



Information
Management
Group

Information Management group: newsletter

Welcome to the IMSIG Newsletter

It's been a long time since the last IMSIG newsletter and a lot has happened!

We are hoping this will be the first of more regular updates and occasional newsletters from the committee.

Committee Members

The current committee will see many changes at the next AGM. In addition to long serving members Sarah Orr and Ben Wallace reaching the end of their terms on the committee, the Chair, Hugh Corley, will also be stepping down.

We would like to thank Sarah and Ben for their contributions to the IMSIG Committee.

If you would like to join the IMSIG committee please get in touch at groups@archaeologists.net. We are also keen to raise our social media profile so if that is an area that you think you could help us, we would like to hear from you.

Hugh Corley (Chair)

Colin Forrestal (Secretary)

Jeremy Oetgen (Treasurer)

Ben Wallace (Ordinary committee member)

Sarah Orr (Ordinary committee member)

Doug Rocks-Macqueen (Ordinary committee member)

Training and CPD

We are running a CPD session at the ClfA Conference in Leicester. This session, '**The information archaeologist - learning skills from context**' will focus on the newly developed Information Management specialist competency matrix. We hope that this matrix will serve as a useful guide for evaluating the skills of those working in information management. For all the conference information including how to register for our session, go to [ClfA 2016](#).

IMSIG Survey

We carried out a survey of our membership last year to help us understand you and how we might best meet your needs and here is a brief synopsis of those results.

Respondents to the survey were:

- 64 returns out of 423 members (15%)
- 72% full time, 22% part time, 6% students
- Fairly even age and gender distribution
- Mostly working in England though all UK represented, and 4 from outside UK
- Nearly half of you work in the commercial archaeology sector
- And have a broad range of roles and responsibilities within your organisations

You identified that you would like the following training opportunities covering a variety of subjects including Data Management, Information Standards and metadata, specialist IT skills and data sharing to highlight only a few.

31% - Ability to develop information systems to meet the needs of users

25% - Ability to disseminate, deposit and archive data on the material remains and intangible heritage of past communities

23% - Ability to develop procedures for the use of information systems

23% - Ability to undertake analysis and interpretation of archaeological material and data

21% - Ability to classify, compile and maintain data on the material remains and intangible heritage of past communities

What do you think are the skills gaps that need to be addressed with regards to information management professionals?

Please [click here](#) to view the PowerPoint results as presented at the AGM and the spreadsheet of data from the survey.

The results of the survey have already been put into action as they have helped to shape our three-year business plan. We are also looking to incorporate some of the feedback into future events and CPD that we are planning.

Three-year business plan

The three-year business plan, which the committee agreed earlier this year, lays out the priorities for the committee. If you would like to see the full 3 year plan it is available on our groups page [here](#).

Future events - Call for help

We are hoping to develop an event to correspond with our Annual General Meeting and would like your help. One idea we have is to organise a software expo that would gather together as many of the different recording software used by archaeologists during excavations. The purpose would be to provide an opportunity to see these systems and compare and contrast them. It will also be an opportunity to see how these systems might be improved and discuss the challenges of deployment.

So how can you help? Do you have a digital recording system and would like to show off? Would you like to be involved in organising the day and gain experience organising these types of events? Or do you have an event that you would like to propose to IMSIG for support and help running?

Please get in touch with the committee by emailing groups@archaeologists.net

And Finally....

If you have an item of news or an event that you would like to publicise to the IMSIG members please get in touch. We're hoping that we can produce

a few newsletters each year along with some smaller updates, so we are always on the lookout for more content.

Please get in touch at groups@archaeologists.net



**Chartered Institute for
Archaeologists**

Miller Building, University of Reading

Reading RG6 6AB

0118 378 6446

www.archaeologists.net

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