



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

NEWS

DECEMBER 1973

The NZAA 1974 conference and A.G.M. will be held at Blenheim over Queens Birthday weekend. Neville Mathews is to be the organiser. Further details will be circulated to members shortly.

The council meeting in August decided to put forward Roger Green for election as a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. NZAA is a member body of R.S.N.Z.

The initial printing of "Is There a Future for New Zealand's Past", a pamphlet arguing for greater legal protection for sites and artefacts, ran to 14,000 copies. With help from some generous bodies, and in particular a Mobil Environmental Grant, a far greater printing than NZAA could manage alone will be achieved. A second printing is under way.

The Golden Kiwi fund has recently been very forthcoming for archaeology. NZAA has received \$400 to help with the publication of our next monograph, Lady Fox received \$1400 for her work this summer, and Dave Simmons \$1500 to study Maori collections in the United States. Which all raises the ethical question, 'if your hands are tainted by digging with lottery money, does it stay under your finger nails?'

The following monographs are still available:

No. 3, Archaeology in North Taranaki, A.G. Buist,	\$1.85
No. 4, Site Recording Handbook	\$1.00

Orders to the treasurer. Monograph No. 2, A Review of the Prehistoric Sequence in the Auckland Province, has been republished by the University Book Shop press and can be obtained through booksellers.

NZAA council supported a Historic Places Trust submission pointing to the presence of archaeological sites along the Heaphy track, and thus along the proposed route of the road. Hopefully it has some influence on the outcome.

The Historic Places Trust is a body whose interests overlap with NZAA. As well its efforts in the preservation of historic buildings are worthy of support. As the Trust's membership leaflet says, members are its life-blood. More members with archaeological interests could greatly increase the activities of the local committees in archaeological matters. No doubt many NZAA members already belong, but for those that don't the effort is well worthwhile. The individual associate membership is a mere \$2.00 a year. Application can be made in the first place to NZHPT, P.O. Box 12255, Wellington.

A conference of the site recording scheme district file keepers is to be held early next year in Wellington. Its purpose is to discuss the future of the scheme, including the problems involved in the impending replacement of the inch to the mile maps by metric maps at a scale of 1 to 50,000.

Some newer members are perhaps not aware of the Skinner Fund grants. This fund set up a few years ago makes grants twice annually in support of research on archaeology and physical anthropology. Proposed research need not include excavation or even field-work. Non-professional archaeologists are welcome to apply, and in the past have received many of the grants. Application can be made to the Royal Society. Closing dates are the 15th of March and September, each year. Processing has been taking some time recently so any proposed work should not be organised to be too close to the application date.

Consideration is being given to reprinting out-of-print issues of the Newsletter if there is sufficient demand. Any requests can be made to the secretary.

Michael Trotter is to start shortly on the formidable task of site surveying the Marlborough Sounds Maritime Park. This is being done at the request of the Park Board.

Site recorders with the production of Bob and Betty Lawn are none too common. We expect the growth rate the Northland file has shown of late will transfer to the mainland with their removal to the West Coast.

Council was recently informed of some instances of poor public relations on the part of some members doing field work. Consideration shown to landowners is in everyone's interest in the long term, even if yarning about wool prices, drinking cups of tea, and hearing all about the iniquities of the Labour Government seems a complete waste of your valuable field time. Often, however landowners will repay your efforts by offering shearers quarters for accommodation, and directing you to artefact collections, and sites.