



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## Editorial

Archaeology Week has again proved to be a success, and a report in this issue of AINZ briefly describes some of the events that took place around the country. People are already planning new activities for next year.

The first Budget of the new Labour coalition government has announced an increase in funding of \$6.3 million over four years for Heritage New Zealand, with the aim to 'assist with processing an increased number of archaeological authority applications, protecting built heritage, and identifying and protecting sites of significance to Maori.' Lets hope that this extra funding is not soaked up in compliance alone; there were 6754 unpublished reports held in the HNZ digital library as of March this year: simple compliance is not going to generate new and useful knowledge about New Zealand; some mechanism to synthesise and disseminate this information is desperately needed.

The Department of Conservation also received a substantial funding boost, but this appears to be targeted at predator and biodiversity initiatives and park and track maintenance. Worryingly there was no mention of DOC's other mandate: heritage.

Things are potentially looking up for heritage management under the new regime, but more leadership is still required in the sector. More archaeological work than ever is being carried out, but meaningful outputs are still lacking. Archaeology Week is one initiative: others are still needed.

*Peter Petchey*