

MINUTES OF THE 2003 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INC.

Station Resort, Jindabyne
Friday 5 December, 2003

1. Welcome

The President, Sean Ulm, welcomed members to the AGM, acknowledged the Monaro/Ngarigo Traditional Owners and declared the meeting opened at 8:15pm.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Tam Smith, Lesley Head, Jay Hall, Amy Roberts, Helen Brayshaw, Isabel McBryde and Jon Prangnell

3. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2002 AAA AGM

The minutes of the 2002 AAA AGM held at Townsville, Queensland, on 20 November 2002 were published in AA56:65-72. Motion: That the 2002 AGM minutes as published in AA56 be accepted. Moved: Peter White. Seconded: Matthew Spriggs. Motion carried nem. con.

4. Business Arising from Minutes of the 2002 AGM

4.1 Proposed Amendments to Code of Ethics

Richard Fullagar, Chair of the Code of Ethics Review Subcommittee, spoke to this item. Richard explained that the Subcommittee comprised representatives of a wide range of stakeholder groups. The Subcommittee formulated a revised draft Code of Ethics which was distributed on AUSARCH-L and the AAA website for comment ahead of this meeting. Comments received were considered by the Subcommittee and incorporated into the Code of Ethics presented for reflection at this meeting. Richard put the following motion to the floor for discussion:

Motion: That the modified version of the draft Code of Ethics will become the AAA Code of Ethics on 1 January 2004 subject to legal opinion.

Peter White asked for clarification of the final part of the motion 'subject to legal opinion'. Sean Ulm explained that there was a need to ensure that our Code of Ethics was not in conflict with our legal requirements prescribed by the ACT legislation under which AAA is incorporated.

Sean Ulm suggested that consideration of the motion proceed by considering each clause of the proposed new Code of Ethics in turn.

DRAFT CODE OF ETHICS OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INC.

1. Foreword

1.1 Members will serve the interests of the Association by adhering to its objects and purposes as defined by this Code of Ethics and the Constitution, specifically:

- to promote the advancement of archaeology;
- to provide an organisation for the discussion and dissemination of archaeological information and ideas in archaeology;

- to convene meetings at regular intervals;
- to publicise the need for the study and conservation of archaeological sites and collections; and
- to publicise the work of the Association.

Clause approved nem. con.

1.2 Members will negotiate and make every reasonable effort to obtain the informed consent of representatives of the communities of concern whose cultural heritage is the subject of investigation. Members cannot assume that there is no community of concern. Clause approved nem. con.

1.3 Members will wherever possible act for the advancement of Indigenous communities.

John Clegg noted that archaeology may not be in the interest of communities and suggested that this clause should read 'act with respect to Indigenous communities'. Ken Mulvaney agreed and felt that the trouble was with 'advancement and interest': interest can be detrimental to archaeology. Pip Rath suggested that if we acknowledge communities, why not remove Clause 1.3 completely? Sean Ulm noted that the clause related to principles outlined below. Luke Godwin argued that 'wherever possible' clarified the intent of this statement and made it workable. Ian Lilley suggested that using the word 'respect' might get around the legal implications of other words.

Marilyn Truscott noted that 'respect for' is the key, and reiterated that the area of interest is as it relates to archaeology. Annie Ross argued that Clause 1.3 was not needed and is actually better covered in Clause 3.1. Annie proposed that Clause 1.3 be deleted altogether. Floor: general agreement. Clause deleted.

1.4 Members recognise that there are many interests in cultural heritage, but they specifically acknowledge the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples. AAA endorses and directs members to the national guidelines for ethical research with Indigenous parties published by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (www.aiatsis.gov.au/corp/docs/EthicsGuideA4.pdf).

John Clegg asked that the word 'peoples' replace 'people' throughout. Floor: general agreement. Graham Ward was concerned that the word 'national' was not appropriate as the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies document may change, all we can do is use the *current* guidelines. Floor: general agreement. Ian Lilley suggested that the Code of Ethics as changed tonight should be dated 2003. Mathew Spriggs agreed and stated that it will be adopted at a particular date and will be current from then on. Sean Ulm noted that there was an intention to maintain a standing Code of Ethics Subcommittee that will regularly review the document. Scott L'Oste Brown suggested that if we like the AIATSIS's Code of Ethics, then why not copy it. It was generally felt that AAA needed to maintain its own distinct Code of Ethics. It was agreed to substitute the word 'current' for 'national'. Modified clause approved nem. con. (now Clause 1.3).

1.5 Members whose actions are detrimental to the interests of the Association may be subject to disciplinary procedures as defined by the Constitution.

Pip Rath asked why the clause stated 'may be' and suggested that it should read 'will be'. Ian Lilley noted that the wording was directly related to the wording of the disciplinary mechanisms outlined in the constitution. Sean Ulm agreed noting that the trigger for the disciplinary process is in the constitution so the wording in the Code of Ethics needs to be consistent. Clause approved *nem. con.* (now Clause 1.4)

2. Principles relating to the archaeological record

2.1 Consonant with their obligations arising from government and international agreements, legislation and regulations, members will advocate the conservation, curation and preservation of archaeological sites, assemblages, collections and archival records. Clause approved *nem. con.*

2.2 Members will ensure that archaeological sites and materials which they are investigating are managed in a manner which enhances the archaeological and cultural heritage values of the sites and materials.

Peter White suggested that it should read 'will endeavour to ensure' rather than 'will ensure'. Floor: general agreement. Rodger Luebbers noted that the clause was advocating the principle of good management. Ken Mulvaney was concerned about our ability to 'enhance' the values of sites and materials. Ian Lilley suggested substituting the word 'maintain' for 'enhance'. John Clegg suggested the wording 'investigations of such'. Sean Ulm suggested 'which they investigate'. Floor: general agreement. Graham Ward suggested using 'conserve' rather than 'enhance' or 'maintain'. Floor: general agreement. Colin Pardoe asked how consent to destroy processes fitted in with the intent of the clause. Annie Ross noted that destruction is considered as a valid management option in specific circumstances under the definition of conservation in the Burra Charter. Modified clause:

2.2 Members will endeavour to ensure that archaeological sites and materials which they investigate are managed in a manner which conserves the archaeological and cultural heritage values of the sites and materials. Modified clause approved *nem. con.*

2.3 Members will neither engage in nor support the illicit trade in cultural heritage.

There was wide support from the floor for this clause, which was not covered in the existing Code of Ethics. Clause approved *nem. con.*

2.4 Members recognise the importance of repatriation of archaeological materials for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities of concern and they support and advocate the necessity to properly archive and store archaeological materials.

Pip Rath asked whether it should be 'to properly archive and store in accordance with best practice'. Ian Lilley thought we could cover this by adding a statement at the end such as 'in accordance with the agreements with communities of concern'. Floor: general agreement. Claire Smith asked about treating reburial as a storage option and suggested that we add 'we recognise reburial as a viable option'. Ian Lilley noted that if you start being so specific, you run the risk of excluding other options. Peter White referred members back to the original clause. Marilyn

Truscott suggested that if the word 'storage' was the problem, perhaps 'curate' would be better. Ian Lilley argued that we were trying to be inclusive of all types of material culture, so 'curate' may be more suitable. Annie Ross suggested 'manage'. Floor: general agreement. Modified clause:

2.4 Members recognise the importance of repatriation of archaeological materials for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities of concern and they support and advocate the necessity to properly manage archaeological materials in accordance with the agreements with communities of concern. Modified clause approved *nem. con.*

3. Principles relating to Indigenous archaeology

3.1 Members acknowledge the primacy of Indigenous knowledge, intellectual property and cultural rights in respect of Indigenous heritage and the following articles reflect this principle.

Vincent Branson was concerned about the use of the word 'Indigenous', noting that he was an 'Aboriginal' person, not an Indigenous person, and asked for the use of this term to be explained. Graham Ward noted that this was a concern with the people that he worked with as well. Annie Ross and Peter White vehemently disagreed. White maintained that this clause has to mean Indigenous people anywhere and noted that many Australian archaeologists worked with Indigenous people outside Australia. Ian Lilley stressed that it was not practical to specify every single Aboriginal group in Australia. Mathew Spriggs concurred and argued that the word 'Indigenous' is an internationally, legally recognised definition. Sean Ulm referred people back to the original clause. Robin Sim suggested replacing the word 'Indigenous' with 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and other Indigenous people'. Val Attenbrow thought that one way around the problem would be to refer to the United Nations draft definition as recognised by the World Archaeological Congress. Peter White suggested that this was an issue that could be referred back to the standing Code of Ethics subcommittee. Claire Smith suggested that we could change the wording to 'in recognising Australian archaeologists work with many different communities'. Mathew Spriggs suggested deleting 'primacy of'. Robin Sim and Michael Westaway agreed. Graham Ward felt it appropriate to differentiate 'Indigenous archaeology' versus 'archaeology'. Annie Ross agreed. Colin Pardoe noted that he could not see anything in this Code of Ethics of relevance to him. Clause approved (36 for; 29 against).

3.2 Members acknowledge the importance of cultural heritage to Indigenous communities. Clause approved *nem. con.*

3.3 Members acknowledge the special importance to Indigenous peoples of ancestral remains and objects and sites associated with such remains. Members will treat such remains with respect.

Colin Pardoe felt that the wording of this clause suggested that archaeologists might not treat remains with respect. Dave Johnson suggested that the intent of clause to ensure informed consent was lost in the proposed wording. Sean Ulm noted that the commitment to informed consent had been strengthened by including it as an overarching principle in the foreword as Clause 1.2. Sean Ulm asked for a show of hands on the wording of the original clause to move the discussion forward, bearing in mind the issue

could be revisited by the Standing Committee. Clause approved nem. con.

3.4 Members acknowledge Indigenous approaches to the interpretation of cultural heritage and to its conservation.

Marilyn Truscott asked what do we do if Indigenous interpretations are not in accordance with the principles outlined in the Code of Ethics. Sean Ulm directed members to clause 3.5 which called for agreements to outline such relationships. Annie Ross also noted the potential for differences of opinion and conflict. Peter White argued that negotiated agreements should be able to resolve such conflict. Clause approved nem. con.

3.5 Members will negotiate equitable agreements between archaeologists and the Indigenous communities whose cultural heritage is being investigated. AAA endorses and directs members to the current guidelines regarding such agreements published by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (www.aiatsis.gov.au/corp/docs/EthicsGuideA4.pdf).

Colin Pardoe suggested deleting this clause as it was repetitious, pointing to the commitment to universal humanism and the special importance of Indigenous rights in Indigenous heritage outlined in clause 3.1. Sean Ulm disagreed and argued that the agreements were the crux of a viable working relationship. Clause approved nem. con.

3.6 Members recognise the intellectual property rights of Indigenous peoples.

John Clegg argued that this clause was unnecessary and patronising. Noelene Cole suggested that it should be 'cultural and intellectual property rights'. Ian Lilley argued that such differentiation was unnecessary. Clause approved nem. con.

4. Principles relating to conduct

4.1 Members will treat each other in a professional manner.

There was general agreement from the floor about the necessity of such a clause.

Clause approved nem. con.

4.2 Members will disseminate the results of their work as widely as possible using plain language where appropriate.

Marilyn Truscott argued that a strength of the previous code was a requirement that reports went back to Indigenous people. Sean Ulm noted that the choice of wording of this clause was quite deliberate as some communities do not necessarily want a written report, and there are other media such as websites etc. that are more appropriate to a community's needs. Clause approved nem. con.

4.3 Any person can notify the Executive Committee of a member's conduct that they believe to be detrimental to the interests of the Association. Complaints may activate procedures outlined in Section 32 (Expulsion of Members) of the Constitution, including rights of appeal.

Rodger Luebbers asked why this clause was not part of the constitution. It was pointed out from the floor that it is. Clause approved nem. con.

4.4 Personal information provided to the Association by members will be kept confidential. Clause approved nem. con.

General Discussion

Graham Ward raised the issue of consistency and asked that 'people' be replaced by 'peoples' and 'Indigenous' to be capitalised throughout the document. Floor: general

agreement. Claire Smith noted that a lot of work had been undertaken to bring the document to this stage, but noted that to move forward it needed more work and input from Indigenous people. She suggested that a session be devoted to the issue of ethics at the 2004 AAA Conference.

Sean Ulm referred members back to the original motion:

Motion: That the modified version of the draft Code of Ethics will become the AAA Code of Ethics on 1 January 2004 subject to legal opinion. Motion carried (53 for; 1 against).

4.2 Archaeology Teaching and Learning Subcommittee

Report of AAA Archaeology Teaching and Learning Subcommittee 2003 (Sarah Colley). Terms of Reference were circulated to Subcommittee members. The main activity was organising and participating in the National Archaeology Teaching and Learning Workshop (29-30 September 2003) at the Australian Technology Park, Redfern. AAA provided financial, technical and administrative support. Other sponsors were the Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Incorporated, New South Wales Heritage Office, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, DMA Archaeology and University of Sydney. Over 50 delegates attended, representing most areas of Australian archaeological practice and all states and territories. Discussion resulted in five major resolutions promulgated as the Redfern Archaeological Teaching (RAT) Charter:

There should be better coordination of opportunities for students and early career graduates to gain vocational experience.

The principles of the UK benchmarks for teaching and learning should guide the development of a model for Australian undergraduate archaeology degree structures.

There should be greater interaction and exchange in teaching and learning between universities on the one hand and regulatory authorities and industry on the other.

There is a need to gather reliable data for benchmarking archaeology activities as occurs in the UK.

There is a need to develop mechanisms to tell the archaeological story to the public that own and relate to that archaeology.

A subcommittee meeting following the workshop proposed to seek financial and in-kind support from AAA, AACAI, ASHA and AIMA to establish an Interim Joint Standing Committee on Archaeology Teaching and Learning. This committee will work towards the resolutions of the RAT charter. Sarah Colley is preparing a more detailed report on the workshop outcomes for circulation in early 2004 as the first step in developing mechanisms and finding suitable funding (e.g. ARC Linkage) to work towards RAT Charter objectives.

It was moved from the Chair that up to \$2,500 be made available to further the work of the National Archaeology Teaching & Learning Committee. Motion carried nem. con.

4.3 Report by Media Liaison Officer (Peter Veth)

The role of Media Liaison Officer for AAA has been a very busy one - although the hot spots for issues, media releases and interviews have been typically episodic. Over the last year I have addressed 12 archaeological issues of public interest on behalf of the organisation and with the support of the Executive. A number of these have resulted in edited Press Releases on the AAA website (typically these take 1-2 weeks to compile, edit, authorise and release)

and have taken the form of either AAA position papers or fact sheets with references. The role has also been involved in coordinated responses to issues such as the ARC review of the social sciences, the replacement of Dr Pat Vinnicombe on the Burrup reference group and AIATSIS Chair Professor Mick Dodson lobbying on issues such as Tasmanian heritage sites. The issues were:

- The French-Tasmanian Aboriginal contact site complex and logging strategy;
- The protection of significant engraving complexes located on the Canning Stock Route;
- The need to have Dr Pat Vinnicombe replaced by a senior rock art researcher on the WA Government Burrup reference group;
- An information package on the history of research carried out on stone structures of Victoria;
- Lobbying NPWS on its policy regarding assessment criteria for PADs;
- The looting and sale of antiquities from Iraq;
- The presence of heritage sites on Barrow Island, Western Australia;
- The nature of cultural heritage values at the Bundaberg Harbour site;
- The review of the National Museum of Australia;
- The promotion of National Archaeology Week;
- Development of an Archaeology Film/Producers forum for NAW in 2004; and
- The repatriation of skeletal remains from Sweden back to TOs in the Kimberley.

For many of the issues I have linked up journalists with specialists (such as Dan Potts for the Iraq issue). For the remainder I have undertaken some 35 radio interviews and provided copy to a range of national and international papers. Overall, the AAA membership has been generous and supportive in making this role viable.

Robin Torrence moved a vote of thanks to Peter Veth for a job well done, with acclamation from the floor.

4.4 National Archaeology Week 16-23 May 2004

Sean Ulm noted the success of the inaugural National Archaeology Week held in May 2003 and suggested that AAA continue its role as a major sponsor of the event. It was moved from the Chair that up to \$2,500 be made available to support National Archaeology Week 2004. Motion carried nem. con.

4.5 Conference Prizes

Sean Ulm referred members to the following motion passed at the 2002 AGM:

“Robin Torrence said cash prizes for students were fine, but not for professionals ‘just doing their jobs’. The money should be provided to support Indigenous participation. Peter White agreed. Discussion from the floor highlighted potential problems in the cross-over of student and professional categories. Moved Peter White: prizes to employed professionals should not include money. Seconded Val Attenbrow. Motion carried nem. con.”

Sean Ulm noted problems in implementing this motion, instead proposing an alternative motion: It was moved from the Chair that AAA recurrently fund the following prizes:

- The AAA Annual Conference
- Best Overall Paper Prize.....\$500
- The AAA Annual Conference
- Best Student Paper Prize.....\$500

- The AAA Annual Conference
- Best Overall Poster Prize.....\$500
- The AAA Annual Conference
- Best Student Poster Prize.....\$500
- The AAA Annual Conference
- Runner-Up Student Poster Prize.....\$250

Mathew Spriggs noted that he disagreed with the original motion. He pointed to awards like the Nobel and Booker prizes giving money to professionals in recognition of the work they have done for ‘just doing their jobs’. Cash prizes are also much simpler from a conference organiser’s perspective. Ian Lilley noted that the people who get the prizes have the option to do what they like with the money. Sean Ulm noted that several people who have won these prizes have given it back to the Association. Laila Haglund suggested that a bank account could be set up for this purpose. Judith Field agreed with Mathew Spriggs and suggested that the cash prizes were an appropriate form of recognition. Paul Gorecki suggested that maybe people should receive a nice piece of material culture. Robin Torrence strongly disagreed with the principle of giving cash, suggesting that money could be better spent elsewhere rather than giving people prizes. An award (as recognition) should be good enough. Sean Ulm noted that the prizes were a good way to promote archaeology and to recognise and encourage excellence in the discipline but noted that the prizes were only a token as most students spent more than \$500 to attend the AAA conference. Robin Sim suggested that we could encourage those who could afford it to give the money back to the Association. Graham Ward asked whether we needed an alternative motion. Sean Ulm referred members back to the original motion tabled for discussion. Graham Ward foreshadowed an alternative motion, to the effect that if prize money is abhorrent then why not give prizes in kind such as a free subscription? Sean Ulm noted that such a policy would make administration of the journal more complex. John Tunn suggested consideration of trophies or medals. Bryce Barker raised the issue of the distinction between students and professionals. Graham Ward asked that a vote be taken on the foreshadowed motion. Annie Ross stated strongly that this could not be done until a vote was taken on the motion originally tabled. Sean Ulm referred members back to his motion. Motion carried (42 for; 9 against).

5. Reports

5.1 President’s Report (Sean Ulm)

Welcome to the 2003 Annual General Meeting of the Australian Archaeological Association Incorporated. I would like to commence proceedings by acknowledging the Monaro/Ngarigo Traditional Owners of this land.

2003 marked another year of consolidation and growth for AAA. Throughout the year we have used revenue generated from our expanded membership base to increase benefits to members and the wider archaeological community, broaden the profile of the Association and archaeology generally, and increase our levels of advocacy on a range of issues. I will highlight some of the Association’s major activities throughout the year here with details to be presented in subsequent reports.

An important issue addressed by AAA during the year was an assessment of the appropriateness of our current Code of Ethics. The original Code of Ethics served us well

for many years, but time moves on. For some years, members have recognised that the Code does not reflect changes in the way archaeology is conducted, nor the interests of our members beyond Indigenous archaeology. As directed at the 2002 AGM, a subcommittee chaired by Richard Fullagar examined these issues and formulated a working draft Code of Ethics for consideration at this meeting. Clearly, the Association needs to adopt a contemporary Code of Ethics that appropriately recognises the broad range of archaeological activity conducted by members and explicitly acknowledges the validity of different worldviews in structuring our approaches to the past.

AAA's continuing commitment to students and teaching and learning issues was instrumental to the success of the 2 day National Archaeology Teaching and Learning Workshop held in Sydney which was the major activity of AAA's Archaeology Teaching and Learning Sub-committee chaired by Sarah Colley. The workshop provided an innovative forum for a range of stakeholders to discuss options for increasing the quality of archaeological training regimes in Australia. A broad consensus emerged from the Workshop that educators need to work collaboratively across institutions and industry sectors to maximise limited resources and ensure quality outcomes.

The inaugural National Archaeology Week held in May this year also proved to be a huge success in many states and is one initiative sponsored by your Association that promises to continue to raise the profile of our discipline in the wider community. I thank Michael Westaway, John Tunn and Liz McGrath and the many other AAA members who got involved for ensuring its continuing success. Similarly, our active media strategy coordinated by Peter Veth has resulted in increased public awareness of major issues of relevance to archaeology. Details have been presented in Peter's report.

Thanks to Luke Kirkwood's efforts, we have continued to invest energy into upgrading and expanding the AAA website. The website constitutes by far our broadest public face with visits continuing to grow to the current 1,000 hits per day. A new version of the website will be launched shortly and promises to serve the interests of the Association into the future, including migration of the membership database from the University of Sydney.

Other major activities included coordination of a major response from AAA, ASHA, AIMA and AACAI to the Australian Research Council's Stocktake of the Humanities and Creative Arts disciplines and participation in a peak reference group established by Environment Australia to advise the Federal Government on cultural heritage issues in Iraq.

Notably, last year's joint ASHA/AIMA/AAA conference in Townsville provided a catalyst for increased interaction between the three organisations on a range of issues. Quarterly teleconferences between the presidents throughout the year sponsored by AAA have facilitated greater cooperation for joint government submissions, organisation of future joint conferences etc. AAA has also worked closely with AACAI during the year and commenced discussions with WAC about future joint activities.

During the year many members have taken advantage of the new retiree rate established to recognise the continuing contribution of our senior members to both the Association

and the discipline. Like student memberships, the retiree rate is open to abuse and I ask all members to consider that by paying an inappropriate discounted rate they are diminishing the ability of the Association to contain costs and support on-going initiatives such as student and Indigenous subsidies. A related issue is maintaining continuity of membership. Despite the very reasonable fees which have not increased for some years some members only renew subscriptions when attending a conference. I urge those members to consider renewing their membership on an annual basis to show their continuing support for the Association.

Having said that, our financial base continues to be secure, thanks to its management by Catherine Westcott, with a current asset base of over \$47,000. AAA's asset base has remained basically stable despite vastly increased expenditure on a range of initiatives underwritten by the expanded membership base and careful investment of funds.

Building on the successful membership drive from last year, with Michael Haslam's enthusiasm, we have increased membership by a further 10% over last year's total. AAA clearly has considerable scope for continuing growth of our membership base. An expanded membership base not only enables the Association to underwrite increased activity, but heightens our ability to be effective advocates on a range of archaeological issues. Continuing growth, however, will require greater engagement of members in the operation of the Association to spread workload, particularly in subcommittees formed to undertake specific tasks.

I thank Donald Pate and Pam Smith for steering the journal through another year and for working closely with Jim Specht, Robin Torrence and Val Attenbrow to produce our bumper special volume to Peter White (who, on production of his Senior's Card, will now be eligible for the Retiree Rate).

On a sadder note, this year we lost two members who have contributed much to our discipline. We pass on our sincere condolences to family, friends and colleagues of John Head and Pat Vinnicombe.

Finally, for many many hours of hard work throughout the year I thank my fellow Executive members, Ian Lilley, Catherine Westcott, Michael Haslam, Donald Pate, Pam Smith, Luke Kirkwood and Jill Reid. For general assistance throughout the year I thank Nathan Woolford, Jenna Lamb and Sue Nugent. The outgoing Executive would like to thank the members for their support over the past two years and to offer our best wishes and support to the incoming Executive.

5.2 Secretary's Report (Ian Lilley)

In addition to the matters described in the President's report, the Association attended to the following business during 2003:

- letter to the editor of Courier-Mail concerning payments to Indigenous monitors and new Qld Aboriginal Cultural Heritage legislation
- nominations for Rhys Jones Medal
- letter to QPWS re: Kenniff Cave (see 6.6 Other Business, below)
- nominations for Qld Heritage Council
- various submissions on Qld Aboriginal Cultural Heritage legislation
- submission on changes to Queensland Heritage Act

2002		2003
\$		\$
40,430	TOTAL INCOME	30,033
23,657	TOTAL EXPENSES	16,626
16,773	OPERATING PROFIT	13,407
38,381	Retained Profits	55,154
55,154	PROFIT AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION	68,561
55,154	RETAINED PROFITS	68,561

Table 1 Profit and Loss Summary 31 August 2003.

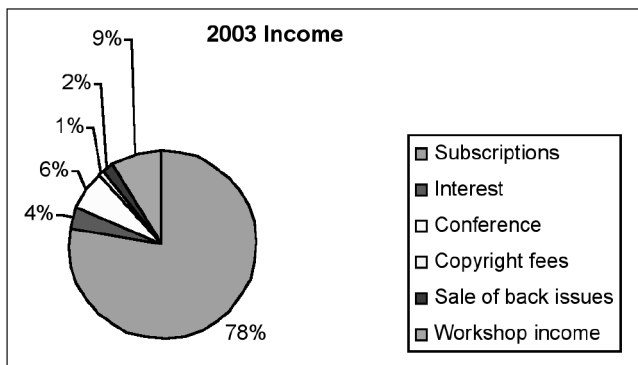


Figure 1a 2003 Income.

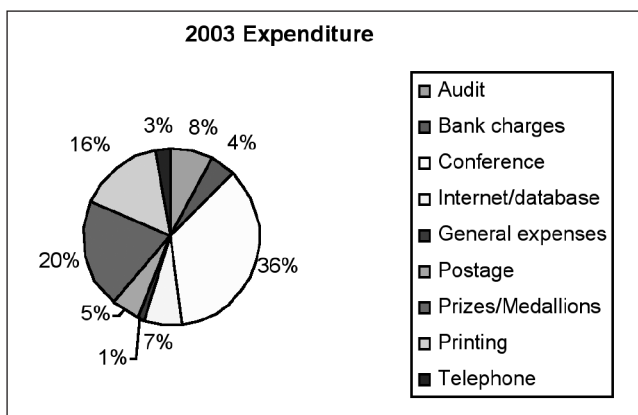


Figure 1b 2003 Expenditure.

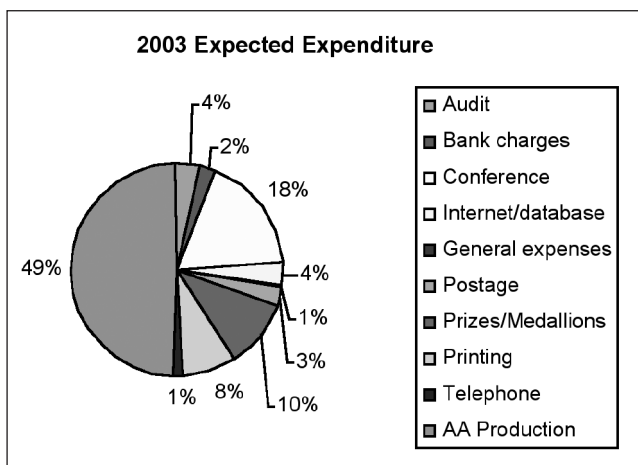


Figure 1c 2003 Expected Expenditure.

- submission on the proposed new ACT heritage legislation
- submission on NSW NPWS Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment
- participation in Queensland Heritage Alliance
- participation in EA Cultural Heritage Reference Group for Iraq
- submission to review of National Museum of Australia
- letter to Leader of the Opposition on Iraq's cultural property
- submission in support of the successful bid for the 2007 International Quaternary Association's International Conference, Cairns
- finalising student and Indigenous conference subsidies from Townsville conference
- joint AAA/AIMA/ASHA letter to University of Canberra VC on suspension of materials conservation courses

5.3 Treasurer's Report (Catherine Westcott)

This has been a busy year for AAA, with relatively large amounts of money coming in and being spent. The audit for the 2002-2003 financial year (1 September 2002 to 31 August 2003) has been completed. A review of the most significant points follows.

Table 1 shows the total income (\$30,033), the total expenses (\$16,626), and the resulting retained profits of \$68,561. Things are not quite as rosy as they look, however, as the production of *Australian Archaeology* (AA) for 2003 had not been paid for by the end of the financial year. More of this below.

2002		2003
\$		\$
	EQUITY	
	Reserves	
55,154	Retained Profits	68,561
	REPRESENTED BY	
	CURRENT ASSETS	
19,568	General Cheque Account	31,875
	Term Deposit	
20,225	- CBA Term Deposit	20,870
15,361	- CBA Cash	
	Management Trust	15,816
35,586		36,686
55,154	NET ASSETS	68,561

Table 2 Balance Sheet 31 August 2003.

Date	Particulars	Amount Invested	Term Date	Maturity Paid	Interest
15/03/03	Term deposit	20,595.24	152 days	15/03/03	3.2% on maturity
11/09/03	Term deposit	20,869.69	180 days	11/09/03	4.3% on maturity
1/10/03	Cash Management Trust	15,969.64	Ongoing	N/A	3.85-3.97% quarterly

Table 3 Investment Register.

Figures 1a and 1b show the sources of annual income and the annual expenses as percentages. The chief income is from subscriptions and the chief expense this financial year was the annual AAA conference. This is not a typical picture of expenses, as no production costs of AA have been included. They were paid after the end of the financial year. Figure 1c shows the proportion of expenses if AA production costs were included, as would normally happen. In this case, AA production costs were about half of the annual expenditure and conference costs were reduced to 18% of expenditure.

The Balance Sheet shows how AAA's assets are allocated (Table 2). The money deposited in the Cash Management Trust and the Term Deposit in February 2002 as a buffer have remained untouched, and have earned \$1,686 interest since that time. The rest of the Association's cash is held in a General Cheque Account, which is the everyday business account for the Executive. The total of this account fluctuates but at the end of August was \$31,875.

The Investment Register (Table 3) is a summary of the money that is not required for day-to-day business or taken into direct account when planning the year's expenses. The Executive has set this sum at \$35,000+, which is approximately the cost of two years' production of *Australian Archaeology*. This seems a sensible buffer to maintain, as AAA does not always make a profit.

2002	INCOME	\$	\$
6,365	Copyright Fees	396	
4,689	Conference Profits	1,936	
833	Interest	1,226	
105	Sales	517	
28,348	Subscriptions	23,258	
90	Miscellaneous	-	
-	Workshop Income	2,700	
40,430	TOTAL INCOME		

Table 4 Profit and Loss – Income.

2002	Expenses	\$	\$
1,320	Auditor's fees	1,320	
124	Bank Charges	120	
1,823	Bankcard Charges	625	
73	Compensation -		
33	Contracts -		
1,000	Conference Expenses	5,900	
-	Database Maintenance	500	
59	Freight & Cartage	-	
251	General Expenses	145	
1,279	Internet Fees	687	
52	Registration	26	
933	Postage	843	
16,500	Production Costs	-	
180	Printing & Stationery	2,642	
-	Prizes/Medallions	3,365	
30	Rent	-	
-	Telephone	453	
23,657	TOTAL EXPENSES		16,626

Table 5 Profit and Loss – Expenses.

Table 4 shows the details of AAA's income, largely from subscriptions. A continued membership drive and repeated reminder forms mean that membership numbers are up, but income from subscriptions is less than last year. There are two reasons for this apparent inconsistency. Many payments last year included back-payments, some for several years. Also, many regular members paid their subscriptions late this year – after 31 August and the third reminder – so their payments do not show up here.

The conference profits were forwarded to AAA from the joint AAA, AIMA and ASHA conference in Townsville in 2002. Many thanks to Martin Gibbs for his efforts in keeping track of the finances during such a complicated undertaking. The interest received is from bank accounts (see Table 3) and Sales refers to the sale of back issues of AA. The Workshop Income is from the National Archaeology Teaching and Learning Workshop, but as all this money was spent on expenses for the Workshop there was no net income from it, as was intended.

The Copyright Fees refer to our earnings from Copyright Agency Ltd. They are considerably less than the previous year, but the larger amount was from a single negotiated sale with an American database and the 2002/2003 earnings are more typical of our expected income from this source.

Table 5 shows the expenses for the year. The Conference Expenses include:

- all prizes for papers and posters at the Conference, including the AACAI prize, which was reimbursed later
- the logo competition prize
- subsidies for Indigenous participants
- subsidies for student participants.

The Printing and Stationery fees have risen sharply as extra copies of AA54 had to be printed owing to the sudden rise in membership numbers. This should be a one-off expense as extra copies of the journal will be printed in the original run in future.

The cost of Rhys Jones' medals is another one-off cost and comprises the cost of making the dies, the single medal struck last year (owing to the uncertainty of the continuity of the logo) and ten medals produced early in 2003. There will be no further medal costs for nine years.

Bankcard charges have been reduced for the second year in a row, which is welcome news.

The telephone costs result largely from a new initiative – quarterly phone conferences between the presidents of AAA, ASHA and AIMA. These have been used to discuss conference plans, coordinated media responses and other issues relevant to the discipline.

Since the end of the financial year all expected outstanding expenses have been paid – money committed to the National Archaeology Teaching and Learning Committee and the Ethics Committee, and the production cost of AA. There are currently no expenses due and we have approximately \$9,200 in the General Cheque Account.

This has been another active year for the Executive with a significant proportion of our expenses going to strategies to further AAA's stated commitment to promote the advancement of archaeology, to publicise the work of the Association, and to maintain a healthy organisation.

5.4 Membership Secretary's Report (Michael Haslam)

In 2003 the AAA Executive continued to build on the initiatives set up in 2002. In terms of membership, these included the implementation of a new membership database, further incentive schemes to encourage new members, and a target membership of over 500 members. The total membership as at 31 December 2003 stood at 568 members, which is an increase of 71 members over the 2002 total, and is again the highest membership in the Association's history. There were 126 new first-time members in 2003.

The new AAA membership database, designed largely by our webmeister, Luke Kirkwood, has now replaced the one previously run by the ACL at the University of Sydney. Along with the AAA website, this database is hosted by a commercial internet service provider, allowing for ongoing refinements and improvements. The Association owes Luke a great deal for his tireless work on both these projects.

We have again found that by far the best way to encourage membership is to send out a series of reminders to current members, in addition to sending membership forms to all Australian University departments teaching archaeology, and distributing forms via our state representatives. In addition, two special offers in 2003 brought in new members – a free offer of the December 2002 issue of *Australian Archaeology* to new subscribers, and a cross-promotion with *Archaeology in Oceania* involving a reciprocal discount to subscribers to both journals. Thanks go to Peter White for his support of the latter promotion.

The following tables summarise the 2003 membership broken down into various sub-categories. Data have been sourced from previous membership reports and the AAA membership database. The largest increases in 2003 membership came from NSW, Victoria and the ACT, proving the value of the AAA conference location in boosting membership numbers. Student membership remains strong at 117.

Year	Members	New Members
1997	403	63
1998	414	27
1999	383	24
2000	363	38
2001	367	67
2002	497	83
2003	568	126

Table 6 AAA Subscriptions, 1997-2003.

State	2003	2002	2001	2000
<i>NSW</i>	148	127	82	101
<i>QLD</i>	111	124	102	67
<i>ACT</i>	81	55	42	44
<i>WA</i>	44	41	24	40
<i>SA</i>	39	37	22	29
<i>NT</i>	17	15	18	13
<i>VIC</i>	81	51	38	40
<i>TAS</i>	7	11	6	12
Total	528	461	329	351

Table 7 AAA Australian Subscriptions by State, 2000-2003.

The Association still has considerable scope for future growth, provided an emphasis is kept on attracting new members, and in particular student members. Increased membership of the Association means wider exposure and more income, which in turn allows AAA to support programs such as National Archaeology Week and the Teaching and Learning Committee. I wish the new AAA Executive, and especially the new Membership Secretary Amy Stevens, the best of luck in taking on this challenge. I would like to thank Sean Ulm, Catherine Westcott, Jill Reid, Luke Kirkwood and Ian Lilley for all their help throughout the past two years. In that time the membership of AAA has grown by over 200 members, or more than 50%, which has only been manageable with a full team effort. Finally, thank-you to all of our 2003 members for your support.

5.5 Webmaster's Report (Luke Kirkwood)

The year saw dramatic growth in the popularity of the AAA website. Visits to the site were up 200% over the same 2002 period, bringing in a total of 216,970 hits to the site in 2003. The website has now served over 5 gigabytes of data since inception and is averaging about ~5000 unique visitors per month. This growth has not shown any signs of abating since 2002, so predictions on the 'normal' usage load of the site are impossible to make.

Australian computers make up 50% of the total number of visits to the site, followed by the US with 20% with the other 30% being dominated by Commonwealth nations. We have also managed to score the top spot on all the major search engines for the phrase 'australian archaeology'. The top links of November were a repeat of last year's results, with the weblinks, conference, membership, Australian

Country	2003	2002
<i>Australia</i>	528	461
<i>New Zealand</i>	8	6
<i>United Kingdom</i>	7	6
<i>USA</i> 11	13	
<i>Japan</i> 3	3	
<i>Canada</i>	2	3
<i>France</i>	1	1
<i>India</i> -	1	
<i>Israel</i> 1	1	
<i>China</i> 2	1	
<i>Czech Republic</i>	1	-
<i>Poland</i>	1	-
<i>Germany</i>	3	1
Total	568	497

Table 8 AAA Subscriptions by Country, 2002-2003.

Category	2003	2002
<i>Ordinary</i>	338	268
<i>Student</i>	117	143
<i>Institution</i>	47	65
<i>Overseas</i>	24	15
<i>Retiree</i>	34	-
<i>Sundries</i> (includes life members)	8	6
Total	568	497

Table 9 AAA Subscriptions by Category, 2002-2003.

Archaeology and study options pages topping the list. This was obviously biased to some extent by the AAA conference held in December, but generally this does still reflect the most visited pages throughout the year.

The biggest development this year for the website was the migration and development of the membership database. Under a continuing program of server consolidation, the migration of the database is seen as the first step in providing subscriber-only content on the website. In addition, the substantial increase in membership has necessitated the creation of an improved browser-based interface to facilitate the creation and editing of members' records. This builds on the foundation created by Ian Johnson and Richard Fullagar with the previous membership database.

On top of these administrative tools, we have a number of behind-the-scenes sections of the web page being developed. We hope to have these live by the end of this year, to coincide with the 30th anniversary of AAA. Hopefully these new improvements will not only prove extremely useful to the AAA membership but also generate greater public awareness of the association's main goal, that of advancing archaeology.

5.6 Editor's Report (Donald Pate & Pam Smith)

Two volumes of *Australian Archaeology* were produced in 2003 (AA56 and AA57). A special volume *Shaping the Future Pasts: Papers in Honour of J. Peter White* (AA57), edited by Jim Specht, Donald Pate, Val Attenbrow and Robin Torrence, was presented to Peter at the annual AAA conference in Jindabyne. The special volume marks Peter's retirement from teaching Prehistory and Archaeology at the University of Sydney in December 2003.

Throughout his career, Peter has been an active member of the AAA and has played a major role in the ongoing development of the association. Peter's long-term commitment to Australian archaeology and the Australian Archaeological Association is greatly appreciated. The editors thank Jim Specht, Val Attenbrow and Robin Torrence for acting as guest editors in relation to the production of the special volume.

A new printer, Graphic Print in Adelaide, was adopted commencing with AA56. Graphic Print produce a range of professional journals and will allow the association to improve the quality of AA at no additional cost to members. Our thanks are given to Ian Murray at Graphic Print for his assistance during this transitional period.

AAA membership and AA subscriptions were up again in 2003 and print runs of the journal have been increased further to accommodate the continued increase in membership. The editors thank the Executive for their assistance with the highly successful membership drive. A free copy of AA55 (December 2002) was offered as an incentive to obtain new members in 2003. For 2004, all new members will receive a complimentary copy of the Special 20th Year Volume AA39 (1994). AAA will receive a reduced postage charge for all journals sent to university addresses. Thus, the editors encourage all members with university affiliations to use their business addresses as opposed to home addresses.

The continued sale of back issues at reduced prices resulted in a significant reduction of AA stocks from recent years (2000-2002) and a further reduction of stock from 1994-1999. A back issue order form can be found on the

AAA website.

The editors thank all members of the AA editorial team and journal contributors and referees for their contributions during 2003.

5.7 State Representative Reports

Ian Lilley stated that one State Representative Report had been received from Debbie Argue in the ACT, who noted that there were opportunities for greater involvement of AAA in that territory.

6. Other Business

6.1 Annual Conference 2004-2007 (Preliminary Schedule)

2004 – Armidale, NSW (UNE)

2005 – Fremantle, WA (WA Maritime Museum/UWA - Joint AAA/AIMA)

2006 – Adelaide, SA (Flinders University - Joint AAA/ASHA/AIMA)

2007 – Cairns, QLD (JCU/UQ - To coincide with International Quaternary Association's International Conference)

Mathew Spriggs noted that the 50th New Zealand Archaeological Association conference was to be held in 2004 and asked that AAA be timed so as not to clash with that. Wendy Beck also noted that 2004 marked the 50th anniversary of UNE as an independent university. Annie Ross noted that the dates for the INQA 2007 conference were likely to be the 28 July-3 August 2007 and indicated that holding the two conferences together doesn't look like it will work any more. Mathew Spriggs noted that 2006 will be the 400th anniversary of Torres's voyage through Torres Strait, which the AAA organisers for that year should be aware of the fact. Sean Ulm suggested the anniversary as a possible theme for the 2006 conference.

6.2 Archiving/Documentation of Archaeology Honours Theses

It was moved from the Chair that AAA co-opt a 'Thesis Abstract Editor' to the editorial committee to collect and edit thesis abstracts for publication in AA and online databases.

Sean Ulm noted that AAA had struggled to find a viable way forward on this matter. Negotiations to set up an arrangement with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library did not cover the full range of archaeological theses produced in Australia. A compromise was a database of thesis abstracts on the AAA website. Mathew Spriggs suggested that theses be scanned and pdf files lodged in a central place. Sean Ulm noted that the Digital Thesis Archive is limited to theses of Masters level and above – not Honours. Bryce Barker noted that USQ students now supply an electronic copy of their thesis, which is what the Library requires. Eleanor Crosby asked whether they would keep up with changes in technology. Sean Ulm noted that any approach undertaken would need to be a national strategy. Pam Smith suggested that we go with the original motion. Peter White noted that he tried to pull together a list of theses from bibliographies, but it was difficult to get titles and dates of Honours theses. An abstract editor will face the same difficulties. Robin Sim suggested that someone from each of the institutions needs to take this up for their place. Ian Lilley noted that the lack

of institutional support for documentation was the root of the problem. Wendy Beck volunteered to try to collect this information but noted that another issue was that not all institutions required an abstract with their theses. It was moved from the Chair that the original motion be accepted and that Wendy Beck be put in charge of this project. Motion carried nem. con.

6.3 Public Liability/Professional Indemnity Insurance for AAA Committee

Sean Ulm noted that the current Executive had looked into this matter and identified the need for AAA to insure its elected officers for duties undertaken in the service of the Association. It was moved from the Chair that the AAA Executive obtain association's insurance for public liability and professional indemnity. Motion carried nem. con.

6.4 Student Conference Travel Subsidies

It was moved from the Chair that AAA make available up to \$1000 per annum for student conference subsidies for participation in the AAA Conference.

Sean Ulm drew attention to the wording of this motion (and the next one) as 'up to the sum of' - if AAA conferences make a profit then they will not need to call on AAA to top up the money for this. Bryce Barker asked whether the subsidy was all students or students giving a paper. Sean Ulm noted that the subsidy was for students participating in the conference be it a paper or poster or convening a session or otherwise participating in the conference. The subsidy is scaled by the distance that the student has travelled to be there. We can't guarantee an up front subsidy. Motion carried nem. con.

6.5 Indigenous Conference Travel Subsidies

It was moved from the Chair that AAA make available up to \$1000 per annum for the purpose of Indigenous Conference Subsidies for participation in the AAA Conference. Motion carried nem. con.

6.6 Kenniff Cave Conservation

Sean Ulm outlined correspondence with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service on this issue. A recent geophysical report indicated that Kenniff Cave was structurally unstable and likely to collapse. The site has been closed to visitors. AAA has written offering services of its members in developing conservation options and emphasising the importance of the site. Bryce Barker was surprised at this state of affairs, noting the enormous cultural heritage value of the site, not only for Queensland, but Australia. Ian Lilley suggested that the only option for action left to us is for the new President to write to the Queensland Premier about it. Val Attenbrow asked what action ICOMOS had taken on the matter. Peter White asked whether the site was going to fall down tomorrow. Catherine Westcott noted that the site had been inspected by geologists and tested. There are cracks in it that are widening up to 0.8cm, and a range of recommendations, including consolidation, were made to QPWS. Peter White suggested that we need to get John Mulvaney onto them. To general agreement from the floor, Sean Ulm suggested that we leave this as an issue for the incoming Executive to follow up..

6.7 AAA Online/Access Policy

It was moved from the Chair that a subcommittee be established to examine options for creating a 30th anniversary electronic archive of AA.

Eleanor Crosby suggested that the Queensland State Archivist would be interested in such a project and may volunteer their services. Mathew Spriggs noted that he attended a meeting in London on the same issue and suggested that the subcommittee should also get in touch with the UK group. Sean Ulm moved that the original motion be accepted and that Michael Haslam be co-opted as chair of this subcommittee, to report back to the 2004 AGM. Motion carried nem. con.

6.8 AAA Photographic Competition

It was moved from the Chair that AAA run a photographic competition during 2004 with prize money of up to \$500.

Pam Smith spoke to the motion and noted that the competition could be similar to the archaeological photographic awards for excellence in the USA. Sean Ulm thought such a competition would be useful for AAA to support if we get unfettered rights to use the photographs and captions that would be required. Peter White noted that entries should be displayed at the next AAA conference. Sean Ulm also noted that entries could be displayed on the AAA website and used for ongoing promotional activities of the Association (e.g. National Archaeology Week). Sean Ulm referred members back to the original motion and suggested that the new NEC follow through with it. Motion carried nem. con.

6.9 World Archaeological Congress

WAC President Claire Smith noted that in February 2005 there will be a WAC Inter-Congress in New Zealand on Indigenous Archaeology.

7. Election of Officers of the Committee

Ian Lilley declared all committee positions vacant, with the exception of editorial positions, and called for nominations. An enthusiastic team based at the University of Sydney formed a successful nomination for the core executive positions, employing a well-orchestrated campaign based on a philosophy of renewed dynamism and direction for the Association.

President: Judith Field

Secretary: Michael Slack

Treasurer: Joe Dortch

Membership Secretary: Amy Stevens

Public Officer: Sue O'Connor

Webmaster: Luke Kirkwood

Media Liaison Officer: Vacant

Editors: Donald Pate & Pam Smith

Editorial Assistant: Amy Roberts

Short Reports Editors: Keryn Walshe & Bryce Barker

Review Editors: Jo McDonald & Alistair Paterson

Aboriginal Representatives (Indigenous Liaison Officers): Vacant

