

Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland

Event title: **An Introduction to the practice and value of metal detection for the archaeological profession in Northern Ireland**

Date: Friday 9th June 2017

Venue: Queen's University Belfast

Trainers: **Dr. Greer Ramsey, Ken Neill, Brian Sloan Dr. James Bonsall**

Introduction

Following on from the success and positive feedback and reflecting the two jurisdictions on the island of Ireland, IAI are presenting a metal detection CPD event in Queen's University Belfast that address the legislation and best practice utilized in Northern Ireland.

The recently published EAC Guidelines for the Use of Geophysics in Archaeology (2015) states that 'to be effective, a metal detector survey should use skilled operators with suitable instruments, working consistently and systematically'.

This one day introductory training course shall address the history of the use of metal detectors in Northern Ireland over the last thirty years, it shall inform participants about the legal requirements governing the use of metal detectors in Northern Ireland. The training will also identify best practice in the use of metal detection devices and shall outline the types of devices available and their practical application in terms of metal detector investigations, be they brownfield sites or excavated material following test trenching. This training will have a practical dimension where participants will get basic instruction in the appropriate use of a metal detection device.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this introductory course, the participants will have an understanding of the following:

1. The legal requirements governing the proper use of metal detection devices in Northern Ireland.
2. The participants will be aware of how best to plan for necessary metal detection survey and the procedural process of implementing such a survey.
3. The participants will know how to use, in accordance with best practice, a metal detection device appropriate to the specific survey requirements associated with a brownfield site.
4. The participants will be aware of the skill levels and extensive training required to be adequately proficient in the use of metal detectors
5. The participants will be familiar with how to tailor their approaches to recognize where detection is the main archaeological option as opposed to an ancillary condition of development.

Programme

09.50-10.00	Registration
10.00-10.10	Welcome and introduction (Eoin Sullivan)
10.10-10.40	Speaker 1 – Dr. Greer Ramsey (National Museums Northern Ireland)
10.40-11.10	Speaker 2 – Ken Neill (Historic Environment Division, Department of Communities)
11.10-11.15	Short questions
11.15-11.40	Tea/Coffee
11.40-12.15	Speaker 3 – Brian Sloan (Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University Belfast)
12.15-1.00	Speaker 4 – Dr. James Bonsall (Earthsound)
13.00-14.00	LUNCH (not included)
14.00-15.30	Practical use of devices
15.30-15.40	Short recess
15.40-16.15	Summation and close

Course fee

Members £25/€30

Student members £10/€15

Payment methods are available on the registration form on www.iai.ie