



# Gorffennol Digidol Digital Past - 2021

## DRONING ON: A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION TO DRONES AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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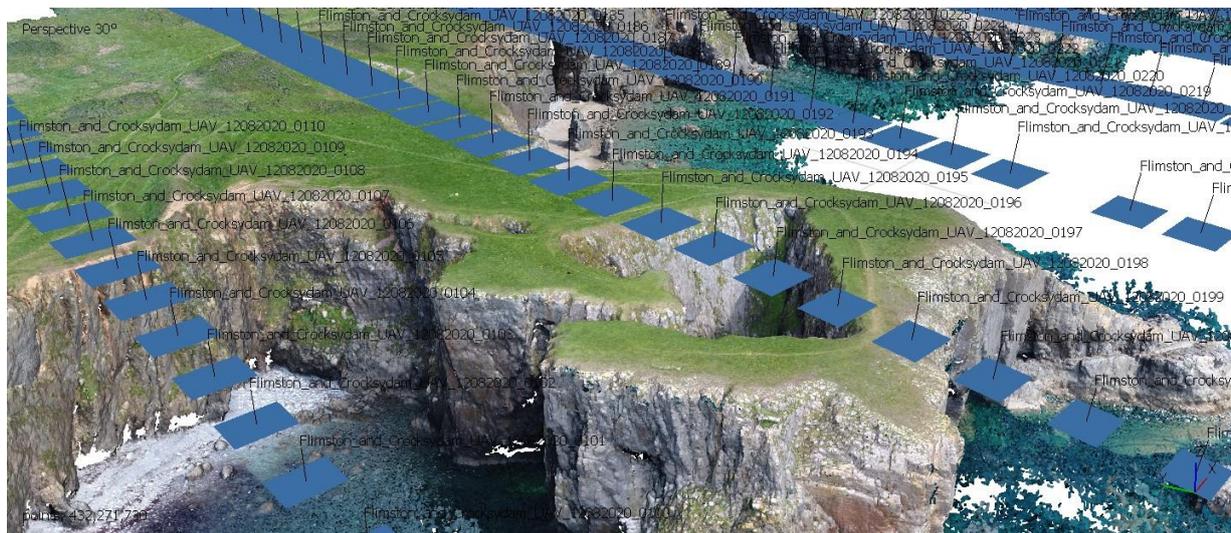


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During recent years Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have revolutionised archaeological research and investigation. When used safely and responsibly they represent a powerful and cost-effective addition to the surveyor's 'tool kit'. Recognition of the mass appeal of drones has led to a tightening of regulations but many organisations are also looking to buy their own drones and train staff to operate them.

[Digital Past 2021](#): New technologies in heritage, interpretation and outreach | 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021, online via Zoom.

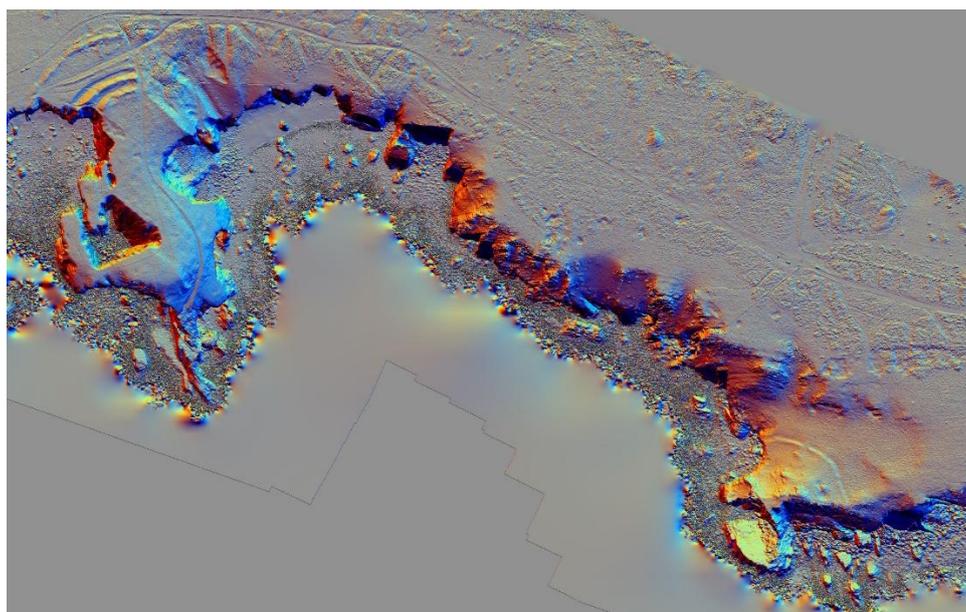
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This workshop will introduce the basics of using UAVs for archaeological survey through a digital workshop led by a CAA certified UAV pilot. It is intended for those who are thinking about buying one, are currently being trained to fly one, or those who are just curious to learn more.

A practical introduction into the equipment and software required to carry out detailed aerial photogrammetric surveys and will be given. Delegates will also be taken through some of the paperwork and procedures required before take-off as well as some of the new regulations introduced by the CAA in the UK and how this will impact upon the use of UAVs moving forward. We will also discuss some of the challenges currently faced by the heritage professionals when using UAVs.



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## Biography

Daniel Hunt joined the Royal Commission in 2017 as a full-time archaeological investigator on the coastal heritage CHERISH Project. Dan qualified as a CAA certified UAV pilot in 2018 and has since led the development of UAV survey in Wales for CHERISH, undertaking and supervising archaeological surveys and the processing of 3D data for coastal monitoring and outreach materials. As a landscape archaeologist he also is also skilled in using other survey techniques such as analytical earthwork survey and terrestrial laser scanning.

Rob Shaw is the Senior Geo-surveyor at the Discovery Programme with a wealth of experience and knowledge from over thirty years mapping and surveying in the heritage sector. 3D digital documentation is core to this work, at scales from landscapes and buildings to the fine detail of smaller artefacts and objects. This work includes terrestrial laser scanning, geodetic ground survey, lidar modelling, close-range scanning, photogrammetry, SfM and most recently mapping from drones. Rob recently qualified as an IAA Licenced Drone Pilot and is the drone operations manager and chief pilot for the Discovery Programme. Drone mapping has been applied extensively in his work with the CHERISH project in Ireland.

James Barry graduated from UCD with a degree in Geology before starting work as a Marine Geoscientist on the INFOMAR programme with the Geological Survey in 2015. He has been involved in marine mapping using a range of technologies such as multibeam sonars to map the sea floor, sub-bottom profilers to see the structure below and more recently remotely piloted aircraft systems (or drones) to try to tackle the area known as the “white ribbon”. This is the near shore area typically too shallow to acquire data using traditional methods. James is delighted to be part of the CHERISH project as he is also very interested in Climate Change.