Report for the CAA National Chapter of CAA Australasia

Reporting Period: April 2021-April 2022

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Update on the National Chapter Activities:

Over the last year the chapter had a number of activities with the aim of expanding the reach of the chapter within Australasia locally and internationally. These have been a success, despite the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 in Australia and New Zealand.

AGM (Annual General Meeting)

We held our AGM on 13th of April 2022. Officer holders continuing/elected: Dr Joshua Emmitt (Chair and 2024 Conference Liaison), Dr Olivier Rochecouste (Treasurer and Public Officer), Simon Wyatt-Spratt (Secretary), Matthew Barrett (Membership Secretary), Justin Morgan (Social Media Liaison) and the following General Committee Members: Thomas Keep, Michael Rampe, Dr Aleks Michalewicz and Dr Katherine Thomas.

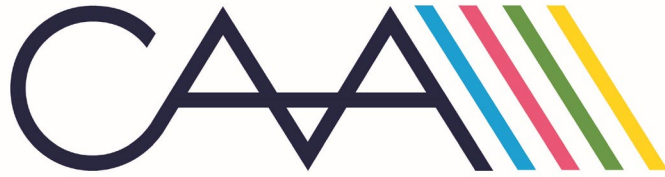The chapter has a healthy financial state and has 290 members as of 16 April 2022.

Events

We hosted our first forum event "The History and Development of Technology in Australia and New Zealand Archaeology" on the 8th of May 2021.

We hosted our second online conference which had over twenty-five presentations and was attended by over 200 people. The majority of these presentations have been uploaded to our chapter's YouTube channel. The conference was hosted on Zoom and featured a keynote talk by Dr Melissa Marshall (Nulungu Research Institute, University of Notre Dame Australia). To date our YouTube channel has had over 5,000 views. This ongoing interest, and the positive feedback from a follow-up survey to the 2021 conference has encouraged us to continue hosting an annual online conference.

Publications

Selected papers from the 2021 conference are in preparation for a special, Australasian-focused issue of the Journal of Computer Applications in Archaeology. Joshua Emmitt (University of Auckland) and Matthew Meredith-Williams (La Trobe University) will be editing the issue.

The book resulting from our 2020 Summer Institute is undergoing the editing process and has provisionally been accepted for publication. External reviewers have been in the process of review for several chapters. The aim is to have a manuscript by the end of June 2022. The publisher is Sydney University Press. The publishing process is anticipated to be 8-9 month from submission.

2024 Conference

We have continued preparing for the CAA International conference in Auckland in 2024.

Future plans

Over the next twelve months in addition to the already ongoing projects we are aiming to host a third online conference, regular panels showcasing methods and projects in Australasian digital archaeology, and further expand our reach to institutions in Australasia who are not represented in the chapter.

Joshua Emmitt (Chair)
Simon Wyatt-Spratt (Secretary)

10 May 2022