



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## Editorial

This has been a summer of extremes: floods followed one of the hottest days on record in Dunedin: more like the tropics than the deep south. Nevertheless people have been busy around the country with a number of archaeological projects underway, notably Jono Carpenter's discovery of the British graves at Ruapekapeka, for which he had been searching for some time (see *Recent Fieldwork* section in this issue). This received wide media coverage, and illustrates the potential for archaeological enquiry to produce results that are important for modern communities.

On a less positive note, the Mount Aurum Homestead (see the frontispiece) at Skippers in Otago was destroyed by fire over the summer: remote historic timber buildings will always be at risk, and unfortunately some visitors will always be careless. The last wooden building at Macetown (just over the range from Skippers) was also destroyed by a visitor's fire about ten years ago, and in 2016 Needham's cottage (also at Macetown) was damaged by a fire.

Press coverage of both the Ruapekapeka burials and the Mt Aurum fire has hopefully helped to keep heritage in the public eye throughout the country. Another way to increase the profile of heritage in general and archaeology in particular is to engage with the upcoming second New Zealand Archaeology Week, which runs from 28 April to 6 May. See the following page and the back cover of this issue of AINZ for details. The event was very successful in 2017, and NZAA is hoping to build the event each year.

*Peter Petchey*

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### **NZAA Needs You!**

**Have you considered including the Association in your will?  
We can grow your contribution towards dedicated  
scholarship funds or targeted areas of research.**

**Please contact:**

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