



Registered Organisation news

Cotswold Archaeology and Suffolk Archaeology merge

Neil Holbrook MCIfA (737) and Rhodri Gardner MCIfA (6095), Cotswold Archaeology

On 1 April Suffolk Archaeology Community Interest Company became part of Cotswold Archaeology. This initiative builds on the strong history of collaboration between the two companies in East Anglia over the last few years. Suffolk Archaeology now trades as the Suffolk office of Cotswold Archaeology from a base in Needham Market near Ipswich, with Dr Rhodri Gardner as office head and a member of Cotswold's Senior Management Group.

Cotswold Archaeology Chief Executive Neil Holbrook said, 'I am delighted that Cotswold Archaeology and Suffolk Archaeology have merged operations. We have enjoyed

working with Suffolk over the last few years and have the utmost respect for their unrivalled regional archaeological expertise. Rhod will be a great asset to us, as will his 40 or so colleagues, who between them have decades of first-hand expert knowledge of the archaeology of East Anglia. We are looking forward to harnessing that expertise for the benefit of our clients, and building on their excellent track record of community engagement and outreach.'

Rhodri Gardner said, 'The merger represents an exciting new development for archaeology in East Anglia. For our employees it offers increased security and

the chance to become a vital part of a larger national organisation with a tremendous reputation for high quality fieldwork and research. For our customers it will very much be "business as usual" in the short term, but we also look forward to being able to grow our regional capacity with the increased investment potential the merger offers.'

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service was created in 1974, and the Field Team developed in the early 1990s into a self-financing contracting service. Their success led the County Council to outsource them as an independent Community Interest Company in 2015. Their incorporation within Cotswold Archaeology coincides with the 30th anniversary of the formation of Cotswold in March 1989, a notable landmark for the charity.



From top left, clockwise: Cotswold and Suffolk staff working together. Credit: Cotswold Archaeology; Rhodri Gardner; Tommaso Rossi and Rui Oliveira sharing a joke. Credit: Cotswold Archaeology; Neil Holbrook

