

VICE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

To the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology Inc

July 2010 to June 2011

By Brad Duncan

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WEB SITE MAINTENANCE

It has been a busy year as I still grapple with the intricacies of the ASHA web site systems. New content in the form of newsletters and Journals has been regularly added, along with news of forthcoming events. As always, new content, any new or current events in your state are always welcomed for the web site.

JStor

One of the great successes of this year was the negotiation of the ASHA Journal *Australasian Historical Archaeology* to be included in the JStor Online archive. JStor is an online searchable repository of social science journals which is widely used by the professional/academic community worldwide. Inclusion of Volumes 1-23 of the ASHA Journal in this database vastly increases the exposure of ASHA to international audiences. It may also have subsequent knock-on effects for our membership levels and academic standing as a journal as we become more widely exposed and known within the international arena. The project was led by Peter Davies who organised the scanning of past journals and other administrative aspects of the project. Well done Peter and all who assisted in this endeavour. Thanks also to Martin Gibbs for its initiation. A link to the JStor website has now been added to the ASHA Journal Web Page.

ASHA Journals On-line

I have been slowly accumulating back copies of ASHA Journals of *Australasian Historical Archaeology* from Volume 26 onwards for inclusion in the member's web pages. These will be added by the end of the year. We are also potentially looking at adding more *.pdf copies of out of print ASHA publications and other pertinent historical archaeological reports to the list of those that are currently available to members. All suggestions for relevant content would be welcomed. Many thanks to Peter Davies, Mary Casey and Martin Gibbs for providing electronic copies of back issues for the site.

Paypal

This year has finally seen resolution of the problems that we have been experiencing with the Paypal system. Paypal is used for payment online of membership dues and purchasing ASHA merchandise, and problems with this system have led to difficulties for members trying to pay their dues and purchasing goods online. Due to the hard work of our Treasurer and Secretary, these problems have finally been resolved in the last week of October, and

payments can now be accepted for all ASHA services online. I would like to thank all our members for our patience whilst we have been resolving this issue.

It is unclear as yet whether this has affected new subscriptions and/or existing membership renewals for the year. However, a mail-out is planned in the near future to canvas re-subscription from lapsed members. Anyone who can assist with printing out letters and envelope stuffing should contact any of the Committee.

Historical Archaeology in Your State

This year has seen ongoing additions of the sections on 'Historical Archaeology' with information for the general public. There have been some unanticipated problems as some content from these sites has been lost for unknown reasons. This content is being reinstated wherever this problem has been identified. Further state specific content has been sought for individual states from various state representatives or are being currently written by the web moderator (where possible).

Our aim is to make the ASHA web site into a valuable and dynamic electronic resource where Australian archaeologists come find out what is going on around the country. In order to do this, we need new content for the site on a regular basis. Any input to current pages or content for states which currently are not currently represented would be thoroughly welcomed and much appreciated.

New ASHA Incoming Mail address

ASHA's mailing address has traditionally been based at the University of Sydney Student Union. However, we have just been advised that by the University of Sydney Student Union that as of December 2011, due to cutbacks within the University, that they can no longer provide this service. I am currently organising a new mailbox in North Parramatta, the address of which will soon be posted on the ASHA Web site. With the majority of the ASHA Committee now residing in Queensland, a mail forwarding service will also be instituted as part of this arrangement, and the box will be checked on a regular basis to ensure no incoming mail falls through the cracks.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has contacted me throughout the year identifying problems in the website. I rely heavily on our members to monitor our site externally, and sometimes problems which are experienced by the public users are not evident when I am editing the site.