



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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Officers and Council elected at the Association's Annual
General Meeting at Whakatane on 6 June 1976:

President: Doug Sutton, Dunedin.

Vice-Presidents: Stan Bartlett, Whangarei.
Janet Davidson, Auckland.

Secretary: Michael Trotter, Christchurch.

Treasurer: David Harrowfield, Christchurch.

Council: Steve Bagley, Nelson.
Barry Brailsford, Christchurch.
Jill Hamel, Dunedin.
Ross McQueen, Wellington.
Stuart Park, Dunedin.
Nigel Prickett, Auckland.

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*"To empty the contents of notebooks on a reader's
head is not publishing. A mass of statements which
have no point, and do not appear to lead to any
conclusion or generalization, cannot be regarded as
an efficient publication."*

W. M. Flinders Petrie, 1904.

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NEWS

Shortly after the Association's Annual General Meeting, the Minister of Internal Affairs announced that the Historic Places Trust would be allowed to increase its staff by three to administer the Trust's new archaeological responsibilities. This is clearly less than the Trust will need, even in the near future, but it is a start. At the time of writing, the positions have yet to be finally approved by a Cabinet Committee on Government staff levels, but approval is expected. One of the positions will not be a professional archaeologist's position but rather one to be filled by a career Government officer who will not be permanently assigned to the Trust. This appointment could still be from outside the present ranks of Government staff. All positions will be Wellington-based. NZHPT has taken the decision to attempt to implement the Act as best it can, given the limited resources it will have. Some of the proposals made for organisational change in the Trust will clearly have to await more favourable circumstances.

The Association conference with the A.G.M. was this year of the short variety and held in Whakatane. A field trip was held to some of the many pa in the area. New office holders are listed on the first page of this journal. Next year's conference is expected to be in Dunedin and part of the programme is to be Historical Archaeology.

Doug Sutton reports that his local M.P. is anxious to take up cudgels on behalf of his constituents over issues such as the unauthorised destruction of sites. Recent history will no doubt encourage a considerable effort on constituency affairs from members of the present Parliament. We have the Law on our side, and M.P.s are very effective in ensuring compliance with Law, particularly by Government Departments and Local Bodies.

People working in areas of our life covered by Law attest to the effectiveness of quoting statutes at people who are otherwise unwilling to co-operate.

The holder of Registered Collectors' Licence No. 1 under the Antiquities Legislation is R. G. W. Jolly.

Applications were considered in April by the Archaeology Committee of the Historic Places Trust for permits to carry out archaeological investigations under the provisions of the new Act. The keeper of Anthropology at the Otago Museum, Mr Stuart Park, was given permission to test investigate a site on the Otago Peninsula which the owners intend to clear and level for grazing. If the results of the test are positive, then a further application will be made for permission to carry out a more extensive investigation of the site.

Lady Fox, archaeologist at the Auckland Museum, was granted a permit to investigate a site on the Coromandel Peninsula. Approval was given to M. M. Trotter of the Canterbury Museum to complete a site investigation at Kaikoura. Three applications from Auckland University were approved: Mr Tony Walton for Hamlins Hill in Auckland, Mr Simon Best for Oruarangi/Paterangi near Thames, and to Mr Richard Cassels for Aotea in the Waikato. Almost all of these have since been acted on.

At the same meeting the Trust also considered applications to undertake investigations on the wreck of the ship, General Grant, in the Auckland Islands. In view of the doubt over the site of the wreck, the Trust has yet to issue any permits specifically for this wreck and will not do so until the site has been positively identified. The Archaeology Committee also agreed that the 1874 wrecks of the Cyrus and the Wellington were "archaeological sites" under the Act, and application to salvage them was approved, subject to the conditions laid down by the Trust.

The simple inclusion of shipwrecks in the Act has added complications to the Trust's work, for shipwrecks also come under other statutes and divers interested in shipwrecks are decades behind land archaeologists in adopting standards of conduct.

The Historic Places Trust has gained the services of the Tourist and Publicity Department in Wellington in making press releases. Some of the material in this present news derives from this source.

Persons wishing to apply for excavation permits may be interested in the dates for full Trust meetings. These confirm Archaeology Committee decisions before they are final. Full meetings are held

mid-month in March, June, September and November. To be considered by the Archaeology Committee, the applications must be in in time for committee meetings prior to full meetings. They should be in a form which the Trust officers can make a recommendation on by late February, late May, late August or late October for the respective meetings.

Members of the Archaeological Committee of the Trust are: from the full Trust, the NZAA nominee, presently Prof. R. C. Green, who is also Chairman, Drs R. K. Dell and R. Duff, and Messrs D. J. Mitchell and A. T. Mahuika, co-opted members, Lady A. Fox, S. Bartlet, B. F. Leach, N. Prickett, M. M. Trotter and M. Walters.

Summer survey work financed by the Trust employed 35 people in all. Other survey work was done for Forestry Service and for the Auckland Regional Authority. Unquestionably the last year will have seen the biggest growth in the site record scheme since its inception.

Foss Leach is at present in Britain on sabbatical leave. Richard Cassels will be starting a period of sabbatical in the later part of theyear. Peter Bellwood spent a period in Honolulu earlier in the year on leave from A.N.U.

The Historic Places Trust has contracted Mary Newman, a graduate of the University of Auckland, to prepare the archaeological section of the Trust's investigations of places of historic and archaeological interest in the area of the Tongariro Power Development. Mary has been located in Turangi for some of the work, and it is expected the report will be completed by the end of the year. When the development first started it was decided that a complete survey would be made of all sites of early human activity in the southern Lake Taupo and Lake Rotoaira area.

Archaeological investigations were carried out for the Trust in several stages during 1966 to 1971 by Trevor Hosking, resulting in a considerable number of reports, maps, and photographs. Many of the artefacts are on permanent display at the Museum in the Public Information Office at Turangi. Trevor's work was supervised by Tony Batley of Moawhango, who was a member of the Trust when the programme began, and will work with Mary in producing the final report.

A limited number of copies of Volume 1 of the Newsletter are available from the Secretary at \$2.00 per copy. Money with orders, please.

The NZAA C₁₄ Committee has started regular six-monthly meetings with the DSIR to discuss the material in the pipeline for dating. At the latest in June there was about six months' work available for the laboratory, but only a relatively small part of this was archaeological. All material outstanding at that date was expected to be cleared in the next six-month period. These included samples from Kaupokonui, Waitori and the Chathams. It is hoped to introduce regular official listings of dates in the Newsletter, the dates being published about a year after they were made available to the submitters of the samples.

Daisy Bayard writes:

"On April 17-19, the Otago Anthropological Society held its annual Easter Seminar in the Hutton Theatre of the Otago Museum. Papers from a variety of speakers on current New Zealand archaeological research and other anthropological work done in the Pacific area were presented. A majority of the papers was concerned with recent archaeological/environmental research carried out by the University of Otago Department of Anthropology in the Chatham Islands over the last summer. A broad spectrum approach to the prehistory and history of the Chatham Islands included reports on such diverse topics as vegetation, analysis of seal bones, early historic shipwrecks, German missionaries and Moriori rock carvings, as well as archaeological site survey and excavation.

"A number of other reports were given on work carried out in other areas of New Zealand such as a summary of Central Otago's archaeological researches, the introduction of firearms to the Northland Maori, excavations done at Pleasant River, Waikouaiti and site survey in the Hawkes Bay area and at South Kaipara, North Auckland.

"Two papers concerned themselves with the wider area of the Pacific, one on the cultural relations of the Polynesian Outliers and the other with whalers and whaling ships in the Pacific.

"The Seminar was organized as a means of helping both archaeology students and interested members of the general public keep abreast of recent archaeological research carried out in New Zealand."

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

Forthcoming publication

Bulletin 11 - Southeast Solomon Islands Cultural History -
A Preliminary Survey

Fifteen papers describing research conducted under the first Captain James Cook Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand, held by Dr Roger C. Green, now of the University of Auckland, will be published as a bulletin of the Society.

The papers, written by specialists working with Dr Green, describe Spanish and other European contact with the area, historical relations between languages of the region, vegetation and pollen surveys, agricultural systems, excavations, and the form and distribution of such artifacts as wood-carvings, fish-hooks, and pottery. The book presents, in one volume, an account of recent historical research in a previously little-known region, as well as general information about the region. It should be of value not only to archaeologists and ethnologists but also to researchers in related fields, as well as to educators, local government personnel, and others who live or work in the Southeast Solomon Islands.

There will be about 300 pages of text and figures, and the approximate cost will be NZ\$13. It is expected that the book will be distributed in July 1976.

Recipients of the Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand should note that this is an exchange publication.

— May, 1976.

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

At the Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Archaeological Association at Whakatane on 6th June, 1976, Rule 5 of the Constitution was amended to read as follows:-

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

5. Until the Association in General Meeting otherwise resolves, the subscription by members shall be as follows:

Ordinary members shall pay a subscription of \$7.00 per annum, but Ordinary members who attend at an educational institution as full-time students shall pay \$4.50 per annum. A husband and wife who are both members may, if they wish, pay a joint subscription of \$8.00 per annum and receive one copy of each issue of the Newsletter.

The basic subscription rate for all Institutional members shall be \$11.00 except that Institutional members supported by public funds shall be asked to pay an additional \$1.00 per \$2,000 of annual income up to a maximum of \$30.00 and except that the New Zealand Historic Places Trust shall be charged as an Ordinary member.

Michael M. Trotter,
Secretary

June 1976,
P.O. Box 24.059, Christchurch.