



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Professional Development Cell: Being an expert witness

The Professional Development Cell ran its 15th workshop in the Have-lock North Community Centre on Tuesday 7 June, the day before the NZAA conference started. This was the first time PDC have run a workshop linked to the conference, and it proved to be a good pre-conference event for those who attended.



*Figure 1. Geraldine Baumann presenting at the 'Being an expert witness' workshop.*

Geraldine Baumann of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust led this workshop, outlining the legal background to the current processes, such as council hearings, the Environment Court, Board of Inquiry, as well as pre-hearing conferences, caucus/ing, alternative dispute resolution and mediation. She talked about the varying roles played by councils, judges, commissioners, legal teams and the Environment Protection Authority. This is a constantly

changing process and it is important that archaeologists keep up-to-date and know when to seek advice. Caroline Phillips shared her experiences in writing and presenting evidence, rebuttal, caucusing with other experts and, in particular, what to look out for during cross-examination.

As both speakers mentioned, rules regarding evidence presentation and the code of conduct are a prescription for a professional approach and one that should always be followed by practicing archaeologists.

Those who attended volunteered their experiences, which was very valuable.

Thanks must be given to Geraldine for copying our handouts and Meri Low, as always, for the excellent administration.

Another workshop is being planned for 2011, and our email list will be informed when details are finalised. If you are not on our list and you want to hear more about the workshop series please drop Meri Low a line at meri.low@xtra.co.nz.

*Professional Development Cell*

## **Northland**

Elisabeth Callaghan and Leigh Johnson of Northern Archaeological Research (NAR) have been doing an archaeological assessment associated with the provision of a new mains power for Moturoa Island, in the Bay of Islands. The island is separated from the mainland by the Kent Passage (approximately 400 m wide at its narrowest point) and the power lines have been suspended across the passage by very large wooden poles between the island and the mainland. The new power cable is going to be subterranean and there will be earthworks with this and underground reticulation.

At Mahinepua two questionable ephemeral pits have been excavated as a result of development. The pits were confirmed to be pre-historic and samples have been taken for further analysis.

While doing an archaeological assessment of small forest block near Bland Bay, NAR has come across the modified remains of a kāinga. It had been damaged sometime in the 1970s when a top-dressing strip had been placed there before the forest had been planted.

Jonathan Carpenter (Geometria) has been monitoring earthworks associated with The Gables restaurant in Russell. There is one recorded site on the property, Q05/1185, the site of Henry Stephenson's store, residence and United States Agency. The site of The Gables was first purchased by John England from a rangatira, Amoka, in 1846. Jonathon reports that the excavation is rich

in historical artefacts, that he has recorded a beaten earth floor and underneath this has recovered basalt and obsidian flakes.

Also in Russell, while monitoring work associated with the storm water upgrade, Jonathon reports that he has found a channel marker used for navigation near the stream mouth.

Diane Harlow has been carrying out work at Mataka station. This 1160 ha property is on the southeast end of Purerua Peninsula on the northern shores of the Bay of Islands. It has been subdivided into lifestyle lots, backed by ongoing farming. The first dates to be gained from the archaeological work on the property are from high ridges where residences have been built to optimise the stupendous views. The date gained from a shell sample from midden site Q04/69 is 1625–1805 (1 $\sigma$ ). The site looks inland. The recent date gained from a small midden, Q05/32, is 1539–1655 (1 $\sigma$ ) where the view from the site is past the famous Rangihoua pā and out to the bay.

*Bill Edwards*

## **Waikato and Bay of Plenty**

There has been relatively little archaeological activity in the Bay of Plenty and Waikato in the last three months, possibly as a result of unusually wet weather throughout most of May and June.

Nine archaeological authorities have been issued for the area by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust in the last three months, and in July the Trust obtained a successful prosecution against Western Bay of Plenty District Council for damage to a site at Maketu in 2009. Brooke Jamieson has taken over as Regional Archaeologist from Rachel Darmody, who recently gave birth to a baby boy and is on maternity leave.

In Tauranga Moana, Chris Mallows has excavated a small site with 15 pits at Te Puna, and Louise Furey has been involved with the reconstruction of palisades and installation of a waharoa at Ongarahu Pa, in Huharua Park at Plummer's Point (which featured recently on Marae DIY (Māori Television)). Reports in the local newspaper that the site was comparable to Stonehenge are thought to be exaggerated, but the exercise was an excellent example of cooperation between archaeologists and tangata whenua.

Don Prince and Ken Phillips are rumoured to have been seen excavating around Tauranga and Papamoā, although elusive as always.

In the Waikato, Andrew Hoffmann and Warren Gumbley have excavated some garden sites, but otherwise things seem to be fairly quiet.

*John Coster*

## Taranaki

Ivan Bruce has been carrying out an investigation on the site of the former 1850s Grey Institute and Pukeho pā on Mission Street in New Plymouth. The site occupies a prominent hill above the suburb of Moturoa, and cut and fill from a 1960s development on the site has buried intact the double ditch and bank defences of the pā in the saddle on the southern side of the hill. The inner ditch has been substantially cut away by the earlier excavations, leaving only the base along much of its length, but the lower outer ditch is deeper and contains 19th century artefactual refuse from the Grey Institute. Work is currently underway and likely to continue until the end of August. Ivan has also been continuing with monitoring on the New Plymouth to Waitara sewerage pipeline trenching between New Plymouth and Bell Block, and two unmarked Māori cemeteries in the area have been so far avoided. Ivan has also been involved in additional survey and assessment in the Opunake area. This has identified a large gap in the archaeological record there, not covered by earlier aerial site recording surveys.

Sreymony Bowron-Muth carried out an investigation at the Waireka cemetery near New Plymouth on 22-23 June. The investigation involved stripping the topsoil to test geophysical survey results and locate unmarked graves. The work was carried out under a section 18 authority and was commissioned by the New Plymouth District Council, who wish to expand the cemetery.

*Andy Dodd*

## Wellington

Kevin Jones has written a maintenance specification for the Department of Conservation for Te Koru Pā Historic Reserve. Other projects have been on Parae Karetu, a hill above the Rangitikei River with Ngati Apa traditional associations, and several jobs for the Kapiti Coast District Council. The Kapiti Aquatic Centre development involved monitoring the removal of peat from an area of about two hectares but nothing was found.

Kevin has recently reviewed the documentation for Maupuia pā (by the Wellington airport) and recorded the site; it was both a ridge line pā (long since planed down) and a settlement by the water's edge.

Wellington is entering a phase of demolitions enforced under section 124 of the Building Act 2004. Of interest were a two-storey brick stables designed by Thos. Turnbull and Son (who designed Antrim House) and the Murdoch's (Icing Sugar) factory. The former was an area of stables from c.1890 and is still used for grooming (of cars) 120 years later! The latter was partly on the site of the 19th century Chinese settlements in Frederick and Haining streets. A small

amount of coarse-tempered, hard-fired earthenwares (large jars), celadon glazes and enamel hand-painted porcelain was found, probably dating to 1880-1910. These were of both Chinese and Japanese manufacture.

Christine Barnett has been involved in assessments and monitoring building developments in Greytown and Carterton, along with some temporary work with the Central Region New Zealand Historic Places Trust office in Wellington.

Mary O'Keeffe has completed her report on monitoring work at Government House, Wellington, and continues work on the proposed MacKays to Peka Peka expressway on the Kapiti Coast and the tunnels duplication project in Wellington.

*Mary O'Keeffe*

## **Marlborough**

Deb Foster has carried out two assessments recently, one ahead of forest harvest on Arapawa Island, the other at Owhai Bay on D'Urville Island where the new property owner has planned building and road improvements. The Arapawa forestry block is adjacent to Wharehunga Bay, notorious for the massacre of 10 of Furneaux's crew in 1773 while harvesting scurvy grass for their onward journey. A total of 11 sites had already been recorded around the coastline and additional survey inland located another five pit/terrace sites amongst the pine trees. Early maps and records indicate that at least some of the recorded sites were occupied in 1840 during Samuel Ironside's mission in Cloudy Bay. Ironside names four chapels located between Wharehunga and Parea Point, and a further two in Otanerau Bay, with baptisms numbering up to 200 in this area alone. One of the newly recorded sites, Q27/282, is a row of 36 post stumps on Burneys Beach, exposed after a storm in December removed the beach gravels. The stumps range in size from 40-100 mm diameter, are spaced about 100 mm apart between centres, and form a gently curved arrangement 4.5 m in length. At this stage the 'site type' remains unassigned, as the age and purpose of the fence is unknown.

Deb Foster has also been working at Owhai Bay on D'Urville Island, which was thoroughly surveyed by Nigel and Kath Prickett in 1973. At that time numerous clusters of spectacular pit/terrace features were recorded on the spurs and ridges above the flats. These have been heavily modified for farm use. The planned developments are not expected to impact on the pit and terrace sites. The Pricketts noted evidence of modified soils and midden in the beach section, but these were no longer evident.

Reg Nichol and Gary Buchanan have resumed their survey of Grove Arm at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound. At Anakiwa and Tirimoana both historic

and prehistoric material was located. One feature of interest was a retaining wall within the Outdoor Education grounds constructed of basalt blocks that had evidently been collected from an old ballast heap from the logging period. Ballast is reported to exist low on the shore, but none was ever exposed during any of their visits there.

Reg also carried out a small survey at Paradise Bay on the inner Pelorus Sound, where the owners have proposed a subdivision. The only prehistoric sites seen were places where the local basalt has been tested for flaking quality. Light grey with dark grey flecks, this rubbishy material closely resembles a variety of argillite, and examples of its experimental working are widespread around the sounds. European sites included a section of the very extensive bridle path system, and the remains of what is either a small dairy factory or its manager's house. There are also portions of what Reg thinks was a stone logging tram formation running around the shore. Sections of this have been demolished and the stones reused in various structures relating to accommodation for small boats.

*Reg Nichol*

## **West Coast**

Mamaku Archaeological Consultancy has continued its involvement with Oceana's Globe Hill development. Reg Nichol and Les Wright carried out a survey of Alborns's Back Gully coal mine and are working to complete the survey of the Inkerman track. They have also done more work around Oriental Creek, where they have been finding connections between previously recorded sections of track and water race, and where they have added several more occupation sites to the extensive series along Oriental Creek Road.

Reg also carried out assessments for further exploratory drilling around the Big River mine. Among other features, he located prospecting and alluvial mining on Golden Lead Creek, and underground workings identified as belonging to the Alexandra and Lord Edward claims.

*Katharine Watson*

## **Canterbury**

Witter Archaeology recently recorded the demolition of the old flour mill at Ashburton, which burnt down shortly before the February earthquake. This was actually two adjacent four-storey mills, the first having been built of timber in the 1880s and the second built of brick in 1903. The timber mill was completely burnt down and the brick one extensively damaged. Two stores were associated with the earlier mill, one of concrete which survived until the

fire, and another which was replaced with a larger building in the 1930s. The story of the construction and modification of the two mills and the associated buildings is relatively complex and was interesting to put together.

In Akaroa Kevin Jones and Paul Dingwall have mapped and recorded the Grehan mill (established c.1850), which still has standing buildings and a pond and leat.

Srey Bowron-Muth, Andy Brown, Matt Carter, Andy Dodd, Matt Hennessey, Wesley Maguire and Katharine Watson have all been involved in recording the demolition of buildings and monitoring the removal of foundations in Christchurch's central business district and elsewhere in the city. Amongst the more interesting finds have been the remains of six horizontal furnaces in central Christchurch and the remains of a Māori settlement on the old foreshore in Lyttelton.

Arden Cruickshank and Wesley Maguire have been recording the deconstruction of the Armagh Street tower section of the Canterbury Provincial Council Chambers, and the work on recording Lyttelton's Timeball has been continuing. The latter is nearly complete.

*Katharine Watson*