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CIfA Heritage Crime Special Interest Group Update, February 2024

Lots has been happening behind the scenes since we held our inaugural AGM last May. This is a short update of some of the things we are doing and how you can get involved.

CIfA2024 - Legacy conference 24-25 April

We have a double morning session on Thursday 25 April. Titled, *Heritage Crime; prevention, investigation and enforcement developments and opportunities*, it will include two sessions. The first will look at the current situation in the UK with three presentations and a panel discussion. The second session will look at current and future developments in practice and training as well as opportunities for CIfA members to get involved. It will conclude with a second panel discussion.

We will also have a stand at the conference so come along, meet some of the committee and share your thoughts on what you would like to see the HCSIG doing.

[Find out more about the CIfA conference here.](#)

***The Archaeologist* magazine**

You may have seen in TA121, which focused on the 50th Anniversary of the Protection of Wrecks Act, that there were a number of articles by group members focused on developments in addressing marine heritage crime.

The summer issue, TA122, will be guest edited by the HCSIG committee and will include articles covering the situation around the UK, the experience of CIfA members volunteering with the Police and a Police Officers view of partnership working. It will also build on the conference sessions by looking at current and future skills and qualification needs and opportunities for archaeologists and law enforcement colleagues.

Survey

We are currently planning to put out a survey (details to follow) to get your views and experiences as a baseline.

Case study bank

When putting together the programme for the conference and papers for *The Archaeologist* we became aware of how many of you have experience and it would be great to share with others. Far more than we could accommodate. We are therefore looking to compile a series of case studies and papers we can put on the CIfA HCSIG group page as a resources bank.

If you would be interested in considering sharing something please get in touch by emailing groups@archaeologists.net.

Working groups

We will also be putting together a number of working groups to look at specific areas of practice and potential partnerships. We will share details of these as they are set up but if you have a particular area of interest and would have the time to actively contribute, [please get in touch](#).

Guidance on Heritage Crime Police Support Volunteer roles

We have been developing a brief guidance document for those interested in considering volunteering opportunities with their local police force. More news to follow.

AGM Event

The next AGM is fast approaching and we will be announcing the date soon. Please keep an eye out for this.

Finally

On behalf of the committee, thank you for your involvement and don't hesitate to contact us with via the groups@archaeologists.net email address.

Best wishes,

HCSIG Group Committee

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