

BACKFILL

Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the Australian Archaeological Association Inc.

Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia
11 December 2009

1. Welcome

The 2009 AGM commenced at 5.45pm and was chaired by Tim Denham (AAA Secretary). The Secretary welcomed everyone to the conference and the AGM and gave special thanks to Flinders University for organising the conference.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ian McNiven, Bruno David, Jeremy Ash, Liam Brady, Elizabeth Bradshaw, Sally Brockwell, Jill Reid and Peter Veth.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2008 AAA AGM

The minutes of the 2008 AAA AGM held at Australis Noosa Lakes Resort, Noosaville, Queensland on 4 December 2008 were published in *Australian Archaeology* (68:85-92).

Motion: 'That the minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Australian Archaeological Association Inc. as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed'. Moved: Matthew Spriggs. Seconded: Val Attenbrow. Motion carried nem. con.

4. Business Arising from Previous AGM

4.1 Review of the Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act

Annie Ross tabled a copy of the AAA submission on the Key Issues and Draft Recommendations document relating to the review of the Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act (submitted to Department of Environment and Resource Management, Brisbane, 18 February 2009).

4.2 Funding Traditional Owners and Student Attendance at AAA Conferences

This issue was raised by Annie Ross. Lynley Wallis indicated that the set-up for this year's AAA conference was that traditional owners were charged student registration rates. With a budget of \$50,000, traditional owners received approximately half of what they requested. Financial constraints limited extending a similar funding arrangement to students. Sean Ulm suggested that AAA should provide an annual budget to the conference organising committee to assist with funding traditional owners and students. Josephine Flood noted that motions have been passed at previous AGMs to waive registration fees for traditional owners. Jo McDonald and Josephine Flood suggested that financial support for traditional owners could be included in ARC grants. Sean Ulm suggested that a funding model where AAA refunds to the conference committee an amount based

on how many traditional owners register for the conference, at the student rate. Lynley Wallis, Tim Denham and Annie Ross proposed that further work is needed to determine the financial costs of subsidising student attendance at AAA conferences.

5. Reports

5.1 President's Report (Ian McNiven)

The team from Monash University ran the AAA Executive for a second term in 2009. My position as President was again supported by the commitment of other members of Executive. I take this opportunity to thank Bruno David (Treasurer), Tim Denham (Secretary) and Sally Brockwell (Public Officer). Again, a special thank you goes to Jeremy Ash and Liam Brady for their persistent efforts as Membership Secretaries for AAA. Following record membership levels for AAA in 2008, again I have the pleasure of announcing that AAA membership is at record high levels.

The success of AAA is contingent also on the efforts of a range of other office holders. Special thanks to AA Editors Sean Ulm and Anne Ross for their skilful production of another two issues of our Association's flagship journal. I'm sure an important part of the continuing growth of our Association's membership is the quality of AA. Thanks also to Peter Veth and Wayne Brennan for continuing to help broaden the public reach of our membership's activities in their capacity as Media Liaison Officers. Another important part of our public reach is the AAA website and our Webmaster Sam Bolton continued to do an excellent job in this regard during 2009. For taking on the important roles of Indigenous Liaison Officers I thank Mark Dugay-Grist, Robyn Churnside and Tootsie Daniels.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairs of the following subcommittees – Val Attenbrow (Prizes and Awards Subcommittee), Jane Balme (Australian National Committee for Archaeology Teaching and Learning), Richard Fullagar (Code of Ethics Subcommittee) and Michael Westaway (National Archaeology Week Subcommittee). On a regional level, the Executive would like to thank our State and Territory representatives. It is due to the commitment of all our officers and committee members that our association continues to operate successfully.

My role as President of AAA was not overly challenged in 2009. Other commitments, including working on salvage excavations for the massive ExxonMobil Liquefied Gas Plant in Papua New Guinea, left little room for proactive engagements. One success story on the proactive front is increased commitment by government authorities to cultural heritage management in Torres Strait. In February of this year I wrote to the Torres Strait Regional Authority expressing serious concerns over the

lack of attention to mitigating the impacts of development, most of it government infrastructure, on cultural heritage sites in the region. In helping to draft this letter I would like to acknowledge support and comments provided by Luke Godwin and Annie Ross. While acknowledging the importance of this infrastructure to economic development and the increased quality of life for Torres Strait Islanders, I pointed out that a 'Duty of Care' exists under the *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003* to help minimise the impact of such developments. I am pleased to announce that the Torres Strait Regional Authority has taken our Association's concerns seriously and has implemented a new two year pilot program to document cultural places on the islands of Mabuyag and Mua and to increase community awareness of the cultural heritage value of places. It is my understanding that cultural heritage management has entered a new era in Torres Strait.

Also in February this year, AAA was invited to comment on the Heritage Inventory Methodology Report (Dampier Archipelago) prepared by Jo McDonald Cultural Heritage Management Pty Ltd for the Western Australian Department of Indigenous Affairs. In preparing AAA's response to this report, I thank Liam Brady from the University of Western Australia.

In November, AAA responded to the Federal government's general invitation for written submissions on proposed reforms to the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*. The Australian Government is proposing to reform, including substantially amend or replace, this Act to 'improve Indigenous heritage protection laws nationally'. Based on the government's discussion paper containing proposed reforms to the Act, AAA prepared a written submission. For taking the initiative to prepare this report I thank Annie Ross who was assisted by Ian Lilley, Sean Ulm and Peter Veth.

Finally, and on a more personal note, I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Darrell West to Tasmanian Aboriginal cultural heritage. As many of you know, Darrell passed away in April after a short illness. I was lucky enough to spend many enjoyable and entertaining archaeological fieldtrips in Tasmania with Darrell. May his spirit endure (Read by Tim Denham).

5.2 Secretary's Report (Tim Denham)

In addition to matters dealt with in the President's Report, the Officers of the Committee (President, Treasurer and Secretary) held several informal meetings throughout the year in order to attend to operational business. AAA received c.15 letters, c.35 emails and c.60 telephone calls during 2009. The majority of correspondence related to archaeology career advice, information on work experience, requests for consultant services, book reviews, employment opportunities for individuals, and miscellaneous matters. Careers advice was offered, where appropriate, and the contact details for relevant organisations and programs were passed on. All requests for work experience were passed on to those companies listed online on the AAA website in the Register of Archaeology Work Experience Partners. Regarding both employment opportunities and consultant details, the enquirer was referred to 'The Register', a search of the Yellow Pages and relevant state regulatory authorities. All requests for book reviews were passed on to the AA Book Review Editors.

5.3 Treasurer's Report (Bruno David)

Overview

The AAA financial year ending 31 August 2009 saw a small loss of \$96.03, with an additional very significant profit made during the 2008 Noosa AAA conference received after the end of the financial year by AAA, and thus to be added to next year's financial figures. The large 2008 conference profit of \$16,932.56 will see AAA's profit for 2009 (but to be credited to next year's budget) rise to a record \$16,836.53 year's effective profit.

Excluding the AAA conference profits (as the 2008 AAA conference profits are excluded from the 2008-2009 budget), 2008-2009 saw generally similar total expenses and total income to 2007-2008 (Table 1).

Income

The breakdown of income for the year is detailed in Table 2. As with previous years, subscriptions remain the primary source of income for the Association.

The combined income from interest on the savings accounts and two investment accounts amounted to \$2712.56, \$293.76 less than last year. This is due to the significantly lower interest rates offered by the banks in light of the Global Financial Crisis.

This year saw \$3892.92 less income than last year. This is largely due to the fact that, as explained above, the 2008-2009 income does not include profits made from the 2008 AAA conference, which will be included in next year's figures and therefore will boost this year's real income by a further \$16,932.56. This effectively means that this year saw an increased real income of \$13,039.64 on last year, taking the 2008 conference profits into account. The 2008 AAA conference profits were unusually high, and conference profits of this kind should not be relied upon in future years.

Expenditure

2008-2009 saw a similar total expenditure to last year (Table 3). In 2008-2009, extra costs of \$5470.72 were spent on salaries for placing back issues of AA on the web (additional to the regular internet hosting charges for the whole AAA website).

Expected Additional Income 2009-2010

For the coming 2009-2010 financial year, \$16,932.56 has now been banked for profits made during the 2008 AAA conference.

Expected Expenditure 2009-2010

For the coming 2009-2010 financial year and subsequent financial years, two additional costs are anticipated:

1. The financing of an Editorial Assistant for AA. The exact quantum for this should be decided at the 2009 AAA AGM.
2. Financial support for unfunded traditional owners applying to participate in AAA conferences. A maximum \$4000+ conference registration costs have been committed for this purpose for the 2009 AAA conference; exact quantum and rules and procedures for this purpose for future years should be decided upon at the 2009 AAA AGM. In this regard, it is noted that while AAA is in a sound financial position, given its \$40,000+ annual expenses of the last few years it is not

in a financial position to offer major funding for conference participation each year. Financing of traditional owner participation by AAA should be seen as an assistance rather than primary funding scheme.

Summary of Assets

As of the 31 August 2009 the AAA assets totalled \$82,940.33 (Table 4). This does not include the contents of the Bruce Veitch Award fund, which consists of \$11,214.93, nor the \$16,932.56 from the 2008 conference. Together with the Bruce Veitch Award fund and the 2008 conference profits, AAA assets total a record \$111,087.82.

The details of the two-long term accounts held by the Commonwealth Bank are presented in Table 5. The contents of the long-term accounts continue to represent in excess of two years journal production, which was the intended purpose of the funds (Read by Tim Denham).

Table 1 Profit and Loss – Summary.

2007-2008 \$		2008-2009 \$
44,659.22	Total Income	40,766.30
39,080.62	Total Expenses	40,862.33
5578.60	Operating Profit	-96.03
77,457.76	Retained Earnings	83,036.36
83,036.36	Total Equity	82,940.33

Table 2 Summary of Income for year ending 31 August 2009.

2007-2008 \$	Income	2008-2009 \$
1781.48	Copyright fees	0.00
0.00	Subvention for AA67 special issue printing	3948.74
6351.42	Conference profits	0.00
725.00	AA Back issues sales	155.00
3006.32	Interest received	2712.56
32,795.00	Subscriptions	33,950.00
44,659.22	Total Income	40,766.30

Table 3 Summary of Expenses for year ending 31 August 2009.

2007-2008 \$	Expenditure	2008-2009 \$
1463.00	Auditor's fees	770.00
698.64	Bank charges	735.22
20,803.70	Journal printing	21,497.10
2708.88	Insurance	2679.98
1227.30	Internet fees	6357.20
4118.25	Postage & stationery	6329.83
3302.45	Printing	0.00
2500.00	Prizes	2250.00
0.00	Office of Regulatory Services	93.00
2258.40	Sundries	150.00
39,080.62	Total Expenditure	40,862.33

5.4 Membership Secretaries' Report (Jeremy Ash and Liam Brady)

The past year has once again been very positive for the AAA membership base. Continuing the upwards trend in membership numbers evident in recent years, the past 12 months has seen a record number of people subscribe to the Association (Table 1).

As of the 17 November, a total of 718 members had subscribed to the AAA (Table 1). As per previous years, most subscribers took out either Ordinary or Student Membership (Tables 2-3). There was also a significant increase in the number of people subscribing for the first time (Table 1). As per 2008, Student Memberships increased both in number and relative to other membership types. Students currently represent 19% of the AAA membership base, however 35% of new members to the Association are students (Table 4). Clearly, students are an important demographic for the Association, and future Membership Secretaries should direct considerable attention to retaining and building these numbers in the future.

As part of our drive to minimise impacts on the environment, a combination of digital and hardcopy media were used to promote AAA membership. The most valuable avenue used this year consisted of 'reminder emails' sent to past members outlining the value of AAA membership and encouraging them to resubscribe. These emails were sent quarterly, and were directed at people who had been members of the Association between 2005 and 2008. Printed advertisements were also posted to people without email addresses.

In our 2008 Membership Secretary report we noted that we would be targeting an increase in Student Memberships. To this end, over 500 AAA promotional flyers were posted

Table 4 Balance sheet for year ending 31 August 2009.

2007-2008 \$		2008-2009 \$
	Assets	
	Current Assets	
46,451.12	CBA Cheque Account	22,286.26
25,595.48	CBA Term Deposit	27,018.94
20,344.69	CBA Cash Management Trust	21,426.66
1860.00	UWA EFT Account	23,423.40
94,251.29	Total Current Assets	94,155.26
	Liabilities	
	Current Liabilities	
11,214.93	Bruce Veitch Award	11,214.93
11,214.93	Total Current Liabilities	11,214.93
83,036.36	Net Assets	82,940.33
	Equity	
77,457.76	Retained Earnings	83,036.36
5578.60	Operating Profit	-96.03
83,036.36	Total Equity	82,940.33

Table 5 Details of long-term accounts as of 31 August 2009.

Statement Date	Particulars	Amount Invested	Maturity Paid
18/02/09	CBA Term Deposit	27,018.94	1423.46
31/08/09	CBA Cash Management Trust	21,426.66	1081.97

to archaeology departments throughout Australia and New Zealand. The Membership Secretaries would like to thank the many academics who kindly distributed flyers to their students during semester. Promotional flyers were also sent to organisers for National Archaeology Week, and AAA also advertised in 2009 issues of *Archaeology in Oceania* in a cross-promotional scheme organised by Sean Ulm and Annie Ross (Editors, AA) and Peter White (Editor, AO).

While pleased at the overall increase in student memberships, we would encourage future membership campaigns to focus on sustaining and increasing the overall membership base. Table 5 reveals that 200 of the 650 financial members in 2008 did not resubscribe in 2009 (31%). Taking this back further, past members who have not resubscribed since 2000 equals 760 subscriptions. Including current members, this represents a potential AAA membership base of 1478 subscriptions! Initiatives for 2010 should continue to target lapsed members and to identify and address reasons why retaining members has been so difficult.

As noted last year, the demise of the list-server AUSARCH-1 is a significant issue, as it was a forum to contact past AAA members and potential new members. The emergence of new list servers and blogs may prove to be helpful new sources in which to contact people.

Table 1 AAA members and new members, 2000–2009

Year	Members	New Members
2009	718	181
2008	650	127
2007	547	86
2006	491	78
2005	482	93
2004	560	110
2003	568	126
2002	497	83
2001	367	67
2000	363	38

Table 2 AAA membership types, 2007–2009.

Type	2007	2008	2009
Ordinary	325	395	438
Student	96	121	137
Overseas	19	20	22
Retiree	30	36	40
Institutional	68	68	69
Life Member	8	10	12
Non-Member Journal	1	0	0
Total	547	650	718

Table 3 AAA membership by state, 2007–2009.

State	2007	2008	2009
NSW	128	145	167
QLD	110	135	134
WA	64	79	92
VIC	92	126	129
ACT	47	51	51
SA	36	43	58
NT	13	13	13
TAS	7	10	13

The role of Membership Secretary can be time-consuming especially in light of the fact that we have a rapidly growing membership. To manage the increased workload, one of us (LB) processed the high volume of online memberships and email enquiries, and the other (JA) handled posted subscriptions and organised advertising. We strongly advise that this role continues to be shared between two people.

Generally speaking, the record number of subscriptions partly reflects the efforts of the Membership Secretaries to raise the AAA profile. These efforts, however, are underwritten by broader initiatives undertaken by past and present AAA office bearers to improve the membership package. These initiatives include, amongst others, maintaining the excellent value for dollar for membership, improving the subscription process through the website and in continually improving the already high standards of the journal, *Australian Archaeology*. Each of these provides the incentive to subscribe and resubscribe. The Membership Secretaries would like to thank the previous and current members of the AAA Executive and office bearers, and to the many people who kindly volunteered to assist in various capacities over the past two years (Michael Coulter, Joe Crouch, Nicole De Maria, Amanda Kearney and Duncan Wright). Many thanks also to Phil Scamp and Toby Wood (Graphic Designers, School of Geography and Environmental Science, Monash University) for designing the AAA promotional material. We would also like to thank Linda Terry for all her hard work with the journal, and to Sean Ulm for his ongoing guidance and assistance.

5.5 Editors' Report (Sean Ulm and Annie Ross)

During 2009 Numbers 68 (June) and 69 (December) of *Australian Archaeology* were published. AA68 was posted in mid-May and AA69 in early December.

A major achievement this year was the ranking of AA as a 'Tier A' journal by the Australian Research Council (ARC). This is a welcome addition to the journal's ranking in the top band of journals in the European Reference Index for the Humanities and French Agence d'Evaluation de la Recherche et de l'Enseignement Supérieur (Agency for the Assessment of Research and Higher Education) alongside journals including *Antiquity*, *Journal of Field Archaeology* and *World Archaeology*. These rankings reflect the increasing quality of the journal, with papers addressing problems of real interest to the global research community, a

Table 4 New members, 2009.

Type	New Members	%
Ordinary	103	57
Student	63	35
Retiree	5	3
Overseas	7	4
Institutional	3	2
Total	181	100

Table 5 AAA lapsed members by year, 2000–2009.

Year	#
2008	200
2007	103
2000–2006	457
Total	760

rigorous peer review process, decreasing acceptance rates and an Editorial Advisory Board of international standing.

We announced the details of AA's online strategy in the December issue. AA will shortly be available online through JSTOR (www.jstor.org), the Informit e-Library (www.informit.com.au) and the Open Journal System (OJS) at UQ (www.library.uq.edu.au/ojs/index.php/aa). We have been cautious in our approach to developing online options for AA, mindful of the fact that more than 75% of AAA's income is derived from member subscriptions. We believe that the multichannel online offerings outlined above will strike a sensible economic balance and provide new income channels for the Association and further growth opportunities for the journal. We sincerely thank Peter White, Eleanor Crosby and Paul Gorecki for donating back issues. AAA provided salary support for uploading AA to the OJS.

Once again we have had to increase the print run of AA to cater for the increased number of members. However, the actual cost of production and postage of AA has actually *decreased* over recent years owing to cost saving measures combined with economies of scale obtained with our greater purchasing power.

We believe that the continued viability of the journal, and opportunities for further growth require realistic resourcing from the Association. The editorial workload is heavy, particularly now that AA's rejection rate exceeds 40%. The editorial workload has therefore increased dramatically over the past four years. This has been offset in part by the employment of an Editorial Assistant for one day per week. The Editors have secured external funding for this position up to this point of \$10,000 per year. However, not only have these funds become harder to find, but we believe that AAA has a responsibility to meet the real costs of journal production. We think it is critical to ensure that a sustainable and realistic funding platform is in place for whoever takes over from us at the end of our term. A new editorial team may well not have the institutional support that we have benefitted from. Consequently, we move that the Association provides \$10,000 per annum to fund an Editorial Assistant position. One way that this could be achieved would be by implementing a subscription increase of \$10 across all subscription categories from 2010. This would still make AAA one of the lowest membership fees for an association of its type in the world and this would be the first fee increase since 2002.

We take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of the other members of the 2009 Editorial Committee consisting of Linda Terry (Editorial Assistant), Lara Lamb and Catherine Westcott (Short Report Editors), Jon Prangnell and Jill Reid (Book Review Editors) and Stephen Nichols (Thesis Abstract Editor). Dan Rosendahl, Jane Lavers, Karen Murphy, Janet Sypkens, Merle O'Rourke and Birgitta Stephenson provided support in the Editorial Offices. We also thank retiring Book Review Editor, Chris Clarkson, and welcome Jon Prangnell as Chris' replacement. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the University of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit and the University of Queensland Culture and Heritage Unit. In closing, we would like to thank contributors, referees, the Editorial Advisory Board and the AAA Executive for their support.

Discussion arising: Matthew Spriggs recommended that \$10,000 be given towards funding an Editorial Assistant for AA and that subscription rates be increased to help cover costs.

Motion: 'AAA makes up to \$10,000 available for an Editorial Assistant for AA'. Moved: Tim Denham. Motion carried nem.con.

There was general discussion on the floor about how much subscription rates should be raised by. Josephine Flood noted that with 800 members, raising all subscription rates by \$10 would not cover the \$10,000. Tim Denham and Jo McDonald suggested that Student and Retiree Membership only be raised by \$10, with all other membership categories raised by \$20.

Motion: 'Increase AAA subscription rates to Ordinary Membership \$70, Student Membership \$40, Overseas Membership \$70, Retiree Membership \$40, Institutional Journal Subscription \$120; Non-Member Journal Subscription \$95'. Moved: Tim Denham. Motion carried nem.con.

5.6 Media Liaison Officers' Report (Peter Veth and Wayne Brennan)

Peter Veth and Wayne Brennan served as the AAA Media Liaison Officers for 2009. Ten major press releases/stories were profiled covering a range of topical issues such as changes in heritage legislation, the A-ranking of the journal *Australian Archaeology*, the need for higher outputs of qualified consultants from university programmes, major historical finds of convict cells at Cockatoo Island, maritime archaeology surveys off the Great Barrier Reef, and the find of the 50,000 year old site from Lake Gregory in the southeast Kimberley. Continuing coverage of management issues surrounding the Burrup rock art province, site destruction and prosecution of impacts on the National Listed Area were all featured. Some 50 newspaper features and 40 radio interviews resulted from these releases and profiles. Wayne Brennan has finished a multi-year term as AA Media Liaison Officer and the Association is extremely grateful for his contributions. Michelle Langley has now stepped in to the breach and Peter is working with her as part of the 'succession plan'.

5.7 Webmaster's Report (Samantha Bolton)

Hits to the AAA website have continued to rise in the last year, increasing by 22% since 2008. The number of visits was fairly consistent throughout the year and there was an average of 108 visits per day. As in 2008, the three most popular pages, apart from the home page, were:

1. Study Options
2. *Australian Archaeology*
3. Register of Work Experience Partners

There was a slight change in order, as Study Options became the most popular page ahead of the journal pages. The website continues to be accessed by new visitors with 71% of total visits being first time visitors. Again, Google was the major source of visitors at 73%. The number of members joining or renewing online has increased this year and was 83%, up from 61% in 2008. The hits for the National Archaeology Week (NAW) website were unavailable at the time of writing. I have continued to maintain the website over the last 12 months with no significant changes. It has been five years since the current website was launched and over the next year I will be looking at options for a new look. I will also be looking at new options for NAW site. I would like to thank the Executive for their continued support and the University of Western Australia Website Office who host the site.

5.8 Australian National Committee for Archaeology Teaching and Learning Report (Jane Balme)

The level of activity of this committee varies and this year was a low activity year. In addition to maintenance of the Register of Archaeology Work Experience Partners, there are three matters to report.

First, Wendy Beck was awarded an Australian Learning and Teaching Council Fellowship to extend the archaeology benchmarking project completed by her, Catherine Clarke and ANCATL in 2008 beyond the discipline of archaeology. The new project will begin in 2010 and aims to investigate how humanities disciplines can improve employability even further. The proposed outcomes are: nationally-agreed principles for the provision of collaborative teaching in archaeology; general guidance for the articulation of appropriate employability profiles; and process development for sustainable cross-institutional benchmark development.

Second, in May this year the National Curriculum Board released its 'Shape of the Australian Curriculum: History' paper which includes 'History from the time of the earliest human communities to the end of the Ancient period (c.60,000 BC – c. 500AD)' as its first component (www.acara.edu.au/verve/_.../Australian_Curriculum_-_History.pdf). There are no archaeologists on the advisory board for the curriculum development but, as the students who have completed the new curriculum are our potential students ANCATL, and we hope other archaeologists, will take every opportunity to provide feedback to the curriculum as it becomes available. Online surveys and other opportunities will appear on the website (<http://www.acara.edu.au/consultation.html>) from February 2010.

Third, as forecast last year, Sean Ulm, Cameo Dalley, Steve Nichols and Geraldine Mate and ANCATL have been revising the Profiling the Profession survey as an electronic survey ready for deployment in 2010 five years after the first survey. The purpose of the original survey was to gather reliable data for benchmarking the variety of activities that archaeologists undertake so that teaching can be adjusted to respond to these activities. However the results of the previous survey have been very useful for explaining the discipline and employment prospects to prospective and current students and to employers and businesses outside of the discipline. In the last five years much has changed for the discipline and it is time to update the 2005 data. To this end we would like to request funds from the Association to carry out the survey. As the survey will be online, the costs are relatively low but include subscription to the online survey tool (c.\$250) and potential production and distribution of flyers (\$1825) to maximise the number of respondents. There may be other incidentals and we therefore request that the Association provides up to \$2500 for these purposes.

Motion: 'Funds up to \$2500 be made available to support the Profiling the Profession survey'. Moved: Tim Denham. Motion carried nem.con.

5.9 Prizes and Awards Subcommittee Report (Val Attenbrow)

The 2009 AAA Subcommittee consisted of Val Attenbrow (Australian Museum) (Chair), Fiona Hook (Archae-aus),

Ken Mulvaney (Rio Tinto/University of New England), Sean Ulm (University of Queensland) and Ian McNiven (Monash University, AAA President).

This year the Association called for nominations for:

- Rhys Jones Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Australian Archaeology
- John Mulvaney Book Award
- Bruce Veitch Award for Excellence in Indigenous Engagement
- Life Membership for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Archaeological Association Inc.

Notices requesting nominations for these awards were sent out on several occasions through the AACAI, ASHA, AIMA, WAC and OzArch listservers, with the first notice in June 2009. Nominations were requested to be submitted by 19 September 2009, and were duly received.

This year one of our Subcommittee members was nominated for an award. The member was not involved in assessing the nominations for the award for which they were nominated.

During consideration of this year's nominations for the John Mulvaney Book Award the wording of the call for nominations which refers to 'Australian archaeology' was discussed. It was decided by the Subcommittee to take this as referring to Australasian archaeology which encompasses not only the continent of Australia, but also the Pacific, Papua New Guinea and Southeast Asia. We will be amending the wording in future calls for nominations for this award.

Judging panels for paper and poster prizes were organised on the first evening of the conference (10 December) so that they could begin judging when papers began the following day. The AAA Photograph Competition was reintroduced this year and was convened by Susan Chirgwin (Flinders University).

All current members have agreed to remain on the AAA Prizes and Awards Subcommittee for 2010. To expand the scope and expertise of the Subcommittee in the area of historical archaeology, Heather Burke has accepted an invitation to join the Subcommittee from 2010.

5.10 Code of Ethics Subcommittee Report (Richard Fullagar)

The AAA ethics subcommittee received no correspondence and was not convened during 2009.

5.11 National Archaeology Week Subcommittee Report (Michael Westaway)

Over 50 activities for NAW were delivered across Australia in May 2009 organised by State NAW committees in Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia. NAW will continue to gain relevance with the roll out of Stage 1 of the new National History Curriculum in 2011.

Discussion arising: Steve Nichols suggested that NAW include a national competition for students with prizes for each State. Tim Denham suggested the competition could be for essay writing. Prize suggestions included: a year's membership to AAA with possibility of publication of essay in AA (Tim Denham); AAA membership for each State winner (Sean Ulm); best essay presented at AAA with the student fully-funded to attend the conference (Annie Ross); best essay put on AAA

website (Matthew Spriggs and Jo McDonald); and book prizes (Ian Scott).

Motion: 'That the NAW Subcommittee introduces a State-based NAW student competition for essay writing'. Moved: Tim Denham. Motion carried nem. con. John Tunn noted that the generic NAW posters and bookmarks would soon need to be reprinted. The cost of c.\$2000 has been funded by AAA in the past.

Motion: 'That AAA funds the printing of NAW publicity material of a cost up to \$2000'. Moved: Tim Denham. Motion carried nem. con.

5.12 State Representatives' Reports

5.12.1 Queensland Report (Michael Morrison)

In 2009 the Queensland Representative received no correspondence or requests for assistance regarding matters relevant to the AAA membership in Queensland. The main issue that arose in 2009 of relevance to Queensland-based members was the call for submissions as part of a review of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. Annie Ross and others prepared a detailed submission to the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) after wide consultation with AAA members with relevant interests or expertise, as well as other industry groups (namely the Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Inc). A separate report on this submission and DERM's response to it was presented earlier at the AGM by Annie Ross (see above).

Discussion arising: Annie Ross pointed out that the Queensland heritage legislation was becoming the basis for heritage guidelines in other States owing to pressure from developers. A meeting to discuss these issues was proposed to be held at the University of Queensland in January 2010.

5.12.2 New South Wales Report (Jodie Benton)

During 2009 I was not contacted directly regarding any specific issues/queries in relation to AAA. A few things I did want to table include:

1. A short simple document of duties/responsibilities of the State Representative roles would be handy to develop so that representatives know what is expected/hoped of them.
2. An email forum for the AAA Executive and Committee to discuss issues that may arise.
3. A AAA forum for the whole membership so that when a consultant/State Representative comes across something they think would be appropriate for all members to know about, there is somewhere to post it. I know there have been issues regarding this, but I still think it should be a goal. The Ecological Association of NSW has one that I am a member of and lots of great stuff is posted there – it forms a real fraternity. Even if such were developed State-by-State due to the varied legislations we all work under, that could be a great tool.

Discussion arising: Maria Cotter was concerned that changes to the Act were not being responded to strongly enough and needed to be investigated, particularly given appointment of a new minister.

5.12.3 South Australia Report (Lynley Wallis)

The *South Australian Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* is undergoing review, with the government currently consulting with Indigenous communities about their concerns. An options or positions paper (name yet to be decided) is scheduled for release sometime between March and May 2010. Consultation will then occur before legislation is drafted later in 2010. It is recommended that the SA State Representative monitor the situation and when the options paper is released provide a submission to the SA State Government.

5.12.4 Western Australia Report (Stuart Rapley)

Stuart reports that there was no business arising during 2009 (Read by Tim Denham).

5.12.5 Tasmania Report (Denise Gaughwin)

The review of the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1974* is continuing but did not get to Parliament and an election is due in March with no sitting of the house prior to that. New procedures for Aboriginal heritage investigations have been prepared and are available at www.aboriginalheritage.tas.gov.au. Long-serving and well-known Aboriginal Heritage Officer, Darrell West, died after a short illness in April (Read by Tim Denham).

5.12.6 Victoria Report (Harry Webber)

During 2010 Victoria has continued to have strong growth in consulting archaeology, due to strong new Aboriginal heritage legislation. This has led to archaeology in Victoria growing as a profession, and is beginning to yield interesting archaeological studies particularly in Melbourne's southeast. In terms of issues: No letters, no complaints, no correspondence, no actions, and no worries!

Motion: 'That the reports as presented are accepted as read'. Moved: Tim Denham. Motion carried nem.con.

6. Appointment of Auditor

Vince Crowe & Associates was appointed as the auditor for the 2008–2009 financial year.

Motion: 'That AAA accepts appointment of Vince Crowe & Associates as auditor for the 2009–2010 financial year'. Moved: Annie Ross. Seconded: Matthew Spriggs. Motion carried nem. con.

7. Other Business

Matthew Spriggs announced that the 2010 AAA conference would be hosted by the Australian National University. A resort venue was the preferred option.

8. Election of Officers of the Committee

The following AAA Officers were elected for 2010:

Executive

President – Lynley Wallis
 Secretary – Andrew Border
 Treasurer – Michael Morrison
 Public Officer – Sally Brockwell
 Editors – Sean Ulm & Annie Ross

Committee

Membership Secretary – Dan Rosendahl & Emma St Pierre

Media Liaison Officer – Peter Veth & Michelle Langley

Webmaster – Samantha Bolton

Indigenous Liaison Officer – Christopher Wilson

Subcommittee Chairs

Prizes and Awards – Val Attenbrow

Australian National Committee for Archaeology Teaching and Learning – Jane Balme

Code of Ethics – Richard Fullagar

National Archaeology Week – Michael Westaway

State and Territory Representatives

ACT – Sally May

NSW – Maria Cotter

NT – Trish Bourke

QLD – Lincoln Steinberger

SA – Alice Gorman

TAS – Denise Gaughwin

VIC – Duncan Wright

WA – Stuart Rapley

9. Close of Meeting

Matthew Spriggs thanked Tim Denham for chairing the AGM. Annie Ross thanked the outgoing committee. Seconded: Richard Fullagar. Tim Denham thanked the members for attending the AGM and noted that the next AGM would be held at the 2010 AAA conference to be hosted by the Australian National University. The meeting was closed at 7.30pm.