

## Who was on the Black Sea MAP expedition?

### What was your job in Black Sea MAP?

Maritime archaeologist - prehistorian

### What did your role involve?

I had many roles within the project and did whatever was needed at various stages as the project evolved. This involved everything from background research to helping with the writing of proposals and papers. My main role was as a member of the Science Team advising on any questions surrounding prehistoric archaeology or the prehistoric submerged landscape, but we all did many different jobs onboard ship and took it in turns to be on watch.

I am also really interested in science communication and encouraging young people into STEM subjects and Higher Education so I helped set up the educational programme.

### What is your favourite part of your job?

Being at sea.

### What skills do you use in your job?

I use a broad range of skills – that is the beauty of maritime archaeology – it combines science, technology, engineering and maths with arts subjects. I'd say the main skill is to be able to think logically and analytically to solve problems. I'm also a commercial diver, so I can study the archaeology underwater first hand.

### What was a highlight for you of Black Sea MAP?

Piloting the Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV).

### What subjects did you study in the sixth form?

Geology, Theology and English Literature.

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### Tell us about your career route

After A-levels, I worked as a water sports instructor. This really helped me decide that I wanted to work within the marine industry and it gave me many practical skills and qualifications: diving qualifications and boat driving licences, but also teaching experience. I also learnt a lot about working in the marine environment from navigation to logistics and it was during this time that I gained a passion for protecting the marine environment and the coastal and underwater cultural heritage.

I went on to study for a BA in Archaeology and Anthropology at Cambridge University, this was followed by an MA in Maritime Archaeology at the Centre for Maritime Archaeology at Southampton University, followed by a PhD at Cambridge University.

### What advice would you give your younger self?

There are so many different jobs and paths, not just the usual ones from the careers office. Do what you enjoy and you will find your own niche.

