**AUSTRALIAN ROCK ART RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (AURA)**

The Australian Rock Art Research Association was established in October 1983. Its principal objectives are to provide a forum for the dissemi­nation of research findings in the fields of rock art, palaeoart studies and cognitive archaeology; to promote Aboriginal custodianship of sites externalising indigenous Australian culture; to co-ordinate studies concerning the significance, distribution and conservation of rock art, both nationally and with individuals and organisations abroad; and to generally promote awareness and appreciation of the early cultural heritage.

AURA produces two periodicals, the international journal *Rock Art Research*, and the *AURA Newsletter*. *RAR* appears bi-annually (May and November), and is devoted to developing theory and methodology for the systematic and rigorous understanding of palaeoarts and related phenomena. Emphasis is given to communication across the various disciplines related to the study of global rock art, and to synthesising related subjects around the journal’s focus: the surviving externalisations of early world views. The journal is read in over 50 countries, and is designed to encourage international debate. Major articles are followed by debates of specialists and the authors’ responses. The *AURA Newsletter* is an ad hoc communication organ that is received by full members of AURA. In addition, AURA publishes a series of *Occasional AURA Publications*.

The First AURA Congress was held in Darwin, Northern Territory, in 1988, the Second AURA Congress in 1992 in Cairns, Queensland, the Third AURA Congress was in Alice Springs, Northern Territory. AURA is involved in numerous other projects and activities, including exhibitions, study tours and research projects. Annual AURA Meetings are held in various parts of Australia, consisting of weekend seminars and field trips. AURA has established a major archive of specialised litera­ture, and the association is a founding member of the International Federation of Rock Art Organisations (IFRAO). AURA’s journal *Rock Art Research* also serves as the Federation’s official journal.

Membership with AURA is open to all persons and institutions professing a commit­ment to the study, appreciation or conservation of rock art. Annual **subscription** of *Rock Art Research* is **$A25.00** (or $A50.00 abroad), while **full membership** (which includes the journal) is **$A30.00** ($A55.00 abroad). Student membership is $A15.00 in Australia, membership in developing countries is $A40.00, and free membership is available to selected applicants. Please address all correspondence to the Editor, AURA, P.O. Box 216, Caulfield South, Vic. 3162, Australia.

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