

Member news

Andy Coupe PCIfA (13416)

I returned to archaeology after 20 years as a history teacher, when I decided that life was too short to miss out on the adventure that is working in archaeology!

I applied for PCIfA accreditation because, having moved from teaching, I had seen the benefits of accreditation and accountability that come from membership of professional bodies, and felt it was important to gain this recognition from one's peers.

ClfA helps to promote archaeology to the companies we work with, providing them with reassurance that we are a reputable profession – ClfA advocates for archaeology and represents us to the industries that we work with.

Also, with the professionalisation of archaeology as a career, a lot of commercial archaeology companies see accreditation by ClfA as an important sign that you are taking your career development seriously.

Finally, joining as a PCIfA was a crucial step in my own journey back into archaeology – moving up (hopefully!) through the levels of ClfA accreditation will be an effective way to mark my progress over the coming years.



Natalie Wood MCIfA (11191)

As a Principal Historic Environment Consultant at Lanpro, I work across major development and infrastructure projects throughout the UK. I specialise in assessing archaeological potential, managing fieldwork and advising clients on heritage risk, from design inception through to delivery. My work spans Environmental Impact Assessment, desk-based assessments, mitigation strategies and project design, often on large and complex schemes such as nationally significant solar infrastructure projects and multi-phase urban redevelopments.

I began my career in field archaeology before moving into consultancy roles at MOLA and WSP, where I developed expertise in planning policy, heritage legislation and collaborative working within multidisciplinary project teams. I now lead heritage inputs on projects, manage subcontractors, engage with local authorities and support junior colleagues through informal mentoring.

I decided to apply for MCIfA because I see professional accreditation as an important part of maintaining high standards within the sector. Achieving MCIfA accreditation reflects my commitment to ethical practice, evidence-based decision-making and the creation of public benefit through responsible heritage management. I hope it will also help me contribute more actively to the profession, support others in their own development, and continue building a strong and accountable heritage practice.



Early career award winner, Kayleigh Hibberd. Credit: CBA/Collette Creative Photography

Archaeology and sustainability and Outstanding achievement award winner, Farming Rathcroghan – Sustainable Farming in the Rathcroghan Archaeological Landscape. Credit: CBA/Collette Creative Photography

Learning, training and skills award winner, Teffont Archaeology Project. Credit: Albert Barnes

Public dissemination or presentation award winner, St Anne's Park Community Archaeology Project (STACAP). Credit: CBA/Collette Creative Photography

Engagement and participation award winners, The Big Bronze Age Boat Build and The Close – The Archaeology of Romany Gypsies. Credit: CBA/Collette Creative Photography