

# Welcome, CfA Australia



Pilbara, Western  
Australia. Credit:  
CfA Australia

**In February 2019 the CfA Board of Directors voted in favour of forming the CfA Australia Group (CfA Australia). This Group consists of likeminded individuals who work in Australia, have worked in Australia, are Australians working in the UK, or are other CfA members from the UK and around the globe with an interest in Australian archaeology. CfA Australia is like any other Area Group or Special Interest Group within CfA and welcomes participation from any individuals or groups who would like to be involved. CfA Australia is keen to work alongside other CfA Groups to collaborate, compare, and share how our profession works in these different regions.**

Australia has one of the longest living cultures on earth, with evidence of Aboriginal occupation dating to 65,000 years ago. Australia is not only an important place for comparatively recent archaeology concerning the European colonisation of the country, but thousands of generations of Aboriginal societies and cultures that continue today.

Australia became home to many convicts transported for crimes in their home countries of Canada, British overseas colonies, and of course England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland in the early 19th century. Australia also became home to many free settlers as well as those soldiers who fought during the Napoleonic Wars, spanning the Peninsula Campaigns, and later, veterans from the Battle of Waterloo. Architecture, agriculture and industry thrived

in the colony, and Australia soon became one of the leading overseas colonies of the British Empire. Australia has a history of interaction with other parts of the world, including Indonesia, China, Spain, France and the Netherlands.

Today, the archaeology of Australia largely focuses on the broad themes of Indigenous archaeology and historic archaeology, on land and underwater. These themes promote specific aspects of Australia's history, but also overlap and show fascinating narratives of cultural interaction. Australia also has many impressive industrial sites, where the developments seen in industry were introduced to Australia at the height of the Industrial Revolution in Britain and adapted to perform in the vastly different climate.

ClfA Australia is committed to promoting archaeology as a positive, sustainable and financially viable career for student and career-level archaeologists. ClfA Australia will help to enhance archaeology in Australia; create a professional standards framework for archaeological practice; represent the views, aspirations and professional requirements of its members and campaign for improvements in archaeological practice in Australia. ClfA Australia will strive to increase the professionalism of Australian archaeology and ensure the respect and longevity of the profession while working collaboratively with other archaeological associations and organisations within Australia. The Group will work towards improvements in Indigenous Australian engagement in the archaeological profession and work alongside Native Title groups and Indigenous Australian organisations to ensure archaeological compliance with the ethical concerns of Aboriginal communities.

ClfA Australia will serve as a platform to provide a voice for its members in matters associated with Australian archaeology to the ClfA Board of Directors and advise ClfA on issues relevant to the Australian practice of archaeology and cultural heritage management.

If you are interested in joining, or would like to know more about ClfA Australia, please feel free to contact us at [groups@archaeologist.net.au](mailto:groups@archaeologist.net.au)



*Convict Probation Station, Tasmania, Australia. The probation system was a form of punishment and discipline introduced to Tasmania (then Van Diemen's Land) in 1839 as a form of government road gang. Probation stations were built to hold prisoners, soldiers and overseers building roads and networks around the colony. Credit: ClfA Australia*

**Samuel Dix MCIfA (8450) Chair, ClfA Australia**

Samuel is currently completing his PhD in Contact Archaeology through Griffith University, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia after receiving the Australian Research Council Laureate Scholarship to undertake these studies. Before this, Samuel worked as a government archaeologist, working on legislative reform, compliance investigations and providing expertise advice to ministerial departments in heritage-related matters. He joined ClfA in 2015 as ACIfA and upgraded to MCIfA in 2019. Samuel has worked throughout Australia in both government and consultant archaeology roles and has taught archaeological practice at different universities around Australia. He has also worked in the UK, Middle East and Africa on different archaeological projects.



**Dani Wilkinson ACIfA (10109) Secretary, ClfA Australia**

After completing her Master's in Maritime Archaeology at Flinders University of South Australia, Dani worked as a maritime archaeological consultant in Australia with Cosmos Archaeology. In her six years there, Dani completed projects in NSW, QLD, NT, VIC and WA. She then moved to the UK in 2018 and is currently a Project Manager in the Coastal & Marine team of Wessex Archaeology. Dani joined ClfA in 2018 and is also Chair of the ClfA Marine Archaeology Special Interest Group. She maintains an interest in Australian archaeology and continues her involvement as Vice President of the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology.



**Myfy Berry PCIfA (10191) Acting Treasurer, ClfA Australia**

Myfy Berry completed her archaeological undergraduate degree at the University of Queensland in 2018. She has participated in both domestic and international excavations and has a keen interest in palaeopathology. Myfy joined ClfA in 2018 and has been involved in the development of ClfA Australia since its infancy, and is now a PCIfA and a committee member. Myfy will undertake postgraduate studies within archaeology in 2020.



**Talei Holm**

Talei is a recent graduate of the Australian National University, having gained a Bachelor of Archaeological Practice degree. She is currently undertaking a Graduate Diploma in Archaeology and Heritage Management at Flinders University while working as a sub-contractor in Sydney.

