



Annual conference and training event 19-21 April 2023

About CifA2023

CifA is delighted to announce that the CifA2023 conference will be held from Wednesday, 19 April - Friday, 21 April 2023.

CifA2023 will be hosted live in Nottingham UK and streamed online. We hope this will offer attendees the same flexibility as our 2022 conference but learning from our experiences to allow for the best digital user experience.

CifA2023 will incorporate keynote addresses, wide-ranging sessions and training workshops in a live and virtual forum. Across the conference, we will discuss current professional issues, showcase new developments, and present research in archaeology and the wider heritage sector. Our conference is the premier professional archaeological conference in the UK, attracting hundreds of participants across the heritage environment sector.

Wednesday, Morning

OPENING ADDRESS: WELCOME TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Wednesday, 19 April: 11:00 – 13:00

Our profession's future will be sustainable only if archaeologists continue to provide effective, creative and very visible service to the public.

CifA's 2021-2030 strategic plan prioritises the promotion of professionalism as the key to competent, ethical and effective delivery of the public benefits that archaeology offers. We need to show others that archaeologists have skills, responsibilities and a contribution to society equivalent to that of other professions, and we need to remind ourselves of this too. Unless archaeologists value their professionalism, others will not. CifA's Board, staff and volunteers, and its sector partners, are working on many initiatives to hone the messaging and reinforce the professional underpinnings of the amazing work that professionally-accredited archaeologists do. In this session we will briefly showcase a few strategic ways in which CifA is supporting archaeologists to make a more diverse sector, with more accessible graduate and non-graduate entry routes, and a clearer articulation of the ethical obligations that distinguish professional archaeologists from others in the sector.

Wednesday, Afternoon

INCLUSIVE FUTURES

Wednesday, 19 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Abigail Hunt and Emily Stammitti, Enabled Archaeology Foundation

Speakers: Sarahjayne Clements; Claire Corkill, CBA; Peter Connelly, Hull City Council; Debbie Frearson, CBA; Victoria MacEwen, Access to Archaeology; Zulfiya Hamzaki

In order to better serve our communities and many commercial interests, the EAF proposes this session, Inclusive Futures, to highlight great inclusive case studies from around the country, from commercial sites to community festivals. We hope that this session will provide a platform through which all members of the archaeological and heritage community (E.g., practitioners, students, community members and academics) in enabling and inclusive practice can offer up the means through which we can all better learn how to transcend the world of good ideas and turn them into active, inclusive realities for all. All studies and practices in which ideas meet action, sites meet accessibility, social impact meets social justice, and where calls for equality meet enablement are welcome proposals. While a series of presentations will form the basis for this session, we will have a short break and conclude with a lengthy panel discussion - open to all.

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Wednesday, 19 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Kate Geary and Cara Jones, CifA

Speakers: Amy Atkins, MOLA; Michael D'Aprix, CifA Advisory Council; Rob Early, WSP; Penny Foreman, British Museum and CifA EDI Committee; Gavin MacGregor, Archaeology Scotland; Caroline Raynor, Costain; Megan Schlanker, MOLA and CifA Early Careers SIG

This session will invite keynote speakers and conference delegates to set out their vision of a sustainable future for archaeology from a range of perspectives, with themes including skills development and career pathways, inclusion and accessibility, professionalism and ethical practice, quality standards and regulations, value and public benefit. Delegates will then break out into facilitated working groups to consider what needs to happen for the vision to be achieved, using theory of change/logic modelling. Finally, a plenary session will draw together conclusions, identify links with existing strategies and initiatives and identify where new approaches may be needed.

COMMUNICATING THE VALUE OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Wednesday, 19 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Peter Hinton and Alex Llewellyn, ClfA; Stephen O'Reilly, Loud Marketing

Speakers: Maria Bellissimo and Jessica Elleray, Oxford Archaeology; Rob Lennox, ClfA

This session explores key messaging as a communication tool using examples from different organisations including the development of ClfA's own key message update for 2023. We will discuss why key messages are important and how we use them to promote the archaeology profession.

The second part of the session focuses on ClfA's programme of activities to ensure external audiences hear and understand our key messages. We will hear directly from some external audiences voices.

In the third part of the session we will look at advocacy, another key part of our strategy for communicating the value of archaeology and archaeologists.

We'll finish with an interactive workshop with tips and advice for you to develop clear and engaging communications, including your own key messages and the importance of being on message.

AN INTRODUCTION TO QGIS

Wednesday, 19 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Phoebe Wild, CBA and Eleanor Winter, Cambridge Archaeological Unit

From desk-based assessment to post-excavation reporting, GIS is embedded in the archaeological process. GIS is a highly marketable skill for the modern archaeologist, and upskilling is more important than ever- that's why we think everyone should give it a go! QGIS is an open-source, free-to-use software that can be used for a huge variety of tasks relevant to archaeology and heritage, including streamlining your current workflow. This session will provide a brief introduction to the software and useful data sources. Participants will be issued a step-by-step guidebook with basic tasks to build skills and confidence in using this fantastic software.

Thursday, Morning

THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX: SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FOR ATYPICAL ARCHIVES

Thursday, 20 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organisers: Manda Forster, DigVentures; David Ingham and Helen Parslow, Albion Archaeology

Speakers: Theodora Anastasiadou, MOLA; Duncan Brown, Historic England; Hester Cooper-Reade, Albion Archaeology; Thomas Cromwell, Historic England; Ben Donnelly-Symes, Northampton Archaeological Resource Centre; Nicky Garland, Archaeology Data Service; Andy Howard, Landscape

Research & Management; Alison James, MSDS; Kristina Krawiec, York Archaeology; Paul Wardle, Historic England; Lucy Watkins, Portland Museum; Teagan Zoldoske, Archaeology Data Service

The standards and skills involved in producing site archaeological archives have improved in the past decade. Physical and digital archives are both being managed to a higher standard and becoming more accessible, with better information and increased deposition. Looking beyond traditional archaeological archives, we are interested in how established standards, skills and stores which support archive generation apply to more atypical archives. Are the same skills required to produce them? Are they managed in the same way and to the same standards? And is the current infrastructure able to make sure they are accessible well into the future?

This session will consider how existing standards and guidance for creating archaeological archives are applicable to the more atypical archive. What sort of archives are being produced and what sort of future proofing is built into them? Are physical archives being generated, and where are these being kept – if not in a museum, are they accessible? Where archives are mainly digital, how and where are these being deposited? Are we considering how researchers, educators or museums are accessing and using archives? Or have you benefitted from archives being more findable or accessible?

Join us to help the sector think outside of the box... we'll hear from those working with oral history, maritime archaeology, geoarchaeology, digital assets, community projects and major infrastructure projects, as well as looking at legacy archives. The session includes plenty of time for questions and a structured discussion to close.

THE SCOPE AND NATURE OF FORENSIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Thursday, 20 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organisers: Robert Janaway and Laura Evis, ClfA Forensic Archaeology Special Interest Group
Speakers: Sarah Ashbridge, RUSI; Matteo Barone, Nottingham Trent University; Karl Harrison, Cranfield University; Aidan Harte, Munster Archaeology; Richard Osgood, UK Ministry of Defence

The definition of what is (and importantly what is not) forensic archaeology is varied. In England and Wales, under auspices of the Home Office Forensic Science Regulator this is clear ([see ClfA standards and Guidance for Forensic Archaeologists](#)) but recently this has been thrown into sharp relief with the recent investigations on Saddleworth Moor ([see ClfA statement 14/10/22](#))

The aim of this session is to present a range of different viewpoints regarding the nature and definition of forensic archaeology both from the UK but also internationally. We will examine the archaeological role both in both practice but also regulatory and legal constraints for following areas:

- a) Police investigations (search and recovery of clandestine graves)
- b) Licenced exhumations
- c) Post-conflict recovery of human remains (historical and not related to war crimes)
- d) Post-conflict as part of war crime investigation (including summary of current situation in Ukraine).
- e) Archaeological role in mass fatality incidents (Disaster Victim Identification)

The session will consist of a series of short presentations from invited speakers but will use these as a springboard for a wider debate from the audience.

DRONES AND LANDSCAPE SURVEY: BALANCING IMAGERY AND INTERPRETATION

Thursday, 20 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organisers: Olaf Bayer and David Went, Historic England

Speakers: Mark Bowden; Chris Casswell, Reclaim Heritage CIC; Nicholas Crabb, Brighton University; Joel Goodchild, Archaeological Research Services; Bob Johnson, Colin Merrony, Tom Millington and Andres Perez Arana, Sheffield University; Jamie Quartermaine, PaleoWest; John Roberts, Sheffield University; Adam Stanford and Scott Williams, Sumo Geosurveys

The archaeologist's ability to model and visualise archaeological landscapes and earthworks has leapt forward in recent years. Extensive accessible lidar coverage in the UK, 'Structure from Motion' applications for aerial photography and now drone-acquired lidar, enable us to produce engaging and informative topographical models with increasing ease and versatility. Historic England's archaeologists are among many in the sector who have been working with drone-derived digital imagery for more than a decade and seeking ways to embrace these models within the much longer tradition of earthwork survey. This session, hosted by Historic England and the Landscape Survey Group, will bring together leading practitioners to compare approaches and, in particular, issues of analysis and interpretation which extend far beyond depiction, however sophisticated modern digital depictions might be. The aim is to share knowledge and to initiate a conversation leading toward agreed professional standards at this key stage in the development of these emerging techniques.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ETHICS FOR THE MODERN WORLD?

Thursday, 20 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organiser: Peter Hinton, ClfA

Speakers: Joe Abrams, Abrams Archaeology; Kenneth Aitchison, Landward Research; Paul Belford, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust; Leonora O'Brien, AECOM;

This session will examine ClfA's approaches to professional ethics, and will discuss some of the concepts covered in the ClfA's ethical training workshops. It will focus on ClfA's review of its Code of conduct, which has been added to but not comprehensively examined for nearly 40 years.

Following introductory papers, the session will explore some of the issues raised so far by the review, including the core components of ethical codes: obligations, beneficiaries, modality (how the strength of those obligations is expressed) and comprehensiveness (what's missing?). Topics and challenges will be introduced by ClfA members engaged in the review, then opened for discussion. The results will inform a live consultation; the process is intended to stimulate further input to the consultation.

Thursday, Lunchtime

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS NOMINATION PROCESS LUNCH AND LEARN

Thursday, 20 April: 13:15 – 13:45

Organiser: Council for British Archaeology

Come and join our lunchtime session to learn about the Archaeological Achievement Awards, the nomination process and how you can apply. The Awards celebrate the best of archaeology in the UK and Ireland through five categories:

- Public Dissemination and Presentation
- Learning, Training and Skills
- Early Career Archaeologist
- Public Engagement and Participation
- Archaeology and Sustainability

In addition, the winners of the individual awards will be put forward to the Outstanding Achievement Award which is sponsored by AOC.

The Archaeological Achievement Awards gives us the perfect opportunity every year to celebrate the magnificent work taking place across our sector in community groups, commercial units, universities, and heritage organisations. It's not only a moment for celebration but also a time to be inspired by one another. The judging criteria aim to showcase how archaeology delivers on their core mission to provide value for society and our environment, and to create a positive impact from the work of archaeologists.

Come and learn how you can be part of this celebration of archaeology in the UK and Ireland.

Further information of the awards and past winners can be found on the CBA website at <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/what-we-do/celebrating-archaeology/archaeological-achievement-awards.html>.

Thursday, Afternoon

COVERING THE COST: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARCHIVES

Thursday, 20 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Sally Croft, Cambridgeshire County Council; Manda Forster, DigVentures; Samantha Paul

The success of development-led archaeology since the early 1990s led to a major increase in the quantity of archaeological material in museum stores across the country. Increasingly, museums are becoming unable to accept new finds, limiting access to archives and creating issues of storage. Recent research projects commissioned by Historic England and Arts Council England have aimed to understand how this issue can be best supported by exploring a sustainable model with capacity for future and legacy archives.

The 2021 Options for Sustainable Archaeological Archives (OSAA) project made recommendations for the creation of a National Collection of Archaeological Archives (NCAA) (find the report here). The OSAA project suggested a new model for archives which guaranteed accession for all archives,

highlighting the need for a new sustainable cost model which moves away from the traditional box fee approach. The implementation of a new cost model would potentially impact all stages within planning led archaeology – from the initial costing and tender processes, through to selection, deposition and accessioning of the final project archive. The feasibility of alternative cost models and implications for the sector are being investigated through a new project funded by HE: the Options Appraisal for Costing Models for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives.

This session will present the initial findings from a data collection phase of the project, exploring the potential impact of different cost models using real-world project examples to explore the sustainability of potential costing structures. Session attendees will be asked to take a closer look at the proposed cost models, helping to stress test and assess each scenario and provide feedback into the overall project results. If it is your job to cost projects or manage organisational budgets, whether you deal with archive deposition boxes or fees, or if you simply love the idea of depositing some stuck archives – come along. The session provides a key moment for those interested in creating a sustainable future for archaeological archives to contribute to new models which will impact the sector.

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION AND ACCREDITATION

Thursday, 20 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Ben Jennings and Hannah Koon, University of Bradford

Speakers: Victoria MacEwen, Access to Archaeology

NOTE: This session will not be streamed online

With a number of higher education institutions having successfully achieved CifA / UAUK accreditation for degree programmes in the UK, this session seeks to bring together members from provisioning institutions to discuss innovative developments in the delivery of degree programmes. Members are invited to share experiences of the accreditation process and innovations in teaching practice as a result of degree accreditation and other higher education sector demand. This session will run as a seminar or roundtable format, with open discussion and sharing of developmental practice encouraged. Indicative themes for discussion are identified in the programme timetable, though this is not a fixed schedule and themes will emerge and evolve through discussion.

A FOOT IN THE FUTURE AND A FOOT IN THE PAST: PUSHING PRACTICE AND LEAVING A SUSTAINABLE LEGACY

Thursday, 20 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Adam Fraser, Arcadis; Emily Plunkett, HS2; Naomi Trott, Arcadis; Helen Wass, HS2

Speakers: Tom Brindle, WSP; Alison Edwards; Kate Geary, CifA; John Halsted, HS2; Emily Johnston; Brendon Wilkins, DigVentures; Mark Williams

NPPF states that heritage is an irreplaceable resource which should be conserved “so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations”.

Taking inspiration from CifA 2022; we need to achieve sustainable heritage and a sustainable industry. To do this we need to employ a range of techniques to:

- Tell the stories of the people we engage with;
- Create knowledge not data;

- Communicate our findings;
- Innovate; and
- Up skill.

We need to use these techniques to ensure what we do is accessible, compelling, and informative. This will ensure we demonstrate our value and create a sustainable industry.

This session invites papers which consider:

- applying new practice or approaches;
- applying existing practice in new ways;
- Lessons learnt;
- The future of practice, standards, or guidance; and
- How our industry and heritage remain sustainable and able to be defended or maintained into the future.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE: APPLYING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND SKILLS IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS

Thursday, 20 April: 14:00 – 17:30

Organisers: Niamh Carty, Mott MacDonald; Scott Chaussée, Wessex Archaeology; Mike D'Aprix, UCL Institute of Archaeology; Alice Hobson, WSP; Leonora O'Brien, AECOM; Caroline Pathy-Barker, Heritage Manager

Speakers: Rebecca Bennett, PTS Consultancy; Maisory Chacha, Yapı Merkezi İnşaat ve Sanayi; Peter Hinton, ClfA; Ruth Humphreys, Arup; Daniel Lyanivia, Tanzania Railways Corporation; Jen Parker-Wooding, ClfA; Gerald Wait, GWHeritage Archaeology and Anthropology

This session will provide a forum for discussing the practical, personal and regulatory challenges of working on archaeology and cultural heritage projects around the world, sometimes in physically or culturally challenging environments. Presentations discuss colleagues' experiences of collaborating on heritage projects, working together with local partners and sharing skills. The session will seek to identify common challenges, myths and innovative approaches to successfully delivering projects and furthering professional practice.

Friday, Morning

HERITAGE SUSTAINABILITY FOR CLIMATE AND NATURE

Friday, 21 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organisers: Hannah Fluck, National Trust and Alex Llewellyn, ClfA

Speakers: Lynne Cheeney, Hertfordshire County Council; Tom Dommett, National Trust; Iris Kramer, Archiai; Emily Plunkett, HS2; Philippa Puzey-Broomhead, National Trust; Tiffany Snowden, Blue Willow Heritage; Sam Turner, Newcastle University

We are facing a climate and biodiversity crisis and societies responses to this are being played out across the landscape, from urban to rural. This session will explore the relationship between the historic environment, land management, biodiversity and climate gain, and how decisions to deliver the necessary responses for climate and nature are affecting, and could be influenced by, our cultural heritage.

The session will be split into two sections. One discussing Emissions: mitigation and practice and the other looking at Environmental response: mitigation and practice. For each element we will have short presentations from speakers including local authority, commercial and National Government archaeologists, and built environment experts. Speakers will share examples of projects which are successfully creating sustainable places for heritage as well as nature and climate with plans to deliver targets, and the tools and/or approaches that can be used. Speakers will then form a discussion panel with delegates to discuss questions, challenges and suggestions for what net carbon zero actually looks and what we need to do to achieve it.

MAPPING ARCHAEOLOGICAL CAREERS

Friday, 21 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organisers: Jessica Elleray, Oxford Archaeology and Phil Pollard, Historic England

Speakers: Kenneth Aitchison, Landward Research; Paul Dunn, Oxford Archaeology; Sarah-Jane Farr, HS2; Lucy Lawrence, Buckinghamshire Council; Vicky Nash, Mott MacDonald

Following on from our 2021 session “Journeys into an archaeological career”, this interactive workshop will bring together speakers from a number of different roles and specialisms within archaeology and attempt to visually “map” the career paths that got these people to the position they are now in. We will then identify the similarities and differences between the different paths and discuss how others could follow this, and where barriers to these paths may exist today.

In the second half of the workshop, participants will be invited to produce their own career map with support from the speakers. Thinking about their journey so far, but also where they aspire to be in the future, we will identify similarities and differences between the different paths and discuss where opportunities and barriers to these paths may exist today.

Not only will this session provide a great opportunity to identify professional development opportunities, but we will open a necessary discussion about the changing career landscape and how best we can support early and mid-career professionals.

FIT FOR WHOSE PURPOSE? THE ROLE OF WRITTEN SCHEMES OF INVESTIGATION AND PROJECT DESIGNS

Friday, 21 April: 09:30 – 13:00

Organisers: Kate Geary and Jen Parker Wooding, ClfA

The key to delivering a project that meets professional Standards lies in the project design, or depending on where you’re based, the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), Programme of Works (PoW) or Method Statement. In 2014 the former IfA Council (now ClfA Board of Directors/Advisory Council) adopted revised versions of the Standards and guidance for field evaluation, excavation and watching briefs that included updated guidance on WSI’s. This stemmed from recommendations in the 2011 Southport Report advising that written schemes of investigation (WSIs) should include explicit statements on public benefit, dissemination and community participation, research, the expertise of the project team and archive creation, care, and deposition. Since then, the importance of WSIs has been reiterated in the CIRIA guidance which ‘emphasises the role of the WSI as the main

archaeological control and quality assurance document' (Archaeology and construction: good practice guidance (C799), 2021)¹.

The aim of this workshop is to look in more detail at the scope and quality of WSI's/project designs and the application of the ClfA Standards and guidance. The roles of those writing and reviewing WSI's/project designs ie archaeological advisors, contractors, and consultants, will form a focus of the discussion with guest speakers. The workshop will aim to provide participants with the opportunity to discuss the design aspect of WSI's/project designs, gain a more thorough appreciation of their use across the historic environment sector and how to ensure they meet ClfA Standard and guidance. Through the workshop format, participants will be encouraged to share examples of good practice and to discuss how the guidance might be implemented in their own areas of operation.

Friday, Afternoon

CLOSING CONVERSATION

Friday, 21 April: 14:00 – 16:00

Organisers: Stephen Carter, Headland Archaeology and Kate Geary, ClfA

Speakers: Kenneth Aitchison, FAME; Hannah Fluck, National Trust; Adam Fraser, Arcadis; Tess Gale, Historic England; Ben Jennings, UAUK; Leonora O'Brien, IPSIG; Jeanette Plummer-Squires

An invited panel will be asked to reflect on the overall theme of 'a sustainable profession' picking up key points from the sessions they have contributed to and attended over the conference, followed by discussion/Q&A with the audience. Online attendees will also be invited to share their thoughts on sustainability via Zoom chat.