The prestigious British Archaeological Awards were held in Central Hall Westminster in October following the CIfA Annual General Meeting. These awards, which take place every two years, are Britain’s only independent sector-wide archaeological awards, celebrating and showcasing the best in British archaeology. The Awards were founded in 1977 and their aim is to raise awareness of archaeology and the contribution it makes to a shared understanding of our human past.

Professor Carenza Lewis was the compere for the evening, well known to many for her contribution to the popular Time Team TV programme. She began by saying the awards are a testament to the calibre of work being carried out across the country.

The first award of the evening was the Best Archaeological Book. The winner was Lost Lives, New Voices: Unlocking the Story of the Scottish Soldiers in 1650. It tells the story of a chain of tragic events that took place in the aftermath of the battle of Dunbar, 1650 and the rediscovery and eventual laying to rest of soldiers taken prisoner and marched south to Durham. The judges praised the work that went into solving this 300-year-old mystery using historical research in both the UK and the USA.

**Lost Lives, New Voices. Credit:** Oxbow Books/ Richard Anns, Anwen Caffell, Christopher Gerrard, Pam Graves, Andrew Millard

**Best Community Engagement Archaeology Project** was won jointly by two organisations whose focus is Britain’s coast and monitoring erosion of archaeological sites using volunteers and citizen science. The judges liked the strong collaborative networks for research that CITiZAN and the SCAPE Trust have established in England and Scotland, and collaboration with the TV programme Britain at Low Tide has made their discoveries even more accessible to the public.

**Newshot Island Boat Graveyard. Credit:** SCAPE

**CITiZAN. Credit:** MOLA
The 2019 ATF Award recognises and promotes best practice in training or professional development in archaeology. The award aims to recognise excellence in the fields of learning, training and professional development and is open to archaeological organisations, individuals, partnerships and collaborative projects throughout the United Kingdom, whether paid or voluntary.

Entries for the award must demonstrate an overall commitment to learning or training, and an innovative approach to best practice. In particular the judges will be looking for entries that:

- reference appropriate skills-needs data for the sector (paid or voluntary)
- demonstrate clear benefits that go beyond the organisation itself, either to the sector, community or to individual employees or volunteers
- make reference to National Occupational Standards
- show commitment to Continued Professional Development
- demonstrate an innovative approach or involve the development of best practice
- show commitment to recognised professional standards and ethics

The Award is judged by an ATF panel usually consisting of representatives from the Council for British Archaeology, CIfA, FAME, the national heritage agencies, higher education, and from last year’s winning entry – Historic England and CIfA for the Specialist Workplace training programme.

The Award will be presented at the CIfA conference in Leeds in April.

To find out more about how to apply see www.archaeologytraining.org.uk/atf-award/

Call for nominations for the 2019 Archaeology Training Forum (ATF) Award

Nominations are open for entries to the 2019 ATF Award. This award recognises and promotes best practice in training or professional development in archaeology. The award aims to recognise excellence in the fields of learning, training and professional development and is open to archaeological organisations, individuals, partnerships and collaborative projects throughout the United Kingdom, whether paid or voluntary.