

Welcome to our Spring newsletter!

Like a truly significant find, this newsletter took a little longer to unearth than originally planned but we hope you'll agree the wait was worth it. We wanted to ensure we could bring you the finalised details for Finds Fest 2026 (poster included).

Thank you for your patience as we 'excavated' the best news to share - now let's dive into what's blooming in the world of finds this season!

Enjoy, and send any feedback to CIfAFindsSIG@gmail.com!

CPD Opportunities

Conferences

[The Roman Finds Group Spring 2026 Conference](#)

Dates: 13 – 14 March 2026

Venue: Grosvenor Museum, 27 Grosvenor Street, Chester, Cheshire CH1 2DD

Theme: Recent Roman Finds and Research from Wales and the West.

Tickets: £20 for fully paid-up RFG members and students;

£32 non-members, which includes one year FREE membership to the RFG.

[Finds Fest 2026](#)

Date: 25 March 2026

Venue: MShed, Bristol

Tickets: £50 CIfA member/ Finds Group Supporter; £70 non-member (includes 1 year Finds Group Supporter membership worth £15) – more info below!

[CIfA Annual Conference 2026](#)

Dates: 28 – 29 April 2026

Venue: John McIntyre Conference Centre, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, EH16 5AY

Theme: Building connections.

Tickets: For registration fees and early bird rates (until 23 February) see [here](#).

[RAC/TRAC 2026](#)

Dates: 21 – 23 May 2026

Venue: Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark

Theme: Roman Archaeology Beyond the Fringes of the Empire.

Tickets: For registration fees and early bird rates (until 15 March) see [the RAC/TRAC website](#).

Talks/Workshops

[Late Roman Base-Metal Coinage and its Political Messages](#) (c.AD 294 – 410) presented by Dr Marcus Spencer-Brown on **18 March (7 pm - 8:30 pm)**, online. Free!

Resources

Toolkit for Finds: Pottery: This new [Pottery Toolkit](#) converts the standard for pottery studies into a practical, accessible online resource. It includes a [walkthrough video](#) from the project team to help specialists navigate its features.

Toolkit for Finds Reporting: Roman Coinage: An updated, nationally recognised guide for anyone producing or commissioning specialist reports on [Roman coins](#). It also includes a [walkthrough video](#) of the toolkit and its resources.

Finds Group News

AGM Round-up:

Our recent AGM (01 December 2025) celebrated a year of significant progress for the Group, notably the successful launch of the [Pottery Toolkit](#) and an update to the [Roman Coins Toolkit](#).

We also paused to honour the memory of Phil Mills, recording our deep gratitude for his immense contributions to our field.

Looking ahead our focus remains on professional development. Following our Town Hall meeting on career progression we aim to deliver one online and one in-person event annually. To guide this, our Three-Year Plan is being finalised using insights from the FSIG Members Survey conducted last month. We are also excited to confirm Finds Fest 2026 is planned for 25 March in Bristol in collaboration with Historic England and SLR.

The business concluded with a captivating presentation by Peter Guest titled "A Legion of Finds." Peter shared insights from the excavation of a Roman legionary store building at Priory Field, Caerleon - the first of its kind excavated to modern standards. He showcased a remarkably diverse assemblage including rare military equipment and discussed the complexities of identifying these items to reveal the building's role as a storehouse and its eventual decline.

Committee restructuring and new members:

We thank Peter Guest and Deborah Fox as they step down, with Imogen and Phil Pollard remaining as advisors. Emily Johnson (Chair) and Bekky Hillman (Secretary & Advisory Council Rep) were unanimously re-elected. Ruth Beveridge becomes Vice Chair, Laura Ratcliffe joins as an ordinary member and we warmly welcome Antony Lee, Arin Edwards and Joshua Toulson to the team.

Thanks to all who attended and shared your thoughts on the day, as well as to those who completed our Finds Group member survey about future training formats. We're very much taking all of your feedback on board.

Check out the [Finds Group Website](#) to find **recordings** of the presentations, and the minutes from the AGM.

Members survey:

A huge thank you to the 109 people who completed our member survey! With 80% of respondents being ClfA members, your voices have been instrumental in shaping Finds Fest 2026. You told us you value staying up to date, hearing about fresh research and getting stuck into finds handling. We've made sure Finds Fest 2026 delivers exactly that. We can't wait to see you there!

Finds Fest 2026 is heading to Bristol!

Get ready for the ultimate gathering of the finds community! We are thrilled to announce that **Finds Fest 2026** is commencing on **25 March**. Following the incredible energy of our previous sessions, this year we are heading to **Bristol** for an in-person extravaganza in collaboration with Historic England and SLR.

Whether you are a seasoned specialist or just starting your career, Finds Fest is the place to be for expert-led talks, hands-on handling sessions and the best networking in the sector. We are currently putting the finishing touches on a packed programme that promises to be our most exciting yet. [Register Now!](#)

Don't keep the treasure to yourself - spread the word, share the poster and we'll see you in **Bristol!**

Got a CPD opportunity or resource to share? Want to contact the Finds SIG committee? Message us on ClfAFindsSIG@gmail.com or follow us on our social media channels.

Facebook: ClfA Finds Group / FB Group Finds Group Community

Instagram: @cifa_finds

X/Twitter: @CifaFinds

BSky: @cifa-finds.bsky.social

FINDS FEST

25 March 2026

MShed, Bristol

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Early Career?
Aspiring Specialist?
Experienced Specialist?

CONNECTING SPECIALISTS SUPPORTING CAREERS

- Presentations
- Thematic discussions
- Career Journey Panel
- Structured networking
- Finds handling 'market stalls'
- Early careers poster competition

Event pricing

Includes lunch and unlimited tea/coffee!

- £50 CfA member or Finds Group supporter
- £65 non-member
- £70 non-member*

*(includes 12 months of Finds Group supporter membership worth £15!)

Registration
OPEN NOW

Bursaries
Available



In partnership with



Historic England

