

# Jobs in British Archaeology 2005

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2005 was an encouraging year overall with a massive increase in jobs numbers advertised by the Jobs Information Service, from 127 last year to an all time high of 210. The average wage also increased in nearly all categories, perhaps a reflection of a shortage of staff as everybody seems to be busy.

There were over 40 adverts for archaeologists with an average of £14,179 (£13,710 in 2004). There have been several advertisements over £15,000 (not just in London) and the IFA minimum rate of £13,458 is now the minimum everywhere. More sophisticated IFA guidelines for RAOs' minimum salaries issued for introduction in April 2007 are to be welcomed as a sensible approach to replacing the rather crude one-off figure used up to now. A voice or two has been raised saying these might affect competitiveness, but these are voices of despair.

Supervisors jobs bounced back and allowed an average figure of £15,900 to be calculated (£14,765 in 2003) and Project Officers averaged £17,598 (£16,563 in 2004). Project managers also stepped up to

£22,259 from £20,957. These rises are slowly becoming more realistic for the skills and experience required. Specialists had a gratifying advance to £17,011, recovering most of the ground lost last year.

However not all was sunshine. Dark clouds still hang over illustrators. They are actually down to £15,778 from £15,992. Comments last year that they are getting a raw deal seem to be reinforced. Junior CRM posts went up to £17,992 from £16,941 and Senior posts bounded ahead to £26,024 (last year's figure looking like a blip). There is a new category for Consultants as there were 10 ads that gave a salary (plus numerous which didn't) and they come in at c. £20,000.

Finally the proportion of jobs mentioning IFA membership fell to 19%. It is still surprising that even few senior jobs seem to require IFA membership.

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	AV WAGE 2005	NO OF ADS	MENTION IFA	AV WAGE 2004	AV WAGE 2003	AV WAGE 2002	AV WAGE 2001	AV WAGE 2000	AV WAGE 1999	IFA MINIMA APRIL 05
Excavator / site assistant	£14,179	45	4	£13,710	£12,903	£13,232	£12,378	£12,024	£11,174	£13,458 (PIFA)
Supervisor	£15,900	19	5	-	£14,765	£14,806	£12,741	£12,868	£12,700	£15,675 (AIFA)
Field Officer / Project Officer	£17,598	22	7	£16,563	£16,592	£18,489	£15,572	£15,518	£13,777	£20,295 (MIFA)
Project Manager	£22,259	26	7	£20,957	£19,701	£21,536	£20,881	£19,447	£18,671	
Junior CRM / SMR	£17,992	29	4	£16,941	£17,274	£15,563	£17,532	£15,608	£14,167	
Senior CRM / SMR	£26,024	21	2	£21,397	£23,840	£30,605	£23,012	£23,486	£20,654	
Specialists	£17,011	25	2	£15,254	£17,170	£14,992	£16,531	£14,632	£15,476	
Illustrators etc	£15,778	13	3	£15,992	£16,914	£14,085	£14,908	£15,497	£13,271	
Consultants	£20,000	10	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		210 (127)	38 (19%)							