

CIfA AREA AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ANNUAL REPORTS 2022 - 2023

CIfA has 20 area and special interest groups bringing together professionals with specific historic environment interests. Most groups produce regular newsletters and run training events. Groups represent specialist views to CIfA via representation on the Advisory Council and offer advice on issues which have a specific relevance to their subject/geographical area.

The Archaeological Archives, Community Archaeology, Deutschland/Germany, Finds, Forensic Archaeology, Early Careers, Heritage Crime, Human Osteoarchaeology, Marine, Information Management, International Practice, Project Management, Research and Impact Groups have all provided annual updates on their activities. Information about all our Groups is on the CIfA website at www.archaeologists.net/groups/about

Area and Special Interest Group membership breakdown

Statistics accurate as of 10 September 2023 for the Groups who have provided an annual report.

Group	Total	MCIfA	ACIfA	PCIfA	Affiliate	Student	SIG-only members
Archaeological Archives	609	225	125	145	63	35	16
Community Archaeology	863	332	179	213	88	49	2
Deutschland/Germany	124	44	32	24	18	6	0
Finds	964	355	190	296	97	40	6
Early Careers	640	67	69	133	51	316	4
Forensic Archaeology	508	131	105	170	54	41	7
Heritage Crime	164	47	29	43	12	11	22
Human Osteoarchaeology	368	78	66	140	32	48	4
Information Management	456	216	90	94	47	9	0
International Practice	521	247	112	106	34	22	0
Marine Archaeology	406	148	77	117	39	24	1
Project Management	738	397	173	111	45	12	0



Archaeological Archives Group

In September 2022 we were really pleased to host a full day of talks as our conference day event ‘*The future of Archaeological Archives*’. It covered topics of digital data, metadata, ethics and public engagement. We were delighted with the turnout of around 60 attendees, who all seemed pleased to be attending our first in-person conference for a while. The talks are [available on-line on CifA’s YouTube channel](#). Many thanks to all our speakers and to David Ingham, the group’s Events officer, without whom this would not have been possible. Various members of the committee also ran successful sessions at CifA’s annual conference in Nottingham (April 2023); *Thinking outside of the box: sustainable futures for atypical archives*, and *Covering the cost: Archaeological archives*.

Over the year the committee has been involved in a range of engagement, advisory and consultation activities. These have included
new representation on the *Future of Archaeological Archives Project* advisory board, and on the *OASIS V Project Management Board*,

- contribution of a short biography to the CifA Careers pages – many thanks to Victoria Sands for representing archaeological archives there for us
- compiling advice for dealing with the end of Stewart boxes – a stalwart of Archaeological Archives for many years, with our committee member Deborah Fox working with the SMA (Society of Museum Archaeology) to produce guidance in their May 2023 newsletter, and
- providing advice on the rationalisation of archaeological archives

On Wednesday 7 June 2023 we took part in the social media #MuseumWeek event on the theme of #FoodMW, posting examples of how material in archaeological archives can contribute to our understanding of past food use and food-related activities. This year also saw the first in-person committee meeting since peak-Covid, held at the Historic England regional office, Birmingham, in May.

As well as these activities, the past year has been a year of tying up a few loose ends. Our member survey *Resourcing of staff in archaeological archives* has recently been sent round the group. It explores issues around demographics of archives teams, job specifications and role expectations (with respect to the competence matrix), management levels, and resourcing. We strongly encourage our members to spend a short while responding to it. We have also commissioned the printing of our new group’s postcard, which you should see out-and-about soon.

At our 2022 AGM we said goodbye to Katie Green (Treasurer) whom we thank here for her contributions over the years. Helen Parslow stepped down as interim Chair and became the group’s Treasurer, and we welcomed back Sam Paul as our new Chair. After some administration hiccups, we held an EGM in November 2022, where we newly welcomed Kerry Whitehouse as an Ordinary Committee Member (OCM), and officially welcomed Jessica Irwin and Victoria Sands (previously co-opted as OCMs). In the upcoming 2023 AGM in September, three places will become available on the committee, so the group will be looking for a Secretary, an Events co-ordinator, and an OCM. Please do get involved!

In conjunction with the group's upcoming AGM, we will be hosting our next conference day jointly with the ClfA Finds Group: *"...more what you'd call guidelines than actual rules": Do we agree on how we implement finds management standards and guidance, from field to future archive?* It will take place on 28 September 2023, in Newark-on-Trent, and online. We look forward to seeing you there!

And finally, huge congratulations to our committee member, Victoria Sands, for winning the 2022 Council for British Archaeology's *Early Career Archaeologist* Award, presented back in December 2022. We are very proud to have her on the committee!

For updates on the group's activities see our Facebook and Twitter pages:

www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalArchivesGroup/

https://twitter.com/ifa_archives



Community Archaeology Group

Over the last year, the Group has undergone a lot of change – first and foremost with a new name and aims. After a survey of members last summer, the committee submitted proposed changes to CifA’s Board of Directors, which were accepted. The group is now called the Community Archaeology Group and our updated aims can be found on the CifA website.

As part of the sector’s professional body, we felt that the Group’s focus should be on promoting community engagement and supporting community archaeologists – those involved in enabling community archaeology, whether paid or voluntary, occasionally, or often. Since the Group’s aims were written back in 2016, there has also been wider recognition that community engagement is an integral part of projects, including development-led archaeology. The committee felt that the Group’s current aims and name didn’t clearly reflect this focus or the sector’s change of language around community inclusion in development-led archaeology.

Another big change this year has been to the committee: at our March AGM we said goodbye to Dan Miles and Annie Partridge who had both reached the end of their respective terms as Chair and Treasurer. Many thanks for all your hard work over the past 6 years! We are delighted to have Emily Johnston and Dickie Bennett join the committee.

With all the changes that have gone on, the committee is now looking forward to the year ahead. Plans for the Group are likely to revolve around the soon to be released Community Archaeology Toolkit. This project was conceived by the Group in response to sector needs identified in our 2020-21 public benefit survey of local planning authority archaeologists. Funding was successfully sought from Historic England for the creation of a new CifA toolkit. This has been undertaken by DigVentures and will hopefully be of particular use for development-led projects.



Deutschland Group

As usual, the CifA Deutschland (CifA-D) committee has met online on a monthly basis and has produced two newsletters highlighting its activities to members and other interested parties. The most important milestones for the 2022-2023 year are listed below.

1. On 22 September 2022, we held our Group AGM online via Zoom. One point on the agenda were elections for ordinary committee members, during which Sarah Wolff MCifA, who had previously been coopted by the committee, was elected.
2. In October 2022, the updated German Lohnuntergrenzen (salary benchmarks) were published. These were developed and agreed upon by the CifA-D employer and employee working groups and are updated regularly.
3. In November 2022, ordinary committee member Luise Erfurth had to step back from her role on the committee. We are very grateful for the valuable contributions she made during her time on the committee and wish her all the best for the future.
4. In January 2023, the CifA Deutschland committee met in person in Münzenberg.
5. On 25 February 2023, CifA Deutschland and the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ur- und Frühgeschichte* (DGUF) hosted the online conference *Das Archäologische Jahr* (A year in archaeology), which aimed to highlight archaeological work and research carried out in Germany in 2022. The event (<https://dguf.de/tagungen/das-archaeologische-jahr>) was free to attend and open to anyone.
6. On 20 May 2023, CifA-D hosted its annual conference in Frankfurt (Germany). The one-day in-person event focused on the topic *International archaeology: working abroad and international cooperation*. The papers presented examined the subject from the perspective of different parts of the sector such as commercial archaeology, museums and universities. They were accompanied by three moderated discussions, which allowed participants to dive deeper into the topic. Feedback from participants was very positive. We would like to take the opportunity to thank the Institute for Archaeological Sciences at Goethe-University Frankfurt a. M. for their hospitality and support.
7. In collaboration with DGUF, CifA-D has continued to run a successful lecture series for archaeology students, which covers a wide range of topics and provides students with relevant information for launching a successful career in archaeology. The online lectures are held regularly during term time via Zoom.



[Finds Group](#)

With many of our projects coming to an end (finds recording toolkits, roman coin toolkits) and having been without a Chair for a year we have spent most of this year re-grouping.

Emily Johnson stepped up to Chair, Bekky Hillman stepped up to secretary and Mags Felter stepped down as secretary but remains involved in the committee in an advisory role. Anna Tyacke and Ruth Beveridge have joined us as ordinary committee members, and we have interest from Deborah Fox, formerly of the Archives committee, giving us the luxury of a full committee.

December saw our AGM and Artefact Roadshow workshop in London. We had a good turnout for the mixture of talks and table-top 'show and tells' for people to see what we do and bring their own finds in to show others.

December also saw the release of our latest *Toolkit for finds reporting: Roman coinage*. This is the first Toolkit, with other possibly to follow, specifically designed to aid the standardised and consistent recording and reporting of an artefact type and was designed by committee member Peter Guest.

The main part of the Toolkit is the downloadable *Roman coinage identification template*, which supports the standard identification and recording of Roman coins. Dropdown lists ensure data consistency and the template is compatible with most Content Management Systems currently in use in the historic environment sector. Publishable catalogues of Roman coins can be produced from the template.

The *Roman coinage identification template* meets the [ADS's metadata standards](#) for the archiving and dissemination of data. It also implements the [FAIR Guiding Principles](#) in the recording of Roman coin identifications (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reuse of digital assets).

We have mainly concentrated our efforts this year on rejuvenating our website and gathering followers on social media. This has worked well with a new Finds Group Facebook page seeing more engagement than the Twitter account. Our new website text is also live, and we hope this will better explain the role of the Group to interested parties. We released our first newsletter in March and are planning on these being bi-annual, so our next one is due in the Autumn.

Another key consideration for the committee has been the ongoing finds specialist 'crisis', particularly the barriers affecting early career finds specialists that is leading to overreliance on single professionals in some specialisms and retiring specialists not being replaced.

With specialist training being so very difficult to find the Finds Group committee is proposing a series of hands-on workshops with qualified finds specialists to provide accredited training to meet this need in the profession. The outcome of attendance will be a CPD certification which will demonstrate a basic introduction and foundation in understanding finds groups. The goal will be to attend all the Finds Group workshops to gain a higher-level certification. Presently we are still in the information gathering phase, but this is an ongoing major topic of discussion for the group.

Part of this information gathering was at our virtual Tea Break with the Early Careers Group on 9 August. As well as allowing us to hear testimonials from people trying to start their finds careers, the Tea Break helped with signposting and advice for those looking to specialise in finds.

This year's AGM will be a joint venture with the Archives Group on 28 September in Newark looking at (conflicting) guidelines in practice.



Forensic Archaeology

Following a period of relative dormancy in 2021-22, the Forensic Archaeology SIG (FASIG) was alerted by CifA to the risk of the group's dissolution if further activity did not take place.

October 2022 AGM

With renewed commitment from continuing committee members, FASIG met in October 2022 for their AGM. Since 2021, our previous Chair Karl Harrison and previous Secretary Alexandria Young had sadly needed to step down, and we thank them for the time, knowledge, and energy that they have dedicated to the group over several years.

We reviewed developments since the last AGM in 2020 and established the line-up for our current committee. We welcomed Robert Janaway as our new Chair, and Deborah Ryder and Denise Hillier as new Ordinary Committee Members, joining Anna Chaussée, Sabrina Ki, Peter Schofield and Alastair Vannan. Laura Evis continues as our Treasurer and Advisory Council Rep, and shortly after the AGM Sabrina Ki took on the Secretary role. As of August 2023, we will also soon welcome Aidan Harte as an Ordinary Committee Member.

Activities so far - 2023

FASIG has met regularly over the past year, in January, April and August (jointly with the Human Osteoarchaeology SIG) so far. We have discussed things like the new Forensic Science Regulator code, improving communications with membership, Advisory Council feedback and plans for an upcoming field event. For more detail, please see the minutes of the January and April meetings. These are available on the website, with August minutes to come shortly. During the October 2022 AGM, FASIG reviewed and built on the former 3-year plan and the goal for 2023 is to improve national and international appreciation and recognition of the discipline, its expertise and impact.

Spearheaded by Robert (Chair) and Laura (Treasurer), FASIG hosted a conference session at the 2023 CifA Annual Conference, titled *The scope and nature of forensic archaeology*. Our speakers were Sarah Ashbridge (RUSI), Matteo Barone (Nottingham Trent University), Karl Harrison (Cranfield University), Aidan Harte (Munster Archaeology) and Richard Osgood (UK Ministry of Defence).

We also circulated a newsletter to our members in June with updates about the committee and activities, as well as a link to [a member survey](#) (still open to responses) to help us better understand how to serve our members. Our FASIG Twitter [@CifA_FASIG](#) is open to members and non-members; if you are a member who wishes to join our Discord server, please email fasigcomm23@gmail.com (the joining link is also in [the June newsletter, which can be found on our webpage](#)).

Future events

In August 2023, FASIG met with the Human Osteoarchaeology SIG committee to discuss a potential joint-badge two-day workshop focusing on cremated remains, an idea first raised by the Chair of the Human Osteoarchaeology SIG, Sharon Clough. There is also a lot of spin-off potential for subsequent specifically forensic-focused workshops, which FASIG can work on next year. Over the past year,

FASIG have also been laying groundwork for holding a one-day practical field event. This is envisaged as a form of awareness training of how forensic archaeology is done, likely with a surface deposition theme. More details will come as the plans develop.



Early Careers Group

The Early Careers Group (EC SIG) has continued to grow and develop this past year. We carried out a wide range of online and in-person activities and our committee has grown to nine members. Our links to other Cifa special interest groups and external organisations/ individuals have increased, ensuring the group's status is recognised beyond Cifa.

Activities

The EC SIG has had another successful year of activities, with a consistent online presence and an increase of in person events with the relaxation of COVID regulations. Listed below are the events we have hosted and/or attended online or in person:

- October 2022 - **Innovation Festival online session**: we held online discussion, which we named *The test pit* with five panels of experts on the topics of public engagement, EDI, archaeological science and sustainable careers
- October 2022 - **Committee members published in *The Archaeologist* magazine**
- November 2022 - University Archaeology UK Day: held at the British Museum and attended by Michael D'Aprix and Sakshi Surana
- December 2022 - **A collaborative evening event** with Archaeology and Anthropology students at UCL attended by Megan Schlanker, Philip Pollard, Tabitha Lawrence, Michael D'Aprix and Sakshi Surana
- January 2023 - **Online Tri-University event on employability**: hosted by EC SIG and Jennie Robinson and provided for students of the Universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow
- February 2023 - **Letter to a Young Archaeologist written by all EC SIG Committee members** <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/resource/letter-to-a-young-archaeologist-february-2023.html>
- February 2023 - **Blog launched for the Group** [Cifa Early Career Group Blog – The group for archaeologists starting out in their careers \(wordpress.com\)](#)
- March 2023 - **AGM**: held online and attended by all committee members and several students/ additional members followed by an online lecture titled *Ways of living in the Upper Thames Valley: the developing nature of domestic life in the Long First Millenium BC* by Olivia Britter from University of Southampton
- April 2023 - **Cifa Conference session**: we hosted an in-person session on career journeys *Mapping archaeological careers*, led and created by committee members Jessica Ellery and Philip Pollard. Committee members Megan Schanker, Michael D'Aprix, Phil Pollard and Sakshi Surana also spoke at different points of the conference including the closing comments panel of the conference.
- May 2023 - **Online roundtable discussion on early careers within archaeology**: hosted by Hannah Cobb and Katrina Croucher, attended by our chair Megan Schlanker

- May 2023 – **New committee member, Katie Sanderson, co-opted:** Katie works at Oxford Archaeology. A very welcome addition to our committee.
- July 2023 - **The return of our *Student and early careers conference* in collaboration with the Council of British Archaeology:** organised by Jo Kirton, and assisted by all committee members. Conference page: <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/youth-engagement/festival-of-archaeology-early-careers-conference.html>
- August 2023 - **Finds Group and Early Careers Group collaborative event *Finding a career in finds*:** online event. Our event was attended by 62 people and will hopefully be repeated in the future.

Discussions

Our committee carries out monthly meetings, with at least 70 per cent of the committee in attendance at each. Our meetings take a similar approach each time, with points of discussion (such as upcoming events) followed by sector news (such as updates from HE and the CBA). Minutes are taken for each meeting and uploaded to our shared google drive. A recent development is a bullet point summary of each meeting included in the minutes.

Our committee members cover a range of backgrounds and job roles within the heritage sector, including managers, students and fieldwork staff. This gives the committee a crucial advantage during discussions to address issues from a variety of viewpoints. Two of our committee members are international students, and this has allowed us to focus plans and events in support of this. Our committee as it stands is the following:

Megan Schlanker (Chair)
 Tabitha Lawrence (Secretary)
 Joanne Kirton (Treasurer)
 Phil Pollard
 Claire Corkill
 Michael D'Aprix
 Sakshi Surana
 Jessica Elleray
 Katie Sanderson

Our social media channels have flourished through the work and design of our chair Megan. Megan has organised content regularly, including a *Meet the professionals* series and graphics explaining the BAJR Poverty Report. Our social media statistics are as follows:

Instagram – 761 followers
 Facebook – 709 members
 Twitter – 575 followers

Future plans

The EC SIG Committee hope to:

- increase links to individuals and organisations within the heritage sector in the form of collaborative activities and events
- hold more in person events, whether they are hosted by the group or if we attend an overall event like UAUK Day at the British Museum

- strengthen links with universities across the UK with archaeology and heritage departments and promote our relationship with students with support and resources
- encourage development within the heritage sector, especially at organisational level (CIfA), of working practices, volunteer opportunities/benefits and the presence of early career voices in conversations which will directly affect them (such as pay/ training)



Heritage Crime Group

The Heritage Crime SIG is a new group which has been formed this year and we held our inaugural AGM on 15th May. At this meeting, we outlined the aims and objectives for the group and our newly elected committee members gave examples of different types of heritage crime and some of the initiatives being used to combat it. The AGM was very well attended, and despite being held online, the enthusiasm from attendees was obvious. Due to being a new group, we haven't undertaken any planned activities yet. However, since the AGM, we have met as a committee to discuss our plans which are outlined below.

Committee and membership:

Chair: Paul Jeffery

Secretary: Aisling Nash

Treasurer: Annie Partridge

Ordinary Committee Members: Alison James, Jenny Kent, Jonathan Gladwin, Jonathan Berry, Peter Reavill.

Forthcoming activities

- finalising and publication of the group's 3-year plan
- creation of a working group in collaboration with the Forensic Archaeology SIG to explore how both groups can work together
- hosting a session at the 2024 CifA conference in partnership with the Forensic Archaeology SIG
- creating links and building relationships with other Groups, especially Early Careers
- hosting an online event in the autumn – details will be circulated to the CifA membership once finalised
- creation of a skills and competency matrix together with a skills pathway(s)
- preparing a Summer 2024 edition of *The Archaeologist* focused on heritage crime
- undertaking a questionnaire of both internal and external group members to capture what you would like to see the group focus on delivering

Social media

The group has a presence on Twitter where we currently have 206 followers. We use this to share content on heritage crime and related heritage matters so please do follow us @CifA_HC



[Human Osteoarchaeology Group](#)

Committee members

Chair: Sharon Clough

Secretary: Ceri Falys

Treasurer: Clare Randall

Ordinary committee members: Isobel Curwen, Heidi Dawson-Hobbis, Sabrina Ki, Louise Loe and Richard Morkill

Committee updates

This year Human Osteoarchaeology Group (Osteo SIG) celebrated its 5-year anniversary as a ClfA Special Interest Group, which highlights the fact that many of the founding members are still on the committee. This time next year, most of the committee will need to step down following the mandated maximum of 6 years of service. As a result, the coming year will focus on attracting new committee members to ease the hand-over of the group in the summer of 2024.

Unfortunately due to other commitments, Matt Lee stepped down from his role as an ordinary committee member during the year. We wish him all the best! As a result, two positions for ordinary members are currently available on the Osteo SIG committee. During the 2022 AGM held in June, Milena Grzybowska volunteered to join the team and will officially be welcomed to the committee in the coming months.

Membership

Osteo SIG's membership at the end of this 2022/2023 review period has significantly increased from the previous year's (see table on page two).

Meetings

Due to scheduling difficulties between ClfA and Osteo SIG committee members, there was a delay in holding the 2022 AGM, which was finally held on 19 June 2023 on Microsoft Teams. As we found over the past few years, having a virtual AGM was beneficial as it allowed a greater number of Osteo SIG members to join in the meeting, and share their thoughts and opinions. Thank you to the 11 non-committee members who attended the AGM for their feedback and suggestions for future outreach projects.

Activities during 2022-2023

Osteo SIG have met informally over the year to discuss arising issues in the commercial osteoarchaeology sector, and to brainstorm new and effective ways of increasing the interaction between the Osteo SIG members and committee through our social media accounts. Unfortunately, due to the continued upswing in archaeological sites requiring osteoarchaeological consultation, skeletal analysis and specialist reports, it has been especially challenging to organize and provide workshops for our members.

The Osteo SIG committee were asked for their comments on several items this year, including:

- Osteo SIG have been approached by BABAO for thoughts on how make skeletal reports more accessible – how can the process for researchers to obtain information for archaeological sites be improved if they do not have all of the site details (eg the ‘official’ name of the site).

Whenever possible, members of the Osteo SIG committee attended other ClfA meetings, including the Advisory Council and Group Forum meetings.

Publications

We are continuing to compile list of *10 things we wish diggers knew about...Osteoarchaeology* for the Diggers Forum. To accompany this, we have also been making plans to develop these issues into online instructional materials to enhance the knowledge of those new to the practical applications of human osteoarchaeology, or who would like more information on specific topics. We aim to submit our list in the coming months.

Social media

Since changing the privacy settings on the ClfA Human Osteoarchaeology Facebook Group (OsteoSIG) from a public to a private group, we have created a secure space where members can join in discussion, seek advice and obtain guidance documents and osteoarchaeological events. We currently have 114 Facebook followers.

We also have a Twitter page (ClfA Human Osteoarch Group @OsteoSIG) where we run polls to gauge what group members want from our social media account and SIG and find out a bit about them so that we can tailor our content to their needs. Currently, our Twitter account has 459 followers.

If you would like to join the Osteo SIG online community

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/OsteoSIG>

Twitter Page: <https://twitter.com/OsteoSIG>

The year ahead

This year Osteo SIG are determined to provide training opportunities and other events to engage with our members. We seek to attract new members to the committee to ensure the continuation of the SIG after the founding members step down from the group in June 2024. We have a firm plan for events for the coming year (2023-2024), which include an interactive online mini-conference to discuss recent osteological discoveries and provide an opportunity for isolated osteoarchaeologists to seek advice or second opinions from other professional osteologists/palaeopathologists. We are hoping to coordinate with Forensic Archaeology Group to provide a workshop for the excavation and analysis of human cremated remains.

Also in the coming year, we hope to produce a newsletter to be released every 3 months to keep Osteo SIG members updates for what the committee have been working on, and planned events to take part in.



Information Management Group

In September of 2022, the Information Management Group (IMSIG) was revitalised with a new committee focused on creating a more sustainable and stable group moving forward. The past year has been primarily focused on reestablishing the foundations of the IMSIG in a careful and sustainable manner to ensure that the group will be able to fulfil its duties to both its membership and to CifA.

The past year has focused on gathering information and data about the membership by examining past surveys and developing a new survey to understand the needs and issues relevant to our membership. From this, we have redeveloped our 3-year business plan, our budget, and our initial duties to revitalise the IMSIG. Our major milestones this year include a new social media campaign undertaken by Laura O'Connor which has included questions to our members to help understand what they want to see from the IMSIG.

We are working towards new and exciting opportunities for our members in a sustainable and meticulous way to ensure that we can continue providing events, tea breaks, conferences sessions and more in the future.



International Practice Group

This year we have continued to have regular monthly zoom meetings and our first face to face gathering, like most was at the CifA conference between 19 -21 April in Nottingham.

International Practice Group (IPSIG) led a session on the international cultural heritage: applying professional standards and skills in a range of challenging environments on 20 of April. The session was well attended. Many thanks to all the speakers.

IPSIG this year also contributed to a review of European Bank for reconstruction and development PR8 guidance notes on behalf of the IPSIG as well as through the Advisory Council meeting re chartership and its implication, IPSIG explored chartership, particularly within the international context.

Despite not being able to be present at the annual CifA Deutschland Conference in Frankfurt in May, IPSIG provided them with a remote presentation on ethnography, consultation, and local community participation. The Group is looking forward to future collaboration and the possibility of attending next year's conference.

IPSIG also looks forward to organising tea break talks on archaeology and international financial institutions standards and guidance.



Marine Archaeology Group

Over the last year, the Marine Archaeology Group (MASIG) has continued to hold committee meetings virtually. We would like to thank Christian Dalton for his time acting as interim Chair, and Phoebe Ronn and Jezz Davies for their input to MASIG as committee members. We would like to welcome our new Chair Mark James, along with Claudette Day who was successfully co-opted as an ordinary committee member.

The committee members are as follows: Mark James (Chair), Stephanie Said (Secretary), Alison James (Treasurer), Christian Dalton, Claudette Day, George Stewart-Phillips, Hefin Maera, Paolo Croce. Victoria Cooper remains as an advisor.

Over the past year we have

- provided consultation for ClfA *Toolkit for selecting archaeological archives* relevant to marine project and marine finds
- continued involvement in consultations and advocacy
- generating content for social media and newsletters
- providing guidance information on the MASIG website
- provide support/generate material for new starters/early career graduates in maritime archaeology
- supporting events with regard celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973

We are currently looking for one ordinary committee member. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch. We would be delighted for guests to join our upcoming committee meetings to get a feel for the role.



Project Management Group

This year's committee are Gill King as Chair, Charlie Willis as Secretary, Alistair Barclay as Treasurer alongside Sarah Hannon-Bland, Marie-Claire Rackham-Mann and Ailsa Westgarth as ordinary committee members. There are currently vacancies for ordinary committee members, please do get in touch if you would like to join us. There is no requirement to be an experienced project manager, the committee is currently represented by a series of different specialisms at a range of accreditation levels.

The Project Management Group (PMSIG) has focussed this past year on identifying and planning for virtual CPD events; we hosted a successful online lecture alongside our AGM which presented the project management issues related to unexpected cave archaeology. A selection of web based CPD sessions are now in development and will be advertised to group members soon.

In addition to our CPD based activities, the committee are building upon the previous committees work to assess the current provision of mentoring and training for early career project managers. We hope to further progress this over the next year.

We are also working on updating our webpages, which will advertise CPD opportunities to members as well as key resources for project management.

The group warmly welcomes new members and particularly encourages early career members to join us. The committee will be looking for new committee members at our late 2023 AGM.



[Research and Impact Group](#)

The committee has not met as much in previous years due to the lack of a Secretary and Treasurer, after no interest in both roles at the AGM held on 31 July 2022 and the secretary having to stand down. There was some interest in two of the three Ordinary Committee Member places available which was to be followed up at a committee meeting in September, which sadly never happened due to lack of help due to CifA. Though attendance at the Advisory Council has been maintained

The committee is adopting a business plan at the next AGM (2 October 2023) and plans to explore the Knowledge Hub to engage the group members more. It was decided that Health and Safety aspects in both commercial labs and the academic sectors would be a good starting point for discussion.

The committee plan for the next year is to engage with the group members more with more information being put on Facebook and communicating committee meetings in the form of a newsletter.