

## CifA Scottish Group Autumn Newsletter 2018

**Reminder: Scottish Group Workshop and CifA AGM Friday September 28th (12 – 4pm)**  
Holyrood Park, Queen's Drive, Edinburgh, City of EH8 8HG

### Workshop - The role of setting in the management of Scotland's heritage

This workshop aims to cover all aspects regarding the role of setting in the management of Scotland's heritage. We will have presentations from representatives of archaeological units and curatorial and regulatory bodies and a site visit around Holyrood Park. CPD certificates will be provided.

### Provisional programme

12:00 - 12:15 Welcome and introduction

12:15 - 13:35 Presentations - Confirmed speakers are John Raven (HES), Stephen Carter (Headland Archaeology), Richard Conolly (CgMs) and Helen Green (University of Glasgow).

13:35 - 14:30 Lunch and AGM

14:30 - 16:00 Holyrood Park - Setting session

**Parking:** Please email [groups@archaeologists.net](mailto:groups@archaeologists.net), in advance, with your registration number to get free parking at the Pay & Display Broad Pavement Car Park (next to Holyrood Palace).

**Booking:** CifA and Scottish Group members £10; Non-member (includes 1 year Scottish Group membership) £20. For tickets please [book here](#).

### South East Scotland Archaeological Research Framework (SESARF) Update



In a previous CifA Newsletter we introduced SESARF, the South East Scotland Archaeological Research Framework.

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Due for final delivery via an online portal in Spring 2019 a lot of progress to the **Understand** portion of the Framework has been made during the first half of this year with a specific focus on collating the 'known' archaeology of the region and priorities for future research.

We are pleased to announce that we have been, and continue to be, actively seeking targeted contributions on all archaeological periods, key themes, specialist case studies and research questions and priorities.

For those of you who attended our workshops last year and expressed an interest in contributing, an email was sent at the end of June with a deadline for final contributions by December 2018.

Several of the core Case Studies and main contributions are underway by the Working Group. There is still plenty of time for anyone who wishes to be added to the list of Working Group contributors.

We are now focusing our attention on the other themes of the research framework: **Value and Protect**. Workshops to support these elements will be planned and delivered within the next 6 months.

Beta-testing of the research framework portal is also in full swing and will deliver an integrated resource with other research frameworks and repositories across the UK and internationally.

**Please get in touch with the SESARF project via our [dedicated email address](#) for the latest news, information and upcoming workshops.**

SESARF has been under development by SESAP (South East Scotland Archaeology Partnership) and Wessex Archaeology since June 2017. The Regional Research Framework (RRF) will cover the council areas of Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian and The Scottish Borders and is being funded by the Society of Antiquaries for Scotland supported by a grant from Historic Environment Scotland. The RRF is formed around three key themes of **Understand, Value and Protect** and is continuing to be developed throughout 2018 with a wide range of stakeholders.

## Training

### Skills development update!

Cara Jones ACIfA, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Through funding from Historic Environment Scotland, ClfA has had an active 18 months in Scotland completing a rapid review of skill gaps and losses within the Scottish Archaeology sector. Utilising existing data sets on skill gaps, and through a series of interviews with industry leaders, ClfA identified that the majority of early career archaeologists were not industry ready and at times of peak development, it was challenging for employers to find staff with the right skills and experience. More about the review can be [seen here](#) in a paper I gave during an [archaeological skills and training in Scotland](#) discussion day in March 2018.

We identified that the sector needed to rethink training strategies for early career archaeologists and explore new entry routes into the profession, actions which could also help alleviate workforce pressures and increase diversity within the heritage sector. It is a great time to think about how we train our future and current archaeologists – there are a number of initiatives supported by Scottish Government (like the Apprenticeship schemes) which the heritage sector could be utilising. Looking to our sector, heritage developments are being driven forward strategically through Our Place in Time and the Archaeology Strategy, both of which are providing focused funding to act on required actions identified within the individual delivery plans.

Since completing the rapid study, ClfA received continued funding from HES to support and co-ordinate potential initiatives identified by the review. Following a meeting with industry leaders in July 2018, an Archaeology Skills Development Panel has been created which will guide the development of a college-based course (led by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland); the development of a new qualification (accredited by SQA which will focus on entry level field archaeology skills); and explore the potential to develop a modern apprenticeship for an archaeological technician/site assistant role. We have head start with an apprenticeship scheme due to the work completed in England by the [English Heritage Trailblazer scheme](#). While any initiative will need to be fit for purpose within a Scottish context, the Panel agree that the key skills and knowledge identified by the Trailblazer initiative as essential characteristics for an entry level role in Scotland. If you have any thoughts about this process or would like to be involved, please [get in touch with me](#) (Cara!).

## Upcoming Training Workshops – Save the Date!

### Asbestos awareness training, delivered by RSK

Thursday 11 October, RSK offices (65 Sussex Street, Glasgow, G41 1DX)

Due to popular demand, we are running this workshop again, this time in Glasgow. The aim of the course is to provide awareness and develop knowledge of the hazards and risks posed by asbestos containing materials (ACMs), in order that employees can conduct work safely.

### Introduction to artefacts, delivered by National Museums Scotland

Thursday 1 November 2018, The National Museums Collection Centre (Granton, Edinburgh, EH5 1JA)

Delivered by the National Museum of Scotland's, this workshop will introduce attendees to basic artefact recognition and key principles for first aid for finds. The workshop will include a tour of the collection centre and highlight the accession process within the National Museum of Scotland.

Bookings for both these events will be open shortly, [email Cara](#) for more information.

## Members' News

### Sick Picts from the May Island Monastery: Disease and Healthcare in Early Medieval Scotland

Wednesday 3 October 10.30am



Peter Yeoman is giving a lecture in the Edinburgh Museums Lauriston [Castle lecture series](#)

Supported by Archaeology Scotland.

Please note that booking is required and there will be an entrance charge

Early medieval burials under excavation on the May Island (© Peter Yeoman)

A) – Can you help?

Peter McKeague MCIfA, Historic Environment Scotland and Helen Spencer, ScARF

There is currently no single agreed list of Scottish periods for use in consistently indexing cultural heritage datasets of artefacts, monuments and sites. Such lists do exist in England and other countries and there is a need for initiatives to provide a possible way forward.

Along with our published monument thesaurus, a consistent use of period labels, and an understanding of when they apply in each part of the country, is primarily important in terms of

- a common understanding of what we mean by the labels
- allowing people to find the relevant records
- better indexing of information reported through [OASIS](#) and [Discovery and Excavation in Scotland](#)
- helping ensure the regional research frameworks are informed with the latest research reported through OASIS.

Recent work by the Historic Environment Scotland and the University of South Wales has created a list of Period labels. The draft list may be referenced online, through [Heritagedata.org](#). At the moment we have borrowed the scope notes – short summary explanations of what each term means - that help users understand how to use each term but we feel that the Scottish archaeological community could help make these notes more meaningful

We want to get away from simple statements like:

Neolithic: The New Stone Age, this period follows on from the Palaeolithic and the Mesolithic and is itself succeeded by the Bronze Age. This period is characterised by the practice of a farming economy and extensive monumental constructions.

Late Neolithic: The third and latest subdivision of the Neolithic or New Stone Age.

and move towards statements more like:

The Neolithic, or New Stone Age, sees the transition from hunter gatherer to farming economies. Monumental architecture, including chambered cairns, develops. Pottery is first used and stone tool technologies become more sophisticated.

One way to refine existing statements is to let those who use them suggest changes, the scope notes draft can be [found here](#) on the ScARF website so that those interested can read them and return comments. Download the Scope notes as a [Word File here](#).

**Comments can be returned to [Peter McKeague](#) by Friday 20 October 2018**

### **Re-Discovering Holyrood Park's WWI History**

Stefan Sagrott ACIfA, Archaeologist, Cultural Resources Team, Historic Environment Scotland

Holyrood Park is a large Royal park in central Edinburgh. It was first established in the 16th century and is regarded as an important recreational resource within the city and it is also a nationally significant cultural and natural heritage resource.

As part of the Park Management Strategy, last year Historic Environment Scotland commissioned an airborne laser scan survey of the park to both provide baseline data and to develop a better understanding of the archaeological remains in the park.

Analysis and interpretation of the data was undertaken by archaeologists in the Cultural Resources Team using a range of visualisations produced from the data. This was then compared the data to the Royal Commission's survey from the 1990s. Through doing this we have mapped around 1000 archaeological features, of these 580 match features mapped by the commission. We have been able to enhance the mapping, and understanding of 35 archaeological features. 406 new, potential archaeological features have been identified although most of these still require validation on the ground.

As well as a range of agricultural remains (field banks, cultivation remains, enclosures) which could date from the medieval period onwards, the survey has also revealed some very subtle and intriguing remains which are not normally visible on the ground.

Just to the north of Dunsapie Loch, either side of the Queen's Drive, three crenelated lines are visible in the ALS data aligned N-S. These are First World War trenches, each 80-90m long, with the western two linked by a single communication trench. There may be further trenches to the west but the data is not entirely clear.



First World War trenches, Dunsapie Loch, Holyrood Park (© Historic Environment Scotland)

A little research tells us that these are not a new discovery; they were first noted by Stevenson in his 1940s survey of the park, although he was fairly dismissive of them for impeding on an area of rig. In the intervening years they seemingly were forgotten about.

The trenches feature traverses, which both restrict the effects of artillery hits and prevents anyone breaching the trench having a direct line of fire. This trench design is a common feature of War Office manuals at this time and reflects the British defence doctrine early in the war.

Visiting the area earlier in 2018, just as the late snow was melting, it was possible to pick out the rough outline of the easternmost trench through snow patches on the ground!



The same First World War trenches at Dunaspie Loch, Holyrood Park highlighted by snow (© Historic Environment Scotland)

The re-discovery of the trenches shines a light on an often-overlooked aspect of the Park's history and has helped us develop our understanding and interpretation of it. Research into whether these are defensive or practice trenches, who they may have been built by and when they might date to is still ongoing, although it has revealed that the Liverpool Scottish were mobilised in the park in 1914.

*The Historic Environment Scotland Cultural Resources Team is composed of archaeologists, architectural historians, archivists and historians. It provides expert archaeological advice on the*

*Properties in Care and their significance, and undertakes & manages programmes of research into them. It produces and curates the Statements of Significance which express the values associated with a Property in Care and inform our work at them.*

## Other News

### ScARF Update

Helen Spencer and Anna MacQuarrie

It's been a busy summer in the ScARF office since the last newsletter as two more regional research framework (RF) projects have now got underway.

**Our Islands Our Past: Scotland's Islands Research Framework for Archaeology (SIRFA)** began at the start of July with the first steering group meeting taking place in August. The project covers the Western Isles, Shetland and Orkney. The PM is Dr Rebecca Rennell based at UHI who's working with the local archaeologists. The first year will concentrate on the Western Isles but will also consider some cross-cutting themes which relate to all the Islands. We are planning to hold the opening symposium in the Western Isles from **Tuesday 8 to Thursday 10 January 2019** with welcome reception on the Monday evening and closing reception on the Thursday evening, so please save the date if you would like to come – hopefully the weather will be kind to us! Keep an eye on the [ScARF twitter feed](#) and sign up to our [newsletter](#) for the details as they are confirmed. You can also contact the [ScARF team](#) if you want to find out more about the project and get involved!

The second RF to kick off is the **Perth and Kinross** region which is being led by David Strachan and Gavin Lindsay on behalf of Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust. This project officially started on the 1st August and we will have more details in the next newsletter.

The **South East Scotland research framework** team have also been busy and the draft period reports for the region have now been released and are [available here](#). They would welcome comments on the initial drafts or any contributions for case studies. Comments can be made online or you can contact the [SESARF team](#) directly. Further working documents will also be released in the coming months which will include more on the palaeo-environmental aspects and analysis of value and impact.



There will be more info in the winter newsletter about our **Museums Collections (Farming and Fishing) Research Framework Project**. Anna is finishing putting all the outcomes of the project together which will be available for comment very soon.

Finally, we were very lucky to be able to go to the European Association of Archaeologists conference in Barcelona. The ScARF team helped co-ordinate a session on Research Frameworks across Europe and Anna presented a talk on the Scottish perspective written by Emma O'Riordan before she left ScARF.

There were some thoughtful discussions and lots of ideas of how countries could work together in future to expand framework projects across Europe. Watch this space...

## What does #3M\_DO and what is it doing for archaeology of the contemporary past in Scotland?

Alex Hale, Historic Environment Scotlan

Since 2016, a growing collective of archaeologists, artists, academics and others interested in how archaeology is practiced today and how we engage archaeology with the contemporary past, have been gathering in different parts of Scotland to discuss, explore and practice contemporary archaeology\*

This loosely-defined collective has open membership -to anyone- and is not led by a specific organisation or person. It's called the '3rd Millennium Dis-Organisation' and is more commonly known as #3M\_DO. The aims of (dis)organisation should provide opportunities:

- to discuss, observe, explore and expand our understandings of the archaeology of the contemporary, across and beyond Scotland
- to enable the development of a research culture to create and inform approaches for Scotland's contemporary archaeology
- to create avenues of discourse with policy makers, archaeologists, loafers, public servants, students, artists and people, about the contemporary archaeologies of Scotland.

A 3M (dis)organisation should be open, free, virtual and skin to skin, creative, practice-based, progressive, disruptive and disorganised; to meet, discuss and transmit ideas of contemporary Scottish archaeologies

So, on Wednesday 29th August, we (dis)organised in Glasgow for #3M\_DO volume v. We gathered in the Merchant City and were divided into three groups, each group was guided by a 'provocateur', who enabled the participants to explore a certain aspect of Glasgow's contemporary past. Maya Hoole took people to the site of Bell's pottery and was able to get a guided viewing of one of the current student flats, which stand on the site today. They discussed mass-produced pottery compared with mass-produced students at the same location. This reflects the changing material, from pottery to students, but follows similar business models of mass-production through low-cost with high output. They wondered what future models of mass-production await this and other locations.

Kenny Brophy provoked responses from a group to trace a dead straight ley line through the grid pattern of the city streets, from St Enoch's Shopping Centre via Steelhenge to the Necropolis. They discussed Ludovic Mann and Harry Bell's readings of archaeological landscapes and the possibilities of routeways through lost topographies. By attempting to retrace a routeway through the city they explored a completely re-landscaped geography. They criss-crossed the city whilst critiquing interpretations of past archaeological data; encountered a contemporary artistic representation of Callanish standing stones in the middle of Strathclyde University campus and noticed a pub called Cairns Bar, but didn't go in!

The third group explored the materiality of Glasgow's burgeoning murals with Cara Jones as their provocateur. Recent muralisation is a growing form of regeneration, which conflates crime and creativity, that is rarely explored and acknowledged. Glasgow has some of the finest murals on its walls, painted by some very talented artists, many of whom began their creative journeys by tagging the city walls as graffiti artists. They now work and are paid to provide a service through painting huge images of saints (St Mungo) and sinners (Billy Connolly). The group explored the archaeological

material culture of murals; the gable ends of buildings, car parks, flaking paint and 'paste-ups'. They debated heritage of murals and how they could enable archaeologists to create their own. The (dis)organisation finished by all three group re-joining to share their different experiences and to reflect on contemporary archaeological practices in the urban anthill that is and will be GlasDO.

This was our 5th (dis)organisation; previous ones have been on Orkney, during the CHAT 2016 conference; in a café in Edinburgh and in a pub in Glasgow. As you may have gathered we recognise and value the need to talk, debate, listen, critique and practice contemporary archaeology. We are open to all-comers, recognise and practice multi-disciplinary archaeologies and are critically reflective.

If any or all of these qualities appeal to you drop us a line and we will welcome you to #3M\_DO vi in 2019, which aims to be practice-based, international, multi-scalar and suitably (dis)organised!

With thanks to Maya Hoole, Kenny Brophy, Cara Jones, Gavin MacGregor, Alex Hale and all the #3M\_DOi-v participants, contributors and supporters.

Contact: #3M\_DO c/o [alex.hale@hes.scot](mailto:alex.hale@hes.scot)

\*for more information on the archaeology of the contemporary past have a look at these:

[Archaeologists of the contemporary past](#)

[Oxford handbooks](#)

## **Barrow Magazine Relunched!**

Eddie Stewart

This Summer, the Scottish Student Archaeology Society re-launched Barrow magazine from its 30-year silence. Barrow Magazine was founded in 1968 by the Glasgow University Archaeology Society, where it ran until 1988. It was organised and published by the student society and included articles by students on current theoretical and practical debates, as well as jokes, poems and digging songs. This relaunch is an attempt to revive the Barrow magazine as a platform for student discussion.

The Barrow magazine has a very mixed readership and we try to reflect that by promoting articles which are accessible to wider audiences. Our [first issue](#) was published in June 2018 and we focused on the theme of 'Archaeology Year-Round' publishing articles on a range of topics from Community Outreach, Podcasting, Archives, Women in Heritage, Heritage Legislation and Student Conferences. We also had interviews and guest articles with a variety of archaeology graduates and professional archaeologists.

This season's issue will be published in early October on the theme of 'Archaeology and...' and will aim to explore and highlight the relationship between archaeology and other interest groups – those who interact with it, live with it and use it. We hope that this will bridge the gap between archaeology and subjects usually considered to be unrelated, throw a light on a variety of regions and/or explore how archaeology is involved in the lives of individuals.

We are looking for articles on a wide range of subjects within this general theme, and would be very interested in getting as many different perspectives as possible. We aim to produce [a magazine](#) that is open and accessible to all levels, while still encouraging worthwhile debate within the subject.

We hope this issue of Barrow will be an interesting and engaging read, and encourage anyone with an interest to submit an article or idea. If you have an idea for an article on our theme, would like to write a response to an article in our magazine, or would like to get involved in the editorial team why not [drop us an email](#).

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Membership of the Scottish Group is free for CIfA members, and is £10 per year for non-CIfA members. Please feel free to circulate this newsletter and we would ask you to encourage your friends/colleagues to join the Group.

For more information on the CIfA's Scottish Group please see our [website](#), where you can download copies of meeting minutes and past newsletters, and keep up-to-date with the work of the Group and training courses:

Keep in touch with us via the Scottish Group's [Facebook page](#), where information about events and the work of the Group will be publicised. Search for 'Scottish Group of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' and 'like' us.

Newsletters are published four times a year and contributions from members are welcome. The deadline for the Winter 2018 newsletter is **30 November**.

To make a contribution to forthcoming editions of the Newsletter please email [Biddy Simpson](#).