

Hosted on Kurna Yerta (Adelaide), the ancestral Country of the Kurna people, the 2026 AAA Conference invites archaeologists to reflect on our shared responsibility to past, present, and future stories. Under the theme “We Remember—Stories from the Past, Visions for the Future”, we ask: how do we walk in the footsteps of those who came before, and how might we sit with their stories by the fire? How can archaeological practice in Australia continue to grow as a meeting place of scientific method, cultural knowledge, ethical practice, and community voice? As archaeologists, we work with fragments, objects, landscapes, oral histories, images, and yet we are always building stories, whether rooted in science, story, or spirit. This conference invites contributions that speak to the integration of diverse ways of knowing: Indigenous and Western, technological and traditional, material and relational.

We welcome sessions and papers that address this theme, with contributions from across the spectrum of archaeological research, excavation, community-led practice, theory, heritage management, scientific analysis, remote sensing, and beyond. Submissions that reflect on the integration of Indigenous knowledge systems, cultural authority, and ethical collaboration are especially encouraged. Let us gather on Kurna land not just to look back, but to look forward to shape an archaeology that is responsive, responsible, and resonant with the many voices of this place.

CALL FOR SESSIONS

Submissions are now invited for proposed **sessions**, which must be linked to the conference theme. (There will be a call for papers in May).

Session organisers must provide a title and abstract (up to 200 words) for the proposed session and select the session format, which will run for 2 hours:

- **Standard Session** – 6 presentations of 20 minutes each (including Q&A). Please provide an estimate of the number of standard sessions requested.
- **Lightning Round** – 10 presentations of 10 mins each, followed by 20 minutes for Q&A or general discussion. These short papers are particularly well suited to the presentation of preliminary results, scientific analyses, heritage management projects, and sessions incorporating multiple presentations on the same overarching research project. Please provide an estimate of the number of lightning round sessions requested.
- **Workshop or Panel** – may follow a range of formats and would be particularly suited to discussions of specific theme-related issues or methodologies. Please include principal aims in your abstract, and advise potential number of speakers, and any restrictions on numbers of participants.

Although we are not yet calling for paper abstracts and are only requesting session proposals, we remind session organisers that paper presenters may only present one oral paper during the conference, though they may be co-authors on other papers. This applies to panelists and workshop convenors. The lead session organiser and lead paper presenter must be current AAA members, and all session organisers and presenters must be registered to attend the conference by 4 September 2026. To limit the number of parallel sessions, the conference committee will combine similar themes where necessary, while striving to achieve the widest possible diversity of session topics under the umbrella of the conference theme.

Session abstracts are due by **13 April 2026**.

We will announce the conference sessions that have been accepted on 30 April and issue a Call for Paper and Poster Abstracts on 8 May. Conference registrations will open on 15 May.

For enquiries, please contact Julie Jerbic at aaa@watermarkevents.com.au or 0402 189 948.

