



NEW ZEALAND  
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## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

It was with some satisfaction that I read Gerald O'Regan's 'The antiquity of the Takahe Valley rock shelter site'. I had the remains from the Takahe Valley site for examination at Canterbury Museum, and concluded then that the cuts on the *Megalapteryx* ischium were made by a stone implement. Experimental cuts which I made on butcher's bone with stone tools resembled closely those on the ischium. To clinch matters, I later, when working through material from Wairau Bar Moahunter camp, found another pelvis fragment from *Euryapteryx*, which has a cut matching very closely that on the Takahe Valley bone – and no one would claim an 18th or 19th century date for Wairau Bar.

Incidentally, some of the Notornis Valley material seemed to be mislaid or lost when searched for at the National Museum and Art Gallery of New Zealand a few years ago. I hope it has been located by now.

Congratulations to Gerald O'Regan and all concerned with the settling of the much debated age of the Takahe Valley Moa.

Ron Scarlett  
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