



# THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT ATHENS

ΑΥΣΤΡΑΛΙΑΝΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

We are delighted to be able to introduce new support for our Friends Groups!

## **New Support for All AAIA Friends Groups**

Our transition to a fixed membership year allows us to better support our Friends Groups across the country. As a result of this change, the AAIA can now offset the cost of essential public liability insurance associated with undertaking certain activities. In addition, we will provide at least \$500 each year to every Friends Group for events and activities, a new initiative that benefits all our supporters.

The AAIA Sydney hub will provide Friends affiliation lists to the Membership Secretary of each Friends Group at the beginning of each membership year, and when any new supporter joins the AAIA during the year.

Each Friends Group will continue to organise its own events and activities and to communicate directly with its supporters, as currently happens in our active Groups. This ensures that our supporters' experience of their AAIA locally is maintained.

The AAIA itself will continue to facilitate the attendance of a Visiting Professor and will expect Fellowship holders to offer a talk on their fellowship work to their local Friends Group within a year of commencing their fellowship period.

The AAIA also has Institutional (university) members, which benefit from financial support from the AAIA towards travel scholarships for their students. Friends Groups traditionally have collaborated with their local universities to supplement these scholarships and fundraise for additional opportunities for registered students. The AAIA would like to see these relationships continue. We also encourage scholarship holders to give a talk to their local Friends group within a year of their scholarship period.

Finally, the membership registration developments allow us to reinvigorate the NSW Friends Group and to start a VIC Friends Group, two important states where we currently have no regular Friends activities. We will shortly be contacting supporters in these states to help their Friends Groups get established.

*May 2025*