

Valuing the profession; an open forum discussing pay and conditions in archaeology

IFA is hosting an open forum to discuss the improvement of pay and conditions across the archaeological profession. In January, IFA Council made the decision to remove the absolute requirement for Registered Organisations to meet IFA salary minima. This decision was made alongside strong confirmation of IFA's commitment to the improvement of pay and conditions, reiterated by a unanimous vote by Council to increase salary minima by 3.1%. While recognising the need to support both employees and employers increasing pay, Council made the decision to take a different tack: in order to have a sustainable impact, the profession needs to find a workable solution together.

Representatives from FAME and Prospect will be joining members of IFA Council in an open discussion. All three organisations have indicated that they believe that remuneration across the sector is not commensurate with skills or responsibilities; and all three will present their current policy on how they intend to address the issue. Each will answer three questions

- 1) what is your current remit?
- 2) what can your organisation do?
- 3) what will your organisation do in the next 12 months?

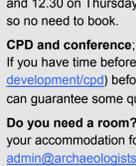
This meeting provides an opportunity for all practitioners to question the policies presented, and present their own ideas on how the profession – as a whole – can move this issue forward.

The meeting takes place on **Friday 19 April at 15:30** at the Lakeside Conference Centre, University of Aston, Birmingham, B4 7ET. The forum takes place after the close of IFA conference, and is open to anyone wishing to attend free of charge.

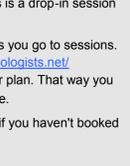
We know people may not want to travel to the event, but may want to be involved. The discussion encourages the widest participation possible, and if you can't get to Birmingham, there will be other ways of putting your views forward on the day. We are currently looking into webcasting the event to YouTube, and making it possible for people to ask questions via twitter and Google hangout—more details will follow.

Please register your intent to come to the meeting by emailing admin@archaeologists.net, so we can keep an eye on numbers. You do not have to be registered to come to the IFA conference to attend this meeting, and it is free of charge. There are limited spaces, so if you want to come along please let us know as soon as possible.

IFA2013 conference updates



Making waves
Designing and demonstrating impact in archaeology and heritage
#2013IFA
17 to 19 April 2013
IFA Conference and training event



Lakeside centre, University of Aston, Birmingham
www.archaeologists.net/2013makingwaves

Our packed **IFA2013 conference programme** is now available to download. You can find out everything you need to know about the conference, what is on the agenda, where to go and when to turn up! The full programme can be downloaded from www.archaeologists.net/2013sessions. If you haven't booked your place yet, you can still do so from our conference pages at www.archaeologists.net/2013bookings.

Are you an avid or amateur social media user? Make sure you have had a look over our **#2013ifa conference guide** (www.archaeologists.net/2013socialmediaguide) before coming to conference. We are hoping to get some great coverage on Twitter, so if you have an account and are coming to Birmingham, join your fellow tweeps on our twitter delegate list (<https://twitter.com/InstituteArch/ifa2013-delegates>) by letting me know you'll be there (@InstituteArch).

If you are unsure about social media and want to know more, you can drop-in to the **Social Media Surgery** between 11.30 and 12.30 on Thursday 18 April and quiz Martin Newman, Sarah Maclean and Lorna Richardson. This is a drop-in session so no need to book.

CPD and conference; the conference programme includes a blank CPD log, so you can complete it as you go to sessions. If you have time before conference, why not update your Professional Development Plan (www.archaeologists.net/development/cpd) before you get to conference, and highlight the sessions which will contribute to your plan. That way you can guarantee some quality training time while clocking up your CPD hours while you are at conference.

Do you need a room? We have some rooms available at the Britannia (New Street) for £50 per night if you haven't booked your accommodation for conference yet. Let us know which nights you are interested in by emailing admin@archaeologists.net by **Wednesday 10 April**.

IFA Conference Excursions, Thursday 18 April

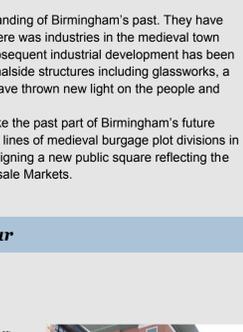
This year at conference, delegates will get the opportunity to see some of the hidden secrets of Birmingham. Mike Hodder, Birmingham City Archaeologists, will be providing a tour of the Digbeth and Eastside areas which have built up around the early medieval beginnings of the city. Mike's tour highlights the challenges and opportunities that development in the City centre has provided, and how heritage has been managed, conserved and protected. Another very distinct area of the City, the Jewellery Quarter, is explored with Simon Buteux (Birmingham Conservation Trust) who will start the tour off at Newman Brothers Coffin Fitting works, and Michael Reddy, a Blue Badge Guide, will lead a tour round the Quarter. Our third tour takes delegates out of the city centre into the suburbs to visit Weoley Castle, one of Birmingham's scheduled Ancient Monuments and a rare medieval survivor. Kirsty Nichol (Birmingham Museums), will introduce delegates to the site and talk over its restoration, management and impact on the local community.

Weoley Castle; a hidden treasure in the city

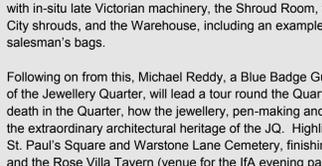
Provided by **Kirsty Nichol, Birmingham Museums**
Meet in the venue lobby at **13.45**

There will be a short coach journey to Weoley Castle.

Weoley Castle is one of the oldest visible parts of Birmingham. Originally built by the Lords of Dudley, and set within one thousand acres of Deer Park it was one of the largest privately owned hunting grounds of the medieval period. The site is one of Birmingham's scheduled Ancient Monuments surrounded today by an important 1930s suburb developed as part of Birmingham's inter-war slum clearance. Today it is one of Birmingham's hidden treasures and has recently undergone a major consolidation and development project funded by Birmingham City Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund and English Heritage. Although the viewing area is open to the public every day, during daylight hours, the site itself is open by appointment only so don't miss your opportunity to visit this important site as part of your conference in Birmingham!



Birmingham's urban heritage; a City walk



Provided by **Mike Hodder, Birmingham City Council**
Meet Mike in the venue lobby at **14.00**

This walking tour follows on from the presentation in the morning in *Making the past work for the future*.

Mike will talk about the history and archaeology of Birmingham and how the heritage of this bustling diverse city has been discovered, interpreted and preserved.

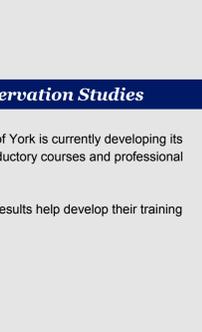
The tour will concentrate on the Eastside and Digbeth areas and will include the Bullring, the medieval manor house, burgrave plots, the River Rea and canalside features if time permits.

Archaeological excavations as part of development have transformed our understanding of Birmingham's past. They have shown that Birmingham was a planned new town of 12th century date, and that there was industries in the medieval town included leather tanning, pottery making, metalworking and textile processing. Subsequent industrial development has been investigated near the River Rea and excavation of St Martin's churchyard, and canalside structures including glassworks, a pumping station, and a brassworks on the site of the new Library of Birmingham have thrown new light on the people and industries of the 18th and 19th centuries. Beyond, and in addition to, recording the city's past, there are opportunities to make the past part of Birmingham's future through design of new development. These include retaining and accentuating the lines of medieval burgrave plot divisions in a new building just over the road from the iconic Selfridges in the Bullring, and designing a new public square reflecting the moat of the medieval manor house in a development replacing the existing Wholesale Markets.

The Birmingham Jewellery Quarter walking tour

Provided by **Simon Buteux and the Birmingham Conservation Trust**
Meet Simon in the venue lobby at **14.00**

The tour of the Jewellery Quarter will begin with a visit to the Newman Brothers Coffin Fitting Works, led by Simon Buteux, Director of the Birmingham Conservation Trust. The Trust is about to begin a £2 million restoration of the Coffin Works, which will open as a heritage attraction in 2014. The purpose-built factory opened in 1894 and Newman Brothers only ceased trading in 1999, leaving much of the machinery, stock and records intact - a time capsule of the funerary business. Highlights include the Stamp Room, with in-situ late Victorian machinery, the Shroud Room, with Aston Villa and Birmingham City shrouds, and the Warehouse, including an example of one of the travelling salesman's bags.



Following on from this, Michael Reddy, a Blue Badge Guide with an in-depth knowledge of the Jewellery Quarter, will lead a tour round the Quarter. Find out about life, work and death in the Quarter, how the jewellery, pen-making and related trades developed, and the extraordinary architectural heritage of the JQ. Highlights include the Assay Office, St. Paul's Square and Warstone Lane Cemetery, finishing up at the Chamberlain Clock and the Rose Villa Tavern (venue for the IFA evening party).

The tour will last from 2pm - 4.30pm approx

Additional walk – The archaeology of Sutton Park, Saturday 20 April

The archaeology of Sutton Park - a guided walk, Saturday 20 April 2013

Sutton Park in north Birmingham is a remarkably well-preserved multi-period historic landscape. In addition to earthwork remains and fishponds of the medieval deer park created in the 12th century, it contains prehistoric and Roman features and remains of remains of post-medieval woodland management, mill pools and early recreational uses. The whole of the Park is on the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks, most of it is a Scheduled Monument, and it is the subject of a Heritage Partnership Agreement.

This all-day walk (in two parts, so you can come for just the morning) will include medieval and post-medieval features on the eastern side of the Park. Led by Mike Hodder, the walk is being organised by the Kings Norton History Society. There is no charge, but a donation to the Society would be appreciated. Lunch is not provided but the walk will stop near a café and a pub (carvery) at lunchtime.

The walk starts at 10:30 from Sutton Coldfield railway station.

If you would like to come on this walk it would be much appreciated if you could contact the Kings Norton History Society at knhs@lagonda.org.uk or speak to Mike Hodder at the Conference.

Please note that the walk is partly on rough uneven ground, and there is no shelter in the Park, so please dress accordingly.

Are you on a site with burials?

DigVentures is working with a major network to source archaeological digs with burials for a History Channel documentary.

We're looking for sites of any period, multiple or single burials, commercial, academic or voluntary. The most important thing is that there is a story to tell about the context, and that you are happy to have us come and film during excavation, as well as follow up and post-ex. This will mean a couple of days here and there, with a small crew of two people and a hand-held camera. It won't be disruptive, and we are very happy to work around client needs and concerns. Preference will be given to UK/Ireland sites, but if you have got something amazing elsewhere, we will definitely consider it.

Filming can begin in the next couple of weeks and will carry on through August. If you've got a site that might work – or know someone who does – please get in touch ASAP lisa@digventures.com

Lisa Westcott Wilkins
Managing Director
DigVentures

Conservation Short Courses Survey, Centre for Conservation Studies

The **Centre for Conservation Studies** in the Department of Archaeology at the University of York is currently developing its short courses to respond better to the needs of the sector. The Centre has provided introductory courses and professional update in building conservation skills for over 30 years.

Please follow the link below to complete the Conservation Short Courses Survey, as the results help develop their training and education programme for the future:
<http://tinyurl.com/cfcq2ix>

The deadline for completion is **30 April 2013**. Please note all responses are anonymous.

Should you have any queries please contact:

Danaei Koutromanou PGR Research Assistant Department of Archaeology The University of York dk603@york.ac.uk	or	Dr Gill Chitty FSA, IHBC, MIFA Director, Conservation Studies 01904 323925 gill.chitty@york.ac.uk
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IFA Groups

New Generation Group

Are you:

- *Fearing dark days for the profession ahead, or optimistic about the future?*
- *Worried about where archaeology is going, or excited about the journey?*
- *Do you crave a voice in shaping your career and the profession?*



If you have answered **yes** to any of the above questions - we want to hear from you and give you an opportunity to get involved in the future of the archaeological profession.

We are will be holding our first IFA archaeology conference on **Friday 19 April**, followed by our Forming AGM at 13.00pm.

For more details and how to book please go to: www.archaeologists.net/2013makingwaves

Come and find us and join the debate!

Financial assistance is available, in the form of Conference Bursaries, to assist people to attend the IFA conference. If you would like apply for a Conference Bursary to help you to attend IFA conference, and attend the New Generation SIG event, you can find the Bursary Request Form here: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/conf-bursary-request-form.pdf

Please mention in your request form that you would specifically like to attend the New Generation conference event and AGM.

Archives Special Interest Group

**Regional Archive Workshops
15 May 2013, 10am-4.30pm—York**

The Archives Group have organised a series of regional workshops designed to promote good practice in working with archaeological archives, to provide hands-on experience and encourage participants to engage with archive issues by considering new perspectives. It is intended that a mixed group of archaeologists from all areas of the discipline, including planning archaeologists, contractors, museum curators, specialists and consultants will share experiences, issues and viewpoints so that everyone develops a greater awareness of the problems and possible solutions around archiving archaeological material.

A hands-on practical session with archive materials will require participants to form into groups that will complete an archive in readiness for deposition, check an archive prior to deposition or search a digital archive to answer a specific set of queries. The afternoon session will set a series of questions to different groups, who will then share their deliberations and conclusions in a final discussion. There will also be an opportunity to discuss specific issues that participants wish to raise from their personal experience.

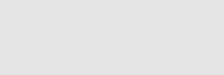
Bookings are now open! Book you place early to avoid disappointment as these workshops are filling up fast. The cost of the workshop is £10 for IFA members and £16 for non members.

For more information and a programme please [click here](#)

Future dates and locations:
This year we are intending to hold workshops in Cambridge or Ipswich, Birmingham, London, Sussex, York.

If you would like to be kept informed of the workshops programme, or have any questions relating to them, please email Lianne Birney (lianne.birney@archaeologists.net).

Cymru/Wales Special Area Group



**Making sense of a deep and distant past:
Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Wales**

2013 Dayschool on Cave Art and AGM, 17 May 2013

Venue: Owain Glyndŵr Institute, Maengwyn Street, Machynlleth, SY20 8EE
Time: 10am-4.30pm

Programme

- 10.15 Coffee and Arrivals
- 10.30 Welcome to the Dayschool (George Nash)
- 10.35 Cymru / Wales IFA Group AGM (non-members welcome)
- 11.00 Martin Bates: **Reflecting on old stones: the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic archaeology of the west**
- 11.45 Gary Robinson: **Recent excavation and survey in the Traeth Mawr, Gwynedd: Mesolithic hunting, foraging and fishing in a coastal setting**
- 12.30 Ken Brassil: **'The climate is very healthy'. Attempts at Palaeolithic and Mesolithic mood-making In Wales**
- 13.15 Lunch
- 14.15 George Nash: **A re-assessment of Cathole Cave, Gower Coast, South Wales**
- 15.00 Ann Easham: **Lunch on the table: Hunter-gatherer subsistence in Wales**
- 15.45 Discussion
- 16.15 Close

Cost:
IFA Members / Group members - £15.00
Non IFA Members - £18.00

Price includes tea and coffee and buffet lunch

This is a CPD credited event for which the IFA can supply certificates, please let us know if you will require one

[Download a flyer and booking form](#)

Other conferences and events

Course: Archaeological finds: from earth to archive

When: 8-12 April
Time: 9.30am - 5.00pm

Where: The course is run across three locations: **PCA South, Brockley, London; MoL London Wall; MoL Mortimer Wheeler House.**

Guided by nearly a dozen experienced practitioners and specialists, participants will learn the basics of processing finds from archaeological excavations, using evidence from real sites. There will be a strong emphasis on practical activities, from sorting and packaging, to report writing and on-site conservation.

This course is taught by both Museum curators and professional archaeologists from Pre-Construct Archaeology, one of the UK's foremost archaeological contractors. It is part delivered at the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre, which holds the world's largest archaeological archive.

The sessions will include:

- Basic principles of washing, packaging and handling artefacts
- Sorting and cataloguing 'bulk' materials: ceramics, building material and environmental material
- Identifying, handling and cataloguing metalwork and other 'small finds'
- Dealing with organic materials: leather, wood
- Working on cemetery excavations and dealing with human remains
- Liaising with conservators and specialists
- Understanding site archives and writing reports

Cost: £350 (no concessions), to include:
• All tutorial expenses, including materials for practical sessions
• Documentation and access to on-line resources following the course
• Sandwich lunch, plus tea/coffee, morning and afternoon (five days)

To make a booking please call the Box Office on: 020 7001 9844 (opening times: Monday to Friday: 9.15am to 6pm; Saturday: 10am to 6pm)

Website: <http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/London-Wall/Whats-on/Adult-courses/Archaeological-Finds-from-earth-to-archive.htm>

For information on course content please contact Francis Grew, e-mail (preferred) fgrew@museumoflondon.org.uk or telephone 020 7566 9317.

3D Laser Scanning: Seeking a new standard in Documentation, RCAHMS

Edinburgh, 1 May 2013

This event is now open! Please register here: <http://tinyurl.com/bwvndon>

This event will be free to attend thanks to the kind sponsorship of RCAHMS and the DPC, but will be limited to 30 places, which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please register as soon as you are able to secure your place.

Current best practice guidance for the long term preservation of 3D laser scan data, in particular the required metadata is found to be onerous by data creators. This workshop will bring together leading practitioners from the archaeological community, alongside the Data Archives and Software Suppliers to work towards agreeing a new metadata standard.

This event also seeks to influence the software and hardware producers of laser scanning equipment to produce developments that will make the export of the necessary meta data much simpler and more convenient for users.

ALGAO:Scotland

**Historic Buildings Workshop
Dunbar Town House, Dunbar, East Lothian
Thursday 23 May 2013, 10am - 3.30pm
Cost: £30 (including lunch)**

The day will look at historic structures in a wider context and what archaeological recording/analysis can bring to the table when seeking to conserve and understand our historic buildings and townscaapes. It is hoped it will appeal to a wide cross section of disciplines that are involved with conserving our historic structures.

A buffet lunch and teas and coffees are included in the cost.
The workshop is part of ALGAO:Scotland's continued CPD training programme.

The event is organised by ALGAO.Scotland and is being hosted by East Lothian Council.

Programme

- 10 - 10.20am **Registration & Tea/Coffee**
- 10.20 - 10.30am **Welcome and Introduction**
- 10.30 - 11am **A Tale of a Bigging, Closes and Yard - The Granary Building, Banff, Aberdeenshire**
Bruce Mann (Aberdeenshire Council)
- 11 - 11.30am **Long term conservation area management in Dunbar**
Paul Zochowski (East Lothian Council)
- 11.30 - 12pm **The practice of buildings archaeology - asking some difficult questions ...**
Tom Addyman (Addyman Associates)
- 12 - 12.15pm **Discussion**
- 12.15 - 1pm **LUNCH**
- 1-2 pm **Industrial and Buildings Recording at RCAHMS**
Miriam McDonald & Iain Anderson (RCAHMS)
- 2- 2.30pm **Tea/ Coffee**
- 2.30-3pm **Beaton's Cottage, Skye: a case of being wary of the perils of inherited wisdom**
Andrew Wright (Chartered Architect & Heritage Consultant)
- 3 - 3.30pm **Open Discussion**
- 3.30pm onwards **Tour of Dunbar Town House, John Muirs Birthplace Museum and MacArthur's Store (Optional)**

For more information please [download the flyer and booking form](#)

Historic Scotland / ICOM-CC Metal Working Group

METAL 2013

International Conference on Metal Conservation
16 - 20 September 2013

Historic Scotland are delighted to be hosting Metal 2013, the triennial conference of the International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation Metal Working Group. This week-long international conference on metal conservation will take place in Edinburgh, Scotland from 16 to 20 September 2013. Delegates from around the world will share presentations on the conservation and preservation of historic metal including artefacts, sculpture and structures.

Tickets for the event can be purchased using an [online booking facility](#)

[Programme](#)
For more information visit www.metal2013.org

Any comments, questions or news you would like to post? Please get in touch by emailing us at admin@archaeologists.net

<http://www.archaeologists.net/>

