



Members eBulletin, May 2021

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CIfA news

CIfA response to threats to the University of Chester and Sheffield University archaeology departments

Information recently came to light that Sheffield University is considering whether to cut or close its archaeology department. This is in addition to a similar threat to the department at the University of Chester, announced in recent weeks, and wider cuts, including to the Medieval Literature course, at the University of Leicester.

This is a concerning emerging trend, particularly given the recent publicity surrounding Government's intention to cut funding to archaeology and other social science, humanities, and arts subjects. While the decisions in Chester and Sheffield appear to be unrelated to this cut, they indicate a

challenging environment for archaeology and similar disciplines within the cultural climates of Westminster, and in Higher Education institutions.

[Read our full response here](#)

A new look Yearbook

Last year we surveyed members and undertook a review of CIfA's Yearbook and Directory to improve and help continue to showcase and promote the work that our Registered Organisations and individual members undertake, to clients.

Part of this improvement happened in October 2020 when we launched the new online Directory of Accredited Professionals, listing our professionally accredited (PCIfA, ACIfA, MCIfA) members who have agreed to be listed. This is in addition to the existing Registered Organisation Register. Both are fully searchable and up to date registers that sit under our new website heading of '[Professional Register](#)'.

This year there will be a fresh new look, incorporating some of the information from the Yearbook and Directory alongside the information published in the Professional Practice Paper [Archaeology: a guide for clients](#) (first published 2015). It will be called **Professional Archaeology: a guide for clients 2021 – Innovations: new ways to deliver social value through archaeology** and will be re-released each year with a different theme, showcasing the work of CIfA professionals through case studies.

Our intention is that the revised publication will do more to promote the value of CIfA accreditations, how clients can meet the requirements of legislation or policy that relate to archaeology, and why they need professional archaeologists and Registered Organisations to help them through the process. We will use this Annual Guide as a key outward-facing tool and, instead of the full lists like before, include weblinks to the online Directory of accredited professionals and Registered Organisations Register to help clients to find them more easily,

The printed publication will be sent to specific industry contacts and relevant sectors who need to commission archaeological work. It will also be available to members and others online through our website.

CIfA2021 online: annual conference

CIfA would like to thank everyone who organised sessions, presented, attended and contributed to the success of CIfA2021. While unfortunately the pandemic meant that we weren't able to meet in person this year, we were delighted by the response to our first online conference, with 470 attendees joining us over the three days of the conference, 33% more than in 2019!

Feedback from our attendees for our conference sessions and platform have also been incredibly positive, and whilst nothing can ever really replicate chatting over coffee, meeting exhibitors in person or all the fun of the conference disco, we were delighted that so many more people were able to access the conference in 2021 and were able to take advantage of the flexibility offered by our conference platform and had such a positive digital conference experience.

Many of you were able to join sessions from across the UK and Europe from home, on site, in the garden or even while you were waiting in line to get COVID jabs! We were also delighted to welcome presenters contributing to sessions from Sweden, France, Belgium, the US and Nigeria. 38% of our attendees were also students or early in their career and it was fantastic to have 43% of you able to join us for your first CIfA conference.

CIfA2021 also allowed us to be able to award a record number of 31 CIfA bursaries, in addition to 16 three day places for early careers staff working for our Registered Organisations. We're also incredibly grateful for the additional bursary places that were sponsored by MSDS Marine and Past Horizons, in addition to the Hal Dalwood Trust conference bursary and the Theresa O'Mahony memorial bursary generously sponsored by BAJR and the Enabled Archaeologists Fund (EAF). You can read more about our 2021 Theresa O'Mahony bursary recipient, Sarahjayne Clements' conference experience [here](#).

We'd also like to thank our conference sponsor, Towergate Insurance for their ongoing support of the CIfA annual conference, as well as the generous support also offered to us by Historic England.

For those of you who were unable to join us for CIfA2021, our session recordings will be made publicly available to view from the CIfA website in late July. We hope that you'll be able to join us for CIfA2022 which we hope to host in Bath on 27 - 29 April 2022 with a digital conference experience to be run in parallel to the live event.



Scotland's Archaeology Strategy 2021 – Spring update

With spring having very much sprung and fieldwork and site visits are becoming a possibility once more, what better way to prepare for the exciting season ahead than by reading what was accomplished across the sector in 2020? If you missed the launch of the Celebrating Archaeology in Scotland 2020 issue back in October, you can [catch up here](#).

In a milestone for the archaeology sector, Scotland's Archaeology Strategy is five years old! Arm yourself with the knowledge of how the sector is changing and what has been achieved so far as a result of the Strategy by reading the [Five Year Review](#). We are already delivering dividends on our vision to make archaeology matter for everyone!

CifA was contributed to the development of the Archaeology Strategy and leads on Aim Five: Innovation and Skills.

Everyday ethics elearning module for CifA members

As archaeologists, we all make daily ethical decisions, and these decisions will have consequences for you, the people you're working with, other archaeologists, clients, the public and potentially your and their families. They may affect how people trust you, your organisation, and archaeology.

The Everyday ethics module gives you an introduction to professional ethics and explains how the CifA Code of conduct, standards and guidance help us to avoid acting unethically. It gives some tips on how to develop your ethical knowledge and sets out a series of everyday ethical scenarios you might encounter, asking you to consider how you might react. You can go through the case studies on your own, but we suggest it might also be beneficial to discuss them with your colleagues as listening to and discussing a range of perspectives may help you reach a conclusion.

The ethics module available on our [e-learning portal](#).



Mental Health Awareness Week 2021

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the organisations and individuals who have helped us to celebrate good practice and raise awareness during Mental Health Awareness Week 2021.

We have collated all the contributions and added these to our [wellbeing](#) webpage.

The Archaeologist

Keep your eye out for the next edition of *The Archaeologist* which will be arriving at the beginning of June. This edition focuses on public benefit and particularly looking at some of the more tangible ways archaeologists deliver public benefit.

The following edition (due out in October) will look at how geophysical survey is used effectively within archaeological projects and showcase the added value the discipline can provide. If you have a project you'd like us to include please contact

alex.llewellyn@archaeologists.net



Deadline: 1 April 2021



Subscription renewal information for 2021/22

The subscription renewal notices for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 were circulated on 1 March 2021. If you have not received yours, please let us know or renew your subscription online.

To [renew your subscription online](#) you will need to log in to your account. For further information, please see our [CifA website login instructions](#).

Changes to your membership card

We have changed the way you can access your membership card. Not only will this give you instant access whenever you need it but will also help to reflect our [environmental policy statement](#). Once you have paid your subscription fees you will be able to download your most recent card on your member dashboard from a PC or smart phone/tablet. If you require a hard copy of your member card, please let us know.

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



Member benefit – Cotswold Outdoor discount

Did you know CIfA members can get a 15% discount at [Cotswold Outdoor](#)?

All you need to do is sign up to their loyalty programme and use the [CifA discount code](#) (website login required).

Cotswold Outdoor have a free loyalty programme for customers and you need to sign up to [Explore More](#) to receive your CIfA member discount online and in store.

This will also give you access to other benefits including:

- 3-year extended warranty
- 100 days returns with no need for a receipt
- exclusive events, competitions and prize draws
- early notification of new products and sales
- birthday gift

There are many other benefits you can receive as a CIfA member, including recognition as an accredited professional or non-accredited member. [Please click here to see more.](#)

Historic Environment Advice Assistant apprenticeship now recruiting!

This Level 4 apprenticeship developed by the Historic Environment Trailblazer Group of employers and training providers in England is currently recruiting its second cohort. The training programme, designed by Strode College in partnership with Historic England, provides entry level training in the skills needed for a career in historic environment advice, specifically providing technical, research and logistical support to Historic Environment professionals working with heritage assets in the planning and development process, and on the legal and policy frameworks for their protection. It is aimed at employers throughout the historic environment sector including local authorities and national parks as well as multi-disciplinary and heritage consultancies. The apprenticeship is particularly aimed at widening access to careers in the historic environment to a non-graduate audience. On completion, apprentices will be eligible for professional accreditation by CIfA, IHBC and CIOB (at Practitioner, Affiliate and Registered levels, respectively). For more information, [click here](#)

Entry level Archaeological Technician apprenticeship – employers wanted

Cirencester College are looking for employers across England who are interested in recruiting apprentice Archaeological Technicians to work with them on a training delivery model, for apprentice starts in September 2021. Further information and contact details can be [found here](#).

Apprenticeship standards also exist (in England) for a Masters level archaeological specialist apprenticeship (Level 7 Archaeological Specialist) and a Masters level historic environment advice apprenticeship (Level 7 Historic Environment Advisor). If you are interested in recruiting apprentices on any of these standards, please contact Anna.Welch@archaeologists.net. CIfA is also leading on the development of Modern Apprenticeships in Scotland.

Book reviews



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

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

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

CiFA Group news/events/training opportunities

Decolonising the archaeology curriculum in schools (KS1-3; GCSE to A-Level)

1 & 2 June 2021

The CiFA Research and Impact Group are hosting a two-part workshop which will provide a 1 hour introductory discussion on anti-racism (1 June) followed by a 2 hour workshop where we will discuss ideas about decolonising the school curriculum in England (2 June).

[REGISTER](#)

Evening chat

3 June 2021

If you've been able to join us for one of our tea break or lunchtime chats, we're now trialling a new timeslot in the evening and hope that you can join us and other CiFA members in a virtual after work discussion. The two topics for our first evening chat will be: **Get involved: volunteering with your Institute and Digital detox**. We'd also love to hear your suggestions, thoughts or ideas for topics that you think would make interesting discussions for future break time discussions. [Please click here to send us your ideas!](#)

[REGISTER](#)

Community archaeology catch ups with the Voluntary & Community Archaeology Group

8 June and 2 July 2021

Join VCSIG for a chat about all things community related, from sharing ideas and top tips to discussing topical issues. These informal 45 minute catch-up sessions are a great chance to meet and learn from others involved in community archaeology!

[8 June - Digital Engagement](#)

[2 July - Diversity](#)

IHBC Annual Day School

18 June 2021

IHBC's 2021 virtual 'Day School' examines how we can best change and sustain places for the benefit of people, led by expert practitioners boasting international, national and local profiles and experiences. Presentations and discussions look at how we can make better 'People Places' out of the places we have, from the most functional to the most historic. **CiFA members can register for the IHBC member rate** - after booking at the non-member price, please contact services@ihbc.org.uk with your CiFA member number to arrange your reimbursement.

[MORE](#)

Forensic archaeology in Germany

22 June 2021

CifA's Forensic Archaeology SIG is pleased to host a webinar presented by Dr. Patricia van der Burgt, a desk officer and forensic archaeologist for the State Archaeological Heritage Office in Saxony, Germany. The webinar will discuss Dr. van der Burgt's workshops, results, and the role of a forensic archaeologist in Germany.

[REGISTER](#)

CifA event recordings

Have you missed a recent event, or would love to watch a presentation again? Visit our event recordings page to view recent presentations from our Innovation Festival and CPD sessions.

[See here](#)

For a complete list of all upcoming events, **[please visit our event page](#)**

Other news

Promoting transnational research

[The Karen Elizabeth Waugh Foundation](#) has recently been established to support knowledge exchange and joint working in archaeology in countries bordering the North Sea. Set up in memory of Karen, who died in 2019, the Foundation aims to continue her lifetime passion for encouraging international collaboration between archaeologists. While not yet ready to accept applications for grants, the Foundation hopes that CifA members, especially those working around or beneath the North Sea, will be interested to learn more about its current projects and ambitions.

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