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Some of these rides are the last surviving examples of their type in the UK.

An agreement has been reached that sees 51% of the entire site being transferred to the Dreamland Trust, together with £4m of developer funding as part of planning permission for the redevelopment of the remaining 49%. A further £3.7m has been secured from the Sea Change programme, with significant contributions also from the Heritage Lottery Fund and others. Phase 1 of the project, including most of the heritage amusement park, is scheduled to be completed by Easter 2012.

Belatedly, I should declare an interest. I am a native of Blackpool and had a seasonal job as a 'blagger' or 'barker' on one of the concession stalls at the Pleasure Beach from the age of 14. (Some of my colleagues maintain that I haven't stopped blagging or barking since.) But leaving aside my childhood attachment to the endearing character and cacophony of technology that is Blackpool's

amusement park, I saw the conference session in Southport celebrating the heritage of fairgrounds, like the one on seaside resorts in Torquay last year, as evidence of the further stimulation of the overlap between archaeology and popular culture. And in this quest I start from the premise that tourism, as an industry, must have an industrial archaeology. Amusement parks are no different from other kinds of expressions of industrial archaeology and are just as significant as related forms of entertainment architecture dedicated to the provision of leisure and enjoyment, such as theatres and cinemas, which on the whole receive greater recognition and statutory designation. There are, I contend, fair grounds for debate, and perhaps fair grounds for listing.

Jason Wood, MIFA  
jwhcs@yahoo.co.uk

Further reading:

Jason Wood, 'From port to resort: art, heritage and identity in the regeneration of Margate', in Peter Borsay and John K Walton (eds), *Resorts and ports: European seaside towns since 1700* (Bristol: Channel View, forthcoming 2010).

www.dreamlandmargate.com



Scenic Railway rollercoaster warning sign (Jason Wood)

Publicity posters (from Dreamland Remembered by Nick Evans)



## Commercial archaeological practice in the UK: the viewpoint from the construction industry

Andrew Townsend and David Lock

Archaeological work is now an integral element of the construction process, and can be critical for successful project delivery. This has resulted in a close relationship between the construction and archaeological professions.

This session gave the construction industry an opportunity to comment on how developer-funded archaeology is carried out, with papers from **Jim Keyte** and **Steve Haynes** of ARUP, **Russel Coleman** of Headland Group, **Rob Bourn** and **Greg Pugh** from CgMs Consulting and **David Lock** of LDA Design Consulting. All speakers agreed that it is important for archaeologists to ensure best practice, for both archaeological work and the construction process. They drew attention to a number of issues which should not be considered criticism, but self-reflection. Some speakers highlighted the lack of worth attached to archaeology by developers, often regarding it as 'non-dangerous contamination'. Developers can perceive that there is no return on resources invested in archaeology, so consider it something to be dealt with as quickly and cheaply as possible.



Photograph: Kirsten Collins

Many speakers argued that while archaeologists are good at doing archaeology, they can lack core skills and experience needed to work within today's complex construction industry. A number of speakers highlighted aspects where they thought archaeologists needed to upskill: knowledge of contracts and legislation, risk management, tendering and estimating, project

administration and programming, economics, health and safety, measurement of works, insurance, innovation and technology, and the stages of development. When these aspects of the construction process have been fully understood, archaeologists may gain greater professional recognition by the allied professions. This would also increase client focus and create a 'commercial culture' that speakers stressed would be welcomed.

Archaeologists consider early engagement the key to reducing unexpected cost and delays. Speakers suggested that far greater engagement with and understanding of clients and their design teams was required in order for this to happen. Archaeologists also need to explain their requirements through continuous dialogue, not on an intermittent or discursive basis. They emphasised the importance of consistency and equality of submissions when tendering for projects, suggesting that a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to projects, and the accompanying 'tick box' mentality, should be replaced by more creative solutions for servicing clients, while maintaining consistency across the board. It became clear that the discipline needs to become more business-facing so that archaeology can 'speak the same language' as developers. This requires greater knowledge of construction matters, more client focus, more collaborative working/partnering with design teams and being more receptive to new methods and approaches. Some industries have used the expertise of allied professions to ensure survival and thrive in the twenty-first century. If commercial archaeology does not wish to become a vocational coterie, the construction industry has 200 years of experience waiting to be tapped by those willing to change.

The final presentation by **Stephanie Rafferty** concerned the application of the *Construction (Design & Management) Regulations (2007)* to archaeological practice. A number of key issues were discussed that will now be taken forward by a working party with the aim of producing formal guidance.

**Andrew Townsend** MIfA, Bristol & Region Archaeological Services / LDA Design Consulting LLP  
**David Lock** PlfA, CIOB Ambassador

## Where's IT all going? The INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SIG barcamp

Martin Newman and Edmund Lee

For this session IMSIG wanted to do something different and inclusive. We modelled our session on the 'Barcamp' approach developed for ICT events. Rather than each presenter speaking in turn, we wanted small groups discussing or interacting with a demonstration or presentation. The session structure and content was developed prior to the conference, with participants editing a wiki online. On the day, everyone was a participant and no one was the audience; we had a room full of noise rather than one voice speaking. It was also the only session where delegates were asked to leave their mobile devices on so they could comment on the event on the wiki, their blogs or Twitter, tagging posts with #ifaimesig or #imsig.

Delegates chose tables depending on what they were interested in and were encouraged to move around to find something of interest. There was great scope for people to 'mix and match' what they wanted to take part in. Slots of 25 minutes were allocated to each discussion or demonstration. The topics covered were ADS guides to good practice wiki (**Kieron Niven**) HER data over augmented reality (**James Grimster**) Partnership working between RCAHMS and NT Scotland (**Susan Casey**), predictive modelling in East Anglia using HER data (**Bill Willcox**), interactive mapping for the Heritage Gateway (**Crispin Flower and Cat Cload**), sharing information (**Edmund Lee**), why open source should be the future for archaeological IS (**Chris Puttick**), applications for mobile devices for archaeology (**Helene McNeill**), an IfA professional practice paper on digital photography (**Kate Geary**), the new IfA Website (**Kathryn Whittington**), STELLAR project and ArchSearch 3 (**Stewart Jeffrey**) and semantic technologies for archaeology (**Keith May**). Details of what was discussed and demonstrated can be found on the wiki for the session <http://ifa-information-management-sig.wikispaces.com/IMSIG+Barcamp>



Delegates each nominated three heritage and IT topics of interest and these became a Tag Cloud (see above). It was a successful session with around 30 attendees and significant discussion. IMSIG intends to organise more events like this in the future to promote awareness and networking across the sector.

The tag cloud produced during the Barcamp. Image: Edmund Lee

**Martin Newman** MIfA, English Heritage  
**Edmund Lee** MIfA, English Heritage

## Celebrating Innovation – new and inspiring ways of seeing and doing archaeology

Andrea Bradley

Contrary to common belief, being innovative isn't just about applying the latest technologies to archaeological practice. This session concluded that to be truly innovative, an archaeological project must

- produce change - change in people (eg through experience or education), place (e.g. through transformation) or perception (eg of landscape)
- involve understanding and explaining what matters, why and to whom (not just gathering data for data's sake)
- involve a cultural shift to questioning and research-focused work

Only through innovation will we improve the quality, the productivity and the perception of what we do.

With thanks to **Rob Sutton** (Atkins), **Jeremy Oetgen** (Albion Archaeology), **Jonathan Smith** (Gloucester City Council); **Tom Dommett** (New Forest NPA) and **Laura Gutierrez** (RCAHMS).

**Andrea Bradley** MIfA, Workplace Learning Programme Coordinator

## Making learning work – training and professional development in YOUR organisation

Kate Geary

The original aim of this session was to celebrate the achievements of the IfA's Workplace Learning Programme, evaluate its impact and explore innovative solutions to the challenges of skills training and workplace learning in archaeology. The call for papers invited speakers to showcase their own workplace learning and training initiatives alongside case studies from IfA. Sadly, only two organisations responded to the call.

Nevertheless, the session proved to be a highly positive and thought-provoking one. Case studies from the IfA's HLF Workplace Learning Bursaries and English Heritage EPPIC schemes reiterated the positive benefits of structured workplace learning in a range of environments from **Anna Komar's** landscape survey experience (EPPIC placement in Archaeological Survey and Investigation with EH, 2009/10) to **Matt Nicholas's** work with archives at the Pitt Rivers Museum (HLF-funded archive archaeology placement, 2009). **Amanda Feather** and **Edmund Lee** from English Heritage talked about the Historic Environment Traineeships and EH's support for the NVQ in Archaeological Practice and **Hannah Cobb** from the University of Manchester described enquiry-based learning techniques being embedded within the archaeology programme at Manchester using innovative e-based resources.

The session concluded with a choice of two workshops. **Kenneth Aitchison** looked at how to conduct a skills audit, either of your own skills as an individual, or within an organisation; and the author guided a second group through the process of drafting a personal development plan.

Speakers emphasised the need for, and benefits of, structured skills training; and members of the audience highlighted the difficulties faced by early career archaeologists trying to develop their skills and build on their academic experience. There was a considerable amount of positive feedback regarding



Southport sculpture. Photograph: Kirsten Collins

the NVQ in Archaeological Practice, **Michelle Statton** (HLF-funded placement in desk based assessment, 2008) contrasted the vocational training and NVQ assessment she undertook while on placement with Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust with the collaborative PhD she is currently undertaking, and concluded that both provided very valuable, but different, skills and accreditation.

IfA continues to seek other sources of funding to continue the workplace learning programme beyond 2012. Our immediate challenge, however, is to engage with employers to promote the benefits of structured workplace learning and the NVQ in Archaeological Practice and to embed them within the industry.

**Kate Geary** MIfA, Training and Standards Manager IfA

## Through a glass lens darkly

Kathryn Whittington

The media have had a long fascination with archaeology, and contributed significantly to the public's perception of what archaeology is. This session examined the relationship between archaeology and the media, asked whether we have an image crisis, and, if so, what should we do about it? Does archaeology own its image, or is it beholden to the whims of TV writers, newspaper journalists and Olympic organising committees?

The session started with **Dan Hull** summing up some of the ways that archaeologists see themselves portrayed. **Don Henson** then took us through a brief history of archaeology on television, focussing in particular on *Bonekickers* and why it was unsuccessful. Rather than blaming it on the inaccuracy of the portrayal of archaeologists, he instead argued that audiences understand what archaeology is, and realised that it wasn't accurate. Instead it was largely down to poor writing and development.

Following on, **Angela Piccini** looked at the way archaeology plays a part in marketing Olympic cities. Her paper focussed mostly on the Vancouver Winter Olympics. She explained that British Columbia displayed its landscape as unspoiled and unpeopled even though VANOC's goal was to achieve unprecedented aboriginal participation in planning and hosting the games. In addition to this, the archaeology of downtown Vancouver itself was largely ignored, as has been argued is the case with the London 2012 Olympics.

**James Doeser**, HLF-funded workplace learning bursary holder at the CBA, focussed on experiences gained while on secondment to the BBC, and explained how programmes are developed and commissioned. He concluded that with a changing media landscape, archaeologists themselves have more power than they think to influence their own media image, through the use of blogs and alternative media technologies (a version of James' paper can be read on p46).

**Matt Williams** couldn't be at conference due to filming commitments, so his paper was read by **Kathryn Whittington**. Matt argued that TV archaeology and developer-led archaeology are more similar than some believe. Both have time and financial constraints. The only difference is that the customer in the former is a TV company, and this



Part of Southport's past. Photograph: Peter Hinton

affects the way archaeology is portrayed. *Time Team* needs to be exciting and interesting, and so these aspects of archaeology are focussed upon. He also argued that *Time Team* is not trying to copy developer-led archaeology and so making comparisons between the two is unfair.

**Tori Park** discussed the portrayal of osteoarchaeology in the media. She explored the media's fascination with human remains, using her own experience of a film crew trying to make a working bone lab look more 'scientific' to the public by bringing in equipment that wouldn't normally be used. She concluded that the press frequently sensationalises skeletal finds, using dramatic language to make them seem more interesting.

The final paper came from **Tim Phillips**, and discussed the relationship between disability and archaeology. While archaeology may be portrayed as a profession for the young, fit and healthy, a number of people with a wide range of disabilities work within it. Tim showed how employer attitudes towards disability can vary, reading quotations from people interviewed as part of the Inclusive Accessible Archaeology project, which has shown that the endlessly capable heroic Indiana Jones-style figure is a myth in more ways than one.

The papers were followed by a lively discussion, where participants discussed the ways that archaeology can engage more with the media, or else affect change in attitudes themselves. It was widely recognised, however, that the general public seem to have a better understanding of the realities of archaeology than many people fear.

**Kathryn Whittington** MIfA, Public Relations Coordinator IfA

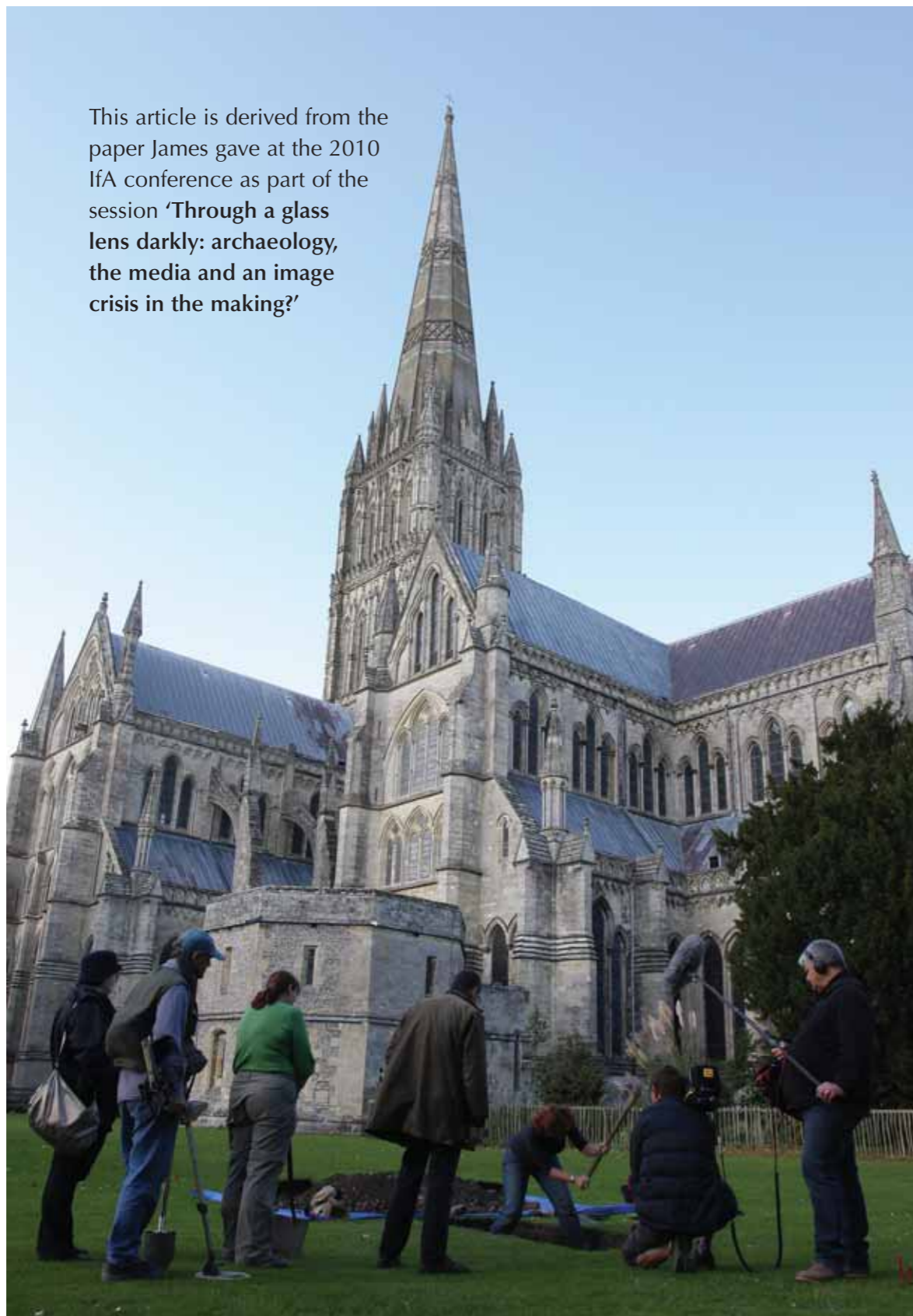
*The whims of commissioners and controllers can be sparked by all sorts of random stimuli: a book review in the newspaper, a fascinating conversation with a friend at their Tuscan villa, or what their children have told them about a craze that's sweeping the playground.*

# READING BETWEEN THE LIES:

*why no news is bad news  
and other tales from the media front line*

James Doerer

This article is derived from the paper James gave at the 2010 IfA conference as part of the session 'Through a glass lens darkly: archaeology, the media and an image crisis in the making?'



A film crew filming for an archaeological TV programme.  
Photograph: Wessex Archaeology

I have spent the last year as the IfA HLF-funded Workplace Learning Bursary Holder in communicating archaeology with the Council for British Archaeology (CBA). As part of the placement I have written and edited articles for *British Archaeology* and *Young Archaeologist* magazines, assisted in the editing of a forthcoming book to be published by the CBA, and worked with colleagues on BIAB Online. I was also able to secure two months work with the BBC as a researcher in Specialist Factual Programme Development (that's documentaries to you and me). I thought it might be helpful to offer a little insight into the process by which archaeology documentaries end up on our television screens.

There are a number of discrete stages in the process of making a television programme. It all starts with development. Development teams are on a long leash to scour the entire world for any idea that they think can be turned into a good television programme. You may have great idea for a series on archaeology but it must meet the criteria set by programme development. They include: is anyone interested? How much will it cost to make? What will we actually show on screen? Is there any more than twenty minutes of footage here? Has it been done recently? Having a recognised presenter of a programme at an early stage will make a big difference to whether it's commissioned or not. Appropriate 'talent' can come in two forms: a flavour-of-the-month celebrity or a credible academic or writer. Very early on in the development process, details such as which channel, format and viewing demographic is most appropriate for the proposed programme are considered. For example, is it 5pm Sunday evening family viewing or is it a late-night BBC4 essay piece?

Programme ideas are worked up into a 'treatment' (a sort of CV for the programme or series) which is then put before commissioners. The most important people in the commissioning process are the channel controllers and the subject commissioners (the two relevant subject divisions at the BBC include History and Business and Science). They are subjected to a series of formal and informal pitches by senior members of in-house development teams. Independent production companies compete with the in-house teams and pitch their own ideas for programmes that they hope to make themselves. The whims of commissioners and controllers can be sparked by all sorts of random stimuli: a book review in the newspaper, a fascinating conversation with a friend at their Tuscan villa, or what their children have told them about a craze that's sweeping the playground.

Once a programme has been commissioned the production team takes over: it works out all the logistical problems (such as how much a programme's going to cost) and turns a sketchy idea into television reality. Along the way it deals with script, storyboard, casting, story arc etc. Television programmes are extremely expensive to make. The Open University sometimes makes documentaries with the BBC which are fully or part-funded. Other co-production partners include overseas broadcasters like Discovery and National Geographic. Once a programme has been made it then goes through the editorial process. The tapes are viewed by the production team and executives who will then have to put it somewhere on their channel's schedule. A programme can be scrapped at any stage in this process, although the more time and money that has gone into it, the less likely this becomes.

There used to be a specific archaeology unit in the BBC (a break-away group from the history and science units when both units were very strong - when *Timewatch*, *Horizon* and *Tomorrow's World* were staples of the schedule). The new unit was the property of a few individuals who are no longer at the BBC. When a champion for a subject leaves the organisation that subject can fall off the radar entirely. This is what's happened to archaeology in the last five years. However, there is currently a real appetite for more archaeology at the BBC.

TV is rated in two ways: audience figures and Appreciation Indexes (AIs). They are often inversely proportional. The AI is a score out of 100. High quality drama such as *The Wire* will have an AI of more than 90 (an exceptional score). Correspondingly, the viewing figures will be pretty low (below 500,000 for a weekday evening). However, public feedback is taken incredibly seriously by the BBC. If there is a steady flow of comments from focus groups saying 'we want more archaeology on TV' then that will happen. It is up to us to build that audience.

The media are currently in crisis as a result of on-demand online content, the explosion of credible subject-specific blogs and changing consumer habits. Free online content which is easy and relatively cheap to produce is replacing traditional media. The golden rules of production still apply: you must tell a story, have good characters and high standards of recording quality - but the time has come for archaeologists make our own media on our own terms.

James Doerer, Affil

# From community involvement to community initiative with SCOTLAND'S RURAL PAST

Tertia Barnett

*Scotland's Rural Past (SRP) is a national project, launched in October 2006 to run for five years. The project is hosted by RCAHMS and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, National Trust for Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. A dedicated team of four archaeologists was appointed at the start of the project for its duration, with the added benefit of RCAHMS expertise.*

## WHY SRP?

Medieval and later rural history is a significant part of Scotland's heritage. Small-scale, subsistence farming lay at the heart of the Scottish community for hundreds of years, until very recently in many areas, and is still remembered by many of the older generation.

Rural settlement remains are a prolific and characteristic feature of the Scottish landscape, especially in the Highland zone. Tens of thousands of abandoned rural settlements exist, ranging from single farmsteads to extended townships with the associated pattern of associated field systems still largely intact. The process of deterioration is rapid and, although many of the buildings are upstanding, many others are reduced to stone- or turf-covered footings.

However, rural settlement is a neglected and often undervalued part of the historic environment. Many of the remains are either not recorded at all, or have only a very brief record. The RCAHMS database contains records of around 25,000 rural settlements. The vast majority of these are based on information extracted from the First Edition Ordnance Survey maps of the mid-19th century, and few have been visited on the ground. These records only represent a proportion of the total number of abandoned settlements in Scotland, meaning that many rural settlements are off the radar for planning and for research purposes.

## DEVELOPING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SRP aims to address this gap in our knowledge by working with local people to build a more robust and comprehensive record while improving public understanding and appreciation of rural history. We do this by encouraging local groups and individuals to develop their own projects actively to research and record abandoned settlements that inspire them in some way. These projects are community-led, rather than being dictated by RCAHMS. Projects can be of any scale, from researching and recording a single site to the survey of an entire glen containing hundreds of separate sites. Most projects involve a combination of fieldwork and research.

Many SRP participants have limited archaeological or archival experience, so in order to facilitate their work we provide training in archaeological field survey and historical document research. Training comprises intensive, two-day courses which we run all over Scotland, during which we cover a range of techniques designed to help people get started and to shape their own work. We also loan out fieldwork equipment to facilitate new projects, although many groups subsequently raise funding to buy their own survey equipment.

Once projects are underway, we provide support for all participants throughout their involvement. This is a combination of in-office support, such as help with access to archival material and aerial photographs, and field support, which can include site visits, help with interpretation, bespoke training and feedback on their work. Where possible, we also help them

develop local or national partnerships, and we provide opportunities for groups to get together to share their ideas and results through events such as the SRP annual conference.

The SRP website provides copious guidance on setting up and managing a project, on field survey techniques and on documentary research. Our website also has pages dedicated to each participating project, to which groups can add their own information.

For most projects, participants formally submit the information they have collected to the RCAHMS database using a specially designed on-line form accessible through our website. All information is digitised and can include site descriptions, site plans, photographs and documentary research. Every record submitted is checked by SRP staff and transferred to the RCAHMS database where it becomes publicly accessible via Canmore. These records are also regularly sent to all Local Authority HERs to enable them to update their own records.

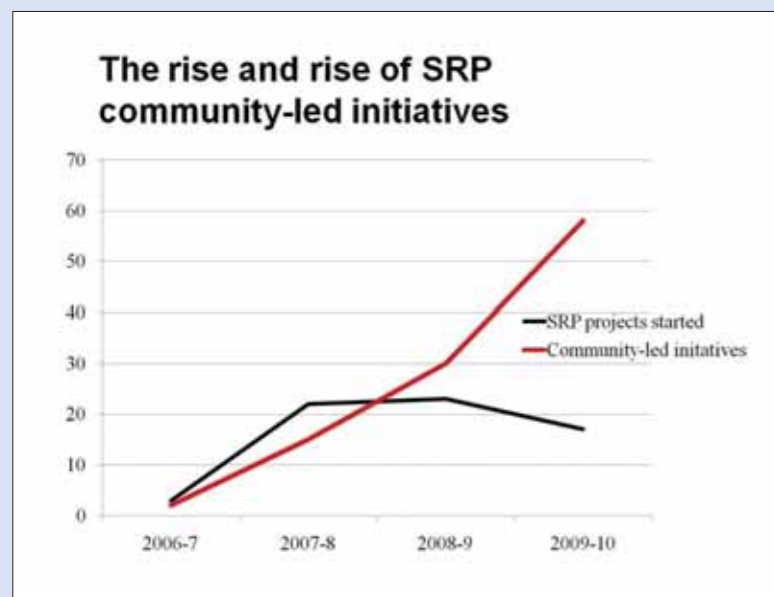
We also work with schools and young people. Schools projects are linked in with the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence and, where possible, with adult projects in the same area.

Since the start of SRP 65 local projects have begun across Scotland, and 17 projects with young people. We have trained over 700 people and over 1,000 people are directly involved with fieldwork and research. Around 100 new records have been submitted so far to the RCAHMS database. These are of excellent quality and many of them are extremely thorough, providing a very detailed social history and archaeological survey of the sites. Many of the groups have also captured unique local knowledge by consulting members of their community and adding their memories to the story of the sites being researched.

## THE RISE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

When SRP started, we had little idea how it would develop and our expectations were fairly cautious. However, the enthusiasm that greeted the project has

The scale of events and activities developed by SRP participants has risen steadily during the course of the project. Image © RCHAMS



Balisgate: Community-led initiatives emerging from SRP took on a new direction when Time Team were called in to excavate a site found by one SRP group in Mull during their search for rural settlement remains. Local people, including two local schools, visited the excavations during filming in May 2009. Photograph © RCHAMS





far exceeded our expectations. Most impressive of all has been the extent to which participants have not just got involved, but are committed to building on what they have learnt through SRP and sharing it with other members of their community.

The vast majority of participating groups have organised events and activities to raise awareness of their sites, often in conjunction with national programmes such as Scottish Archaeology Month and Highland Archaeology fortnight. Activities range from guided walks to talks, exhibitions and publications. In Mull, for example, the local SRP group provided special survey training sessions and community survey days, and are now planning a community excavation in conjunction with the Adopt-a-Monument scheme. In Gairloch on the west coast of Scotland, an SRP group with no previous experience researched and recorded a whole crofting settlement, interviewed numerous locals, and produced a substantial publication on the social history of the site. They led a series of guided walks and constructed an exhibition which was displayed in Gairloch museum during Scottish Archaeology Month, September 2009, and was visited by over 1000 people. The group has now started work on another settlement, it is getting the local school

involved and its plans are becoming more ambitious. Elsewhere, on the shores of Loch Long in Argyll, and SRP group has worked with the local school to produce scale models of a ruined settlement site, rural craft products and a play about its inhabitants. The group also raised funds for a community excavation, attended by over 100 people in November 2009 and, in March 2010, was awarded the Robert Kiln prize for Best Community Archaeology project in the UK.

These are just a few of the many and diverse community-led events emerging from SRP involvement. As SRP matures, we have seen a growing trend for participating groups to initiate their own activities. Although we effectively ceased taking on new projects at the end of 2009, the number of community led-events has continued to rise, indicating that existing projects are expanding the range of their outreach activities. This clearly demonstrates the immense capacity within local communities for promoting their own heritage, and for changing attitudes towards rural settlement with a far wider audience than could be reached through a top-down approach.

Tertia Barnett MfA



Gairloch: Training and expert support lie at the heart of SRP and have proved to be the key motivators for many community-led projects. Photograph © RCHAMS

## Generation next: community archaeology and the future

Suzie Thomas

Over the past few decades, voluntary and community archaeology has increased significantly, largely assisted by the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). For this reason, and in light of a recent surge in research on the phenomenon of community archaeology, it was timely to look critically at some of the questions emerging about this diverse and ever-evolving section of archaeological practice.

The session opened with an introduction from **Dan Hull** and a presentation from **Suzie Thomas** about the recent Council for British Archaeology (CBA) research into the extent of voluntary action in archaeology. Secondly, **Norman Redhead** of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit revealed the results of a recent ALGAO UK survey, much of which dealt with the tricky issue of how to define community archaeology (as compared to 'outreach' and 'education', for example).

**Aretha George** and **Ian Morrison** then presented the current position of the HLF, reminding us that there were still under-utilised opportunities for community archaeology to obtain funding for projects from the HLF.

Before the coffee break, **Craig Spence**, of Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln, raised important questions about the ways in which community archaeology is currently supported by the professional sector, and drew attention to the need to identify the role of 'community archaeologist' as a specific specialism within archaeology, with its own set of skills and training needs (announcing at the same time a planned MA in Community Archaeology at Bishop Grosseteste likely to commence in September).

After coffee, we saw three very different papers looking at different case studies examining models for community archaeology facilitation. These included the Scotland-wide training and support network that is Scotland's Rural Past, presented by the Project Manager, **Tertia Barnett**. Next, **Birgitta Hoffman** of the University of Liverpool compared and contrasted the university-led Roman Gask Project in Perthshire with the bottom-up (and sometimes



Caledonian Pottery Open day during the M74 Public Archaeology Programme in Glasgow. Photograph: Mike Neville

anarchic!) Wilmslow Community Archaeology group in Cheshire. Ending the session papers was **Mike Nevell**, of the University of Salford, talking about Dig Manchester, community archaeology activities around the M74 in Glasgow, and the plans for the new Dig Greater Manchester project.

As would be expected with this fluid and lively topic, the discussions were extensive, with particular interest expressed in ways in which community archaeology projects can encourage best archaeological practice alongside the equally important positive social outcomes.

Suzie Thomas, Council for British Archaeology



An experimental archaeology workshop organised by the Archaeological and Architectural Society of Durham and Northumberland. Photograph: Suzie Thomas

## Mortuary archaeology and popular culture

Howard Williams

Archaeologists are frequently parodied as having an unhealthy obsession with death. However mortuary archaeology is now a sophisticated interdisciplinary field linking theory with method and practice to investigate all periods from the Palaeolithic to the present. The UK has seen major changes in practice and guidelines concerning how we dig up, display and curate the dead (Sayer 2009). Archaeologists have also found themselves in dispute and consultation with groups over the display and reburial of human remains (Jenkins 2008; Moshenska 2009; Sayer 2009; Swain 2007). The English Heritage and National Trust consultation on the Keiller Museum's prehistoric human remains has resulted in the dead remaining on show in Avebury. A new era for archaeologists working with mortuary data in the public arena has begun.

This session (organised by myself and Melanie Giles) posed a number of questions which the papers then went on to tackle. These included the public roles that mortuary archaeologists fulfil, how we use human remains to communicate our interpretations (Giles 2009; Williams 2009), how archaeology can show respect to the ancient dead within a multicultural society (see Moshenska 2009; Sayer

2009), how modern attitudes to death and the dead inform how we study death in the past (Crossland 2009; Giles 2009; Leighton 2010; Williams 2009) and how modern attitudes towards the body and the dead have developed from antiquarian and archaeological engagements with the dead (see Crossland 2009).

**Martin Brown** of Defence Estates opened with an exploration of how archaeologists working on First World War battlefields engage and negotiate with different interest groups from nations, armed forces, local communities and families. They deal with their own emotions when excavating the dead, and those of these other groups. Martin challenged archaeological presumptions of what constitutes respect: for some digging up the dead is inherently problematic and disrespectful. Yet it can also be perceived as the ultimate respect, restoring the missing dead of the Western Front to 'history', possibly allowing identification and paving the way to an honourable reburial.

**Karen Exell** of Manchester Museum took us to a different battlefield; the ethics and politics of displaying human remains in museums. Focusing on Manchester Museums's Egyptian mummies, Karen charted the interactions between archaeological discoveries and popular culture since the 19th century. She criticised the fetish for mummies in popular culture but also accepted that this continues to attract the public to the museum. Like Martin, she also questioned curators presuming what constitutes 'respect', citing the public outcry over the decision to

cover up some of Manchester's mummies. For the future, Karen stressed the need for a compromise between the ethical requirements of caring for human remains and the audience interested in seeing Egyptian mummies. She also stressed the need to regard the mummies as the remains of past individuals in ancient societies (Day 2006).

**Melanie Giles** of the University of Manchester is collaborating with archaeological artist Aaron Watson to create a new reconstruction of an Iron Age chariot burial excavated at Wetwang Slack, East Yorkshire. Melanie's paper challenged conventional stereotypes enshrined in previous artists' work. She questioned chariot burial association with a male martial elite; Aaron's reconstruction for Melanie is therefore a female chariot burial. Furthermore, challenging the focus on grave goods as possessions, Aaron's reconstruction focuses on the actions of mourners in composing the grave. Melanie emphasised the power of images to convey information and question popular perceptions of the past.

**Sorina Spanou** of Headland Archaeology gave a paper on a case study from the commercial sector - the very public excavation of a churchyard in Leith, Edinburgh ahead of a new tramway construction. Sorina explained the impossibility of hiding the uncovered graves from the public. The excavation became a form of street theatre for local people to watch and engage with. Crucially, Sorina's discussion showed how community identity was created through a sense of shared future, rather than regarding the human remains on display as 'ancestors'. Furthermore, the disarticulation of the remains caused consternation among some members of the public, challenging popular views of what *should* happen to the body upon death.

**Sarah Tatham's** paper emphasised the scientific and educational value of human remains, citing recent surveys showing the overwhelming popular support for mortuary archaeology and the public display of human remains. She demonstrated this by discussing the Avebury case as well as other displays created by English Heritage involving human remains and mortuary monuments.

The final paper by myself explored the intersections between cremation in archaeological study and interpretation, and its ambivalent perception in popular culture. I argued that many interpretations, representations and displays of past cremation practices have unwittingly played off the dichotomy in current Western thought that cremation is exotic, primitive and pagan, or pragmatic, scientific and rational. I also advocated that archaeology should

extend the parameters of its study beyond cremation in the past to explore both the popular culture and popular practice of cremation in Western societies.

The session concluded with a far-ranging and insightful debate. The audience added examples and experiences, and demonstrated the mature, responsible but still varied ways that mortuary archaeologists perceive their role. We plan to organise further sessions on this theme to provide an ongoing forum for debate on a topic that is central to current archaeological theory and practice. This session demonstrated the necessity for new research to investigate the ways archaeology is linked to death in popular culture.

Howard Williams, University of Chester

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Southport's Wayfarers Arcade, which one of the tours visited. Photograph: Kirsten Collins

Delegates enjoying the tour of Churchtown. Photograph: Gerald Wilkinson



## Tours

Kirsten Collins

On the Thursday afternoon two excursions took place.

Martin Perry, of Southport Civic Society, led a walking tour around Southport town. It followed Lord Street, one of Britain's finest boulevards with its Victorian glass topped canopies, with the Wayfarers' Arcade situated on one side and gardens, fountains and classical buildings on the other. The tour included stops at the Wayfarers' Arcade and the Mayor's Parlour at the Town Hall.

Ken Bridge of North Meols Civic Society organised the excursion around the Churchtown Village Trail, which was given by Gladys Armstrong and David Barton, also of Meols Civic Society. It took in St Cuthbert's Church, the village green, the stocks, and historic buildings including cottages and buildings that date from the 16th to the 18th century. The tour was completed with a visit to the Botanic Gardens Museum with its exhibitions of the local area.

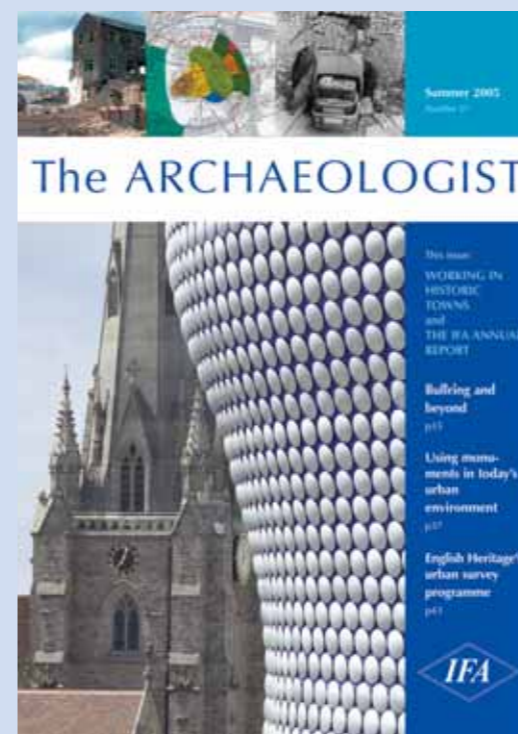
On the Friday a tour was provided for a lucky few, following an additional paper in the *Palaeolithic/Mesolithic coastal and marine archaeology* session by Mark Sephton of Sefton Council, on the sub fossil footprints discovered at Formby Point, on the Sefton Coast. Sub fossil footprints of humans, animals and wading birds have been recorded. Mark and a colleague took a small group to see some of these footprints at low tide.

Kirsten Collins MIfA, Office Manager IfA



Footprints in the sand. Photograph: Gerald Wilkinson

# Southport 2010



Our in-house magazine *The Archaeologist (TA)* has been running for almost as long as the Institute itself (the first issue was published in 1984, two years after the Institute was founded). Its aim is to inform the membership of matters of mutual interest, through case histories, guidance, inspiration and general good ideas. We also like to include reviews or notes on relevant publications and conferences. *TA* has been through a number of changes during its life, but as the magazine of the Institute it is there for its members to contribute to, as well as to read. In every issue of *TA* there is a note with the Editorial which explains what is needed if you wish to contribute.

Each issue of *TA* is themed, so it's helpful for submissions to fit in with a theme. The themes are decided by the editor in conjunction with Editorial board, and published in the Editorial section. The winter issue of *The Archaeologist* will be looking at the management of archaeological sites in the countryside. 'Sites' ranges from cropmarks to standing buildings, and 'management' can include work by agencies and individuals, from governmental organisations to community work. Articles on technical and legal aspects are especially welcome, as too are problems, challenges and future-proofing (eg due to climate or legislative change).

*TA* likes to pick up on news of people and Registered Organisations, activities of IfA Groups, and other currently topical themes. The deadline now is 1 October 2010 for publication in November, but it would be helpful to know in advance if you intend to contribute.

## Writing for The Archaeologist

Kathryn Whittington

We don't just look for articles from our members: we also welcome letters, items for Finds Tray and news for the Members' News section. These don't have to fit with the magazine's theme and can be submitted at any time. If you have an idea but are unsure whether it will fit with a theme you can contact the editor to discuss it, or suggest a theme yourself.

*TA* is available digitally through the website. With the introduction of the new site, online copies will be available in the members' section almost immediately. Other issues are put into the open area of the site a year after publication. If this raises copyright issues with any authors, artists or photographers, please let the editor know. Web links are useful in articles, so do include these where relevant.

Ideally articles should be short. We work on the basis that 400 words is roughly a page (with illustrations) so a maximum of 1000 words is preferred. The editor may edit or shorten articles where necessary. Articles should be sent as an email attachment to the editor including captions and credits for illustrations. Illustrations are very important. These can be supplied as originals, on CD or as email attachments, at a minimum size of 500kb and minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

If you would like to contribute, please send your suggestion to [alison.taylor@archaeologists.net](mailto:alison.taylor@archaeologists.net) to see if this would be appropriate for forthcoming issues.

Kathryn Whittington AlFA,  
Public Relations Coordinator



## New members

### ELECTED

Member (MfA)	Associate (AfA)	Practitioner (PfA)	Affiliate	Student
Alison Bennett	Iain Bright	Lara Band	Carole Bancroft-Turner	Faye Bury
Greg Chuter	Penny Cunningham	Mikael Cerbing	Matthew Bishop	Steven Cameron-Smith
Stephen Gilmore	Louise Fowler	Charlotte Coles	Frank Boese	Helen Daniel
Andrew Hutcheson	Peta Glew	Andrew Coutts	David Butcher	Thomas Frankland
Stuart Jeffrey	Ian Hogg	Edmund Grenier	Greg Colley	Adam Frost
Heather Knight	Julie Lochrie	Alan Russell	Christopher Coombe	Christopher Gait
Mary Neale	Paul Riccoboni	Matthew Town	Marcus Cooper	Aaron Haile
Robin Wroe-Brow	Sarah Ritchie		Michael Curnow	Laura Haines
	Alistair Robertson		Leslie Dodd	Rowena Henderson
	Liz Stewart		Gillian Eadie	Lyn Hughes
	Daniel Sykes		Alice Eggeling (Nee O'Halloran)	Edmund Hughes-Ford
			James Gill	Luke Jarvis
			Laura Green	Laura Jayne Kaylow
			Carl Hayward	Christopher Kerns
			Carrie Hearne	Claire Lacombe
			Rosie Ireland	Joshua Le Cheminant
			Naomi Jolliffe	Owain Mason
			Elizabeth Jones	Samantha Matthews
			Md.Azizul Karim	Bjorn Melin
			Marie-Laure Bisiau	David Moon
			Joanne Lee	Amanda Moore
			Katie Mackey	Jenny Needham
			Helene McNeill	Jessica Noble
			Catherine Roberts	Carrie Pacelli
			Natasha Scullion	David Pennick
			Simon Smith	Thomas Richardson
			Brendan Wyatt	Sam Riley

### TRANSFERS

Member (MfA)	Associate (AfA)
Damian Hind	Elizabeth Humble
Kirsten Holland	Josephine Janik
David Ingham	Sophie Unger
Andrew Lowerre	
David Pritchard	
Peter Reavill	

### Affiliate

Leigh Campetti	Thomas Richardson
	Sam Riley
	Julie Roberts
	Alex Scard
	Michael Schmoelz
	Patricia Shaw
	Thomas Smith
	Peter Spencer
	Kathryn Temple
	Tessa Till
	Simon Tootell
	Emily Trapnell
	Jacqueline Twaits
	Laura Wilson
	Sam Wilson
	Theresa Wren

## Members news

### Michael Heaton MfA (528)

Michael Heaton has had his paper *Building palaeopathology: practical applications of archaeological building analysis* chosen as an Outstanding Paper Award Winner as part of the Emerald Literati Network Award for Excellence.

The award-winning papers are chosen following consultation amongst the *Structural survey* journal's Editorial Team, many of whom are eminent academics or managers. His paper was selected as it was one of the most impressive pieces of work the team had seen throughout 2009.



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# The ARCHAEOLOGIST



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2010 AND THE  
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– the Southport  
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**AAI&S – Merger  
with IfA?**

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