

GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHARTED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

AUSTRALIA GROUP

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2023

6.30pm to 7.45pm (AEST)

**Present:** JB, KC, PG, AH, JG

**Apologies:**

**Chair:** John Gillen

**Treasurer:** Andrew Holmes

**Secretary:** (acting) John Gillen

**General Committee**

**Members:** Jana Boulet, Kate Clark, Patrick Gavaghan

MINUTES

**1 Welcome and apologies (standing item)**

Acknowledgement of country –

**CifA Australia group acknowledges the important contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make in creating a strong and vibrant Australian society.**

**We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and First Nations peoples in each of the Nations we meet including Elders past and present.**

**2 Vacant Positions**

**Action/comments:**

Long-standing members Dani Wilkinson and Sam Dix have decided to step down from their duties as ordinary committee members of the CifA Australia Group. Sam and Dani have been huge assets to CifA Australia Group during their time on the committee and replacing them will be a massive task. The CifA Australia Group would like to thank them both for all of their greatly appreciated efforts and wish them well with their other commitments.

The Aus Group agrees to send out a call to the Australia Group membership for expressions of interest to become committee members. We have noted that there are four (4) places available; three (3) ordinary members and one (1) Secretary role. The Aus Group has noted that JG is currently the Chair and the Secretary which cannot continue indefinitely. KC also noted that most of the CifA groups are currently struggling for committee members which should be factored into our expectations.

Aus Group has agreed to collaboratively write a message to the Aus Group membership which should include benefits such as: good early career opportunities as being on a professional body committee is a networking and experience-building opportunity; it gives

professionals knowledge of the large scale factors of planning and development and how archaeology fits into it; companies in Australia already use/reference guidelines from ClfA and therefore better knowledge of the guidelines and processes will help to better understand the Australian industry (noting that the guidelines currently 'fill a gap' in the Australian industry and that not all guidelines will be relevant and are certainly not industry best practice in Australia); a great opportunity for any archaeologist interested in international archaeology or Australian heritage in general, great opportunity for anyone interested in international, cross border information sharing especially between field archaeologists.

### **3 Update on ClfA Australia Group's 2023 goals (standing item)**

#### **Actions/comments:**

The Annual Tasks are progressing. The survey for the internal Aus Group membership is completed and will be reviewed by the Aus Group before sending off. The draft of the survey for the industry is complete but will hold off for now. MoU task has progressed, and Aus Group agreed to first try with ICOMOS and then AACAI afterwards. Aus Group have also identified that although an MoU is not appropriate, there is an opportunity for collaboration with AAA and ASHA. Will be discussed at a later meeting.

JB has updated the Aus Group on the Code of Conduct review. Update is still in the comment stage and no new Code has been drafted yet. Peter Hinton (staff) previously stated to Chair (JG) that the Code will not be too different from the current version so will not affect progress with the MoU task.

Cross border information task – some progress made here. Aus Group has agreed that teatime talks/presentations may be something to build towards as difficult to get people to do them. However, Peter Hinton has suggested doing (short or informal) articles for The Archaeologist/to publish on the Group page. Aus Group really like this idea. We have also agreed that this could be a very good way to collab with Aboriginal groups here for international information sharing and for collab with ASHA and AACAI. Will pursue this method first.

Toolkit task has still to start however Aus Group has agreed we will start with a 'How to survive the heat' toolkit first. We also think a snake bite toolkit might be of value afterwards but will recycle St John's info so that we aren't providing the wrong information.

### **4 Any other business (standing item)**

#### **Actions/Comments:**

Aus group has discussed communication between the Group and ClfA but also between ourselves. Aus Group has agreed to send minutes to ClfA to be published on the Group page so that members and staff are aware of our progress. However, we discussed a need to

improve communication between the Group members to improve efficiency. A collab space and more regular emails have been agreed but will discuss this in more detail at a later date.

**5 Future Agenda items**

Continue for Call for Action.

How to improve communication

Collab with ASHA and AAA opportunities

**6 Future general meeting dates**

17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – pending

11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – pending