



Canberra Archaeological Society Inc
PO Box 8086
Australian National University
Canberra ACT 2601

Greetings members and friends!

2007 has whirled by and here we are again at our AGM. Many thanks to all for your support this year and your encouragement as we plan into the next year and beyond.

This year we maintained our high standard of guest speakers, and were entertained and educated about a range of topics. One of the features of CAS is the relaxed atmosphere which encourages our speakers to interact and share the more intimate aspects of their topics with us. Phil Boot in particular was very generous with his time and we all felt part of the planning process for his project with Cup and Ring marks on the NSW South Coast.

Jo MacDonald also shared the intricacies of the National Heritage List assessment process of the Dampier Archipelago so patiently that we felt we had been there. All our speakers were unstinting with their time and patience in responding to questions and we thank them all for these chances for those of us who are not academics to share in the latest research and thinking.

We were fortunate to have links to the National Museum of Australia this year, from Mike Pickering's interesting illustrations of the processes of repatriation to a tour of the special exhibits with Senior Curator David Kaus. Sadly the latter was under-attended, but David assured us that he enjoys taking people close to these artefacts and could do another visit for those who missed out.

This year we tackled National Archaeology Week with beginners' enthusiasm and had a raucous trivia night. The idea is still alive, but we are considering a more adaptable venue. And, we hope to extend to a film night with the assistance of CAR and the ANU Film Group.

Membership numbers have increased this year – thanks to all of you who have joined and are going to renew tonight! CAS needs your support to keep going.

We were successful in getting three grants from the ACT Heritage Grants Program and are completing the reports and other deliverables from two of them. Sadly we have to return the funds for the project to develop an interpretive sign for Girrawah Park due to insurmountable difficulties in meeting the ACT's requirements for consultation with a range of Indigenous organisations. We have raised the issue with the National Trust (ACT) and are continuing to work on a solution in the future.

Crinigan's Hut has been a very busy place, with Marilyn and Louis Folger stabilising the walls and recently securing the services of a stone mason to complete the project. He will also remove the fence and we will advertise by email when we need helpers to clear excess rocks and bricks from the site. Next year we will hold an opening event there, so watch the space.

The inventory for the ACT Heritage Unit's store has been another exciting project, with all sorts of challenges and revelations. Llanon has been a familiar figure at the salubrious but un-serviced location and has worked wonders in tidying up the records and the containers. The report and list will be completed soon.

We were also successful in getting another small grant for next year to make an inventory for the Crinigan's collection and lay the basis for future research into the material culture of a ticket of leave man and his family.

All in all, a very exciting and successful year – no wonder it has spun by.

And a final note that we need a special meeting again to consider and hopefully accept our audited accounts. Many thanks to Kat for tackling the intricacies of the financial world and bringing it to fruition. So, do join us at the Canberra Yacht Club on Wednesday 5th December to complete the business and then stay on for dinner if you can. This will be our chance to celebrate the year's achievements and practice for the round of Christmas parties.

If you can't be there, be square but please fill in a proxy form so we have the numbers to deal with the business.

Thanks