

Constitution

Last amended: 2009 AGM

1. Name

The name of the Association is 'The British Australian Studies Association'.

2. The Objectives of the Association:

The main objectives of the Association shall be:

- To promote within Great Britain interest in, and the study of, Australia
- To facilitate contact between individuals and groups who have a serious interest in aspects of Australian life, such as the arts and sciences, education, industry, and commerce, and political life.
- To develop and improve resources available in Britain for the study of Australia.
- To promote links with and exchanges between education institutions in Britain and Australia.

3. The Annual General Meeting and Other General Meetings

There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Association to which the President shall make an account of the activities of the Association, to which the annual accounts of the Association shall be presented by the Treasurer and at which members shall elect the officers and executive committee. The Secretary shall call a general meeting within fourteen days of receipt of the request of one-quarter of the individual membership of the Association. The Secretary must give forty-two days notice in writing of any general meeting. A quorum for a general meeting shall consist of a minimum of ten percent paid-up individual members OR eight members, whichever is fewer.

4. Officers

(a) The Association shall have the following officers:

1. An Honorary President, if and when appointed.
2. An Executive Committee which shall include the officers mentioned in subparagraph 3 above; the Editor of the journal; up to four elected members of

the Association; and a post-graduate representative. The Executive Committee may co-opt additional members as may be deemed necessary.

(b) Terms of office and election:

1. The Honorary President shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for a term of three years which may be extended at the discretion of the Committee.
2. Presidents will hold office for two years, shall be elected by the individual members of the Association, and may not serve more than two consecutive terms.
3. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Secretary shall be elected for two years by the individual members of the Association and may be re-elected.
4. The Editor of the journal shall be elected by the individual members of the Association. There will be no time limit to the Editor's term in office, which shall terminate upon the resignation of the Editor.
5. Committee members shall be elected for three years by the individual members of the Association, form amongst the individual membership, and can be re-elected. Co-opted members shall serve for a one-year term which may be renewed. The postgraduate representative can be re-elected if he/she is enrolled as a postgraduate on the day of election.
6. All Officers and Committee members shall have equal voting rights in committee business. For committee meetings, a quorum shall consist of President and Secretary or Treasurer, or designated deputies, and at least three additional Committee members. Vacancies on the Committee resulting from resignations may be filled *pro tem* by majority vote of the Committee.
7. The Executive Committee shall include on member of the academic staff of the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies *ex officio*. If that member is unable to attend a committee meeting she/he may nominate a substitute member of the academic staff to attend in her/his place.

5. Elections

The Election of Officers shall take place as required at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the new officers taking office upon the termination of that meeting. The Secretary shall call for nominations forty-two days prior to the Annual General Meeting, candidates to be nominated by two individual members who shall be fully paid-up members of the Association before the Annual General Meeting. Nominations should be received no later than twenty-one days before the General Meeting. Ballot form shall be circulated to the appropriate electors fifteen days prior to the General Meeting, and voting may be either by post or by direct attendance at the General Meeting. Postal votes should be received by the Secretary no later than four days before the General Meeting. The postgraduate representative shall be nominated by the individual members of the Association at the Annual General Meeting, or in the absence of a nominee at the Annual General Meeting, by the Executive Committee.

6. Membership

Individual Membership: all members of the public supporting the objectives of the Association shall be entitled to apply to the Committee for membership and, if accepted, to be enrolled as members and to receive the publications and other privileges of the Association upon payment of the annual subscription.

7. Sub-committees

The Executive Committee shall be empowered to create sub-committees in furtherance of the Association's objectives as deemed necessary. Such sub-committees shall be responsible to the Executive Committee and shall submit an annual report and accounts to the Committee for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

8. Subscription

The Annual General Meeting shall consider and determine the annual subscription for membership on the advice of the Treasurer. The subscription for all categories shall include the provision of the journal.

9. Adoption and Amendment of the Constitution

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, provided that notice is given to the Secretary of the Association two weeks before the Annual General Meeting. Amendments may be accepted if supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

10. Dissolution of the Association

Should the Association be dissolved by general agreement of the membership, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all proper debts and liabilities shall not be paid to members, but shall be paid to the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, King's College London, or some other charitable organization having objectives similar to those of the Association.