



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

**NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**



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NOTES AND NEWS

1981 Conference - Christchurch

The 1981 biennial conference of the New Zealand Archaeological Association will be held in the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, from 18th to 22nd May inclusive. These dates have been chosen to fit in with University vacations and to avoid clashing with other conferences as much as possible.

If sufficient people are interested we will run a mini-bus trip from Picton to Christchurch immediately before the Conference, stopping to inspect archaeological sites at Blenheim, Clarence, Kaikoura, Claverly and Hurunui (and maybe elsewhere) on the way. This would leave Picton on the morning of Saturday 16th and have an overnight stop at Kaikoura. The trip will be limited to 10 people maximum, so let us know as soon as possible if you are interested - first in, first served - costs to be shared.

Accommodation close to the Museum can be obtained at the following places which are listed with current prices (as an example of expected price rises, the Melville estimate that their Bed and Breakfast will be \$12.50 by May 1981) - please make your own arrangements.

Private Hotels

|          |                   |            |               |
|----------|-------------------|------------|---------------|
| Melville | 49 Gloucester St. | ph 798 956 | B & B \$11.00 |
| Windsor  | 52 Armagh St.     | ph 61 503  | B & B \$11.00 |

Licensed Hotels

|           |                  |            |                        |
|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------------|
| Carlton   | Bealey Av.       | ph 556 159 | Single \$14, twin \$20 |
| Clarendon | 78 Worcester St. | ph 798 440 | Single \$19, twin \$30 |

Motels

|              |                |            |                    |
|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------------|
| Carlton Mill | 19 Bealey Av.  | ph 61 068  | \$22-24 (2 people) |
| Hagley       | 13 Darvel St.  | ph 487 683 | \$24 (2 people)    |
| Adelphi      | 49 Papanui Rd. | ph 556 037 | \$24 (2 people)    |

Cabins (Bring own bedding, cutlery, cooking utensils)

|                              |                   |                    |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Addington Motor Camp (3 km*) | 47 Whiteleigh Av. | \$8.00 (2 people)  |
|                              |                   | \$10.50 (3 people) |

|                                   |                |                   |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Riccarton Park Motor Camp (5 km*) | Main South Rd. | \$5.50 (2 people) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|

\$1.50 each extra to 6

\*We may be able to make some bikes available, otherwise use bus!

Youth Hostel 5 Worcester St. (66 564) YMCA 12 Hereford St (60 689)

Billets A few billets will also be available, but it would be as well to make enquiries early.

We would be interested to have offers of papers and symposia now - please don't leave it till the last minute! Air-fare discounts will be arranged if enough people want them, but again, please apply early. The Conference organizers' address is Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, phone 68 379.

Beverley McCulloch  
John Campbell  
Michael Trotter

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Filekeepers

Site Recording Co-ordinator Stan Bartlett has supplied this up to date list of filekeepers (as at 24 October 1980).

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| NORTHLAND         | Mr S M Bartlett, 50 Cairnfield Rd, Whangarei   |
| AUCKLAND          | Dr S Bulmer, Anthropology Dept, University of Auckland,<br>Private Bag, Auckland.  |
| WAIKATO           | Mr S C Edson, Waikato Art Museum, P O Box 937, Hamilton  |
| BAY OF PLENTY     | Mr K W Moore, 13 McKenzie St, Kawerau  |
| TARANAKI          | Dr A G Buist, P O Box 447, Hawera  |
| INLAND PATEA      | Mr R L Batley, The Homestead, Moawhango, Taihape   |
| WANGANUI/MANAWATU | Mr D Butts, Asst. Director, Manawatu Museum, P O Box<br>1867, Palmerston North   |
| EAST COAST        | Mr J L R Allum, 122 Fox St, Gisborne   |
| HAWKES BAY        | Mrs Mary Jeal, 15 Fitzroy Rd, Napier   |
| WELLINGTON        | Mr I W Keyes, 12 Parnell St., Lower Hutt   |
| NELSON            | Mr S Bagley, Nelson Provincial Museum, Isel Park, Stoke,<br>Nelson   |
| MARLBOROUGH       | Mr N L Matthews, 14 Waikura St, Blenheim   |
| CANTERBURY        | Mr M M Trotter, Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Ave,<br>Christchurch  |
| WEST COAST        | Mr R G Lawn, 66 Tudor St, Hokitika   |
| OTAGO             | Ms Wendy J Harsant, Otago Museum, Great King St, Dunedin   |
| SOUTHLAND         | Ms L Williams, Southland Museum & Art Gallery, Victoria<br>Ave, Box 1012, Invercargill   |
| OFFSHORE ISLANDS  | Dr B F Leach, Anthropology Dept, University of Otago,<br>P O Box 56, Dunedin   |
| CENTRAL OTAGO     | Mr N Ritchie, Archaeologist, N.Z.H.P.T. c/- Ministry of<br>Works & Development, Clutha Valley Project,<br>Private Bag, Cromwell. |

Site Recording Co-ordinator

Mr S M Bartlett, 50 Cairnfield Rd, Whangarei

### Regional Representatives

The Council has recently appointed three Association 'Regional Representatives'. It is envisaged that these people will try and maintain contact among local members of the Association and perhaps organise local activities such as field trips and meetings. Regional Representatives will not necessarily be involved with the Site Record File, nor need they be involved in site conservation work relating to the File. The first three Regional Representatives are:

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| NORTHLAND  | Mr Stan Bartlett, 50 Cairnfield Rd, Whangarei       |
| HAWKES BAY | Mrs Mary Jeal, 15 Fitzroy Rd, Napier                |
| OTAGO      | Dr Jill Hamel, Otago Museum, Great King St, Dunedin |

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### Monographs

Regretfully the President and the Council have authorised the Sales Manager to raise the price of the Monograph series on an individual basis. The new prices will be found on the back cover; these will bring the profit margin on some of the earlier issues into line with the more recent numbers. The exchange rate of the dollar against the pound sterling has steadily declined during the last year and with it the small profit margin on No. 11 Birds of a Feather, which the Association has imported from British Archaeological Reports, and so the price must go up.

To compensate a little for these increases, a new Monograph No.12 Prehistoric Rock Art of New Zealand by M. Trotter and B. McCulloch will be offered to members at the special price of \$6.50 for a limited period. It will be published in April, 1981 by Longman Paul in the same format as Nos. 6 and 7, with the same quantity of attractive illustrations. This is a revised version of the 1st edition published by A.W. Reed in 1971; the text has been expanded but the book retains its popular appeal.

Orders, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Sales Manager before April 30th. Please add 50 cents for postage if required. Copies will also be available to members at the special price at the book-stall at the N.Z.A.A. meeting at Christchurch in May, or can be collected from the Sales Manager at Auckland Museum by arrangement.

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### Archaeometry conference

The following note is supplied by Foss Leach.

A specialist conference on 'Physics applied to problems in Archaeology' was held in Christchurch 27-28 August 1980 under the umbrella of

the New Zealand National Physics Conference. This meeting was organised by Foss Leach. There were 21 contributions (13 from New Zealand, 7 from Australia and 1 from the United Kingdom), and although the attendance was fairly small (30-37 people), it was an enthusiastic group. Papers were given by a mixed group of archaeologists, physicists, engineers, chemists, geologists and students. The subject matter ranged fairly broadly, but there were several recurrent themes. Clearly, accelerator studies are on the up and up in archaeology; and there were reported applications ranging from the much discussed C14 dating, obsidian dating, sourcing obsidian (PIXE-PIGME), and fluorine profile dating of bone. There were several papers on thermoluminescence dating, metallurgical studies, and sourcing studies of pottery, cherts and obsidians by a range of methods from the electron microprobe to XRF.

Professor E.T. Hall of Oxford graced the meeting as keynote speaker, and reported developments in his laboratory on accelerator dating. He also gave an entertaining evening address to the Royal Society on 'Physics, Fakes and Forgeries'.

This was a very successful meeting, and in a final discussion session, physicists and archaeologists alike agreed that a conference of this kind should be a regular event. There is a great deal of 'Archaeometry' research being carried out in the Pacific area, much of it highly original. The lack of a regular forum leads to duplicated effort, and insular thinking. There will be a symposium on Archaeological Science at the Pacific Science Congress in 1983, and this will be jointly sponsored by the Pacific Science Association and the Society for Archaeological Sciences. Any potential contributors should write to Foss Leach (Anthropology Department, Otago University, Box 56, Dunedin). It was generally agreed that there should be a conference between now and 1983, and Mike Barbetti has been prevailed upon to organise a similar meeting in Australia in May 1982. Again, those interested should write to him (Sydney University Radiocarbon Laboratory, Department of Physical Chemistry, University of Sydney, NSW 2006).

In addition, there was considerable interest in organising a quarterly newsletter to keep people in touch with current research activities. This is being organised in Dunedin, and anyone who would like to be on the mailing list should contact the Editor - John Dennison, Anatomy Department, Otago Medical School, Box 913, Dunedin.

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#### Archaeological Studies of Pacific Stone Resources

This volume of 15 papers is about to be released by British Archaeological Reports. It is edited by Foss Leach and Janet Davidson, and

contains material on recent studies of stone industries both within and around the rim of the Pacific basin. Although the price is not yet known, it will be moderate for size. Orders should be placed soon for this limited edition to: Dr A R Hands, BAR, 122 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2-7BP, England. The contents include:

W.R.Ambrose, J.R.Bird and P.Duerden. The impermanence of obsidian sources in Melanesia.

Russel J.Beck. A new development in understanding the prehistoric usage of nephrite in New Zealand.

J.R.Bird, P.Duerden, W.R.Ambrose and B.Foss Leach. Pacific obsidian catalogue.

T.P.Butylna. Some aspects of the stone industry of the ancient inhabitants of South Primorye, USSR.

P.J.F.Coutts and J.P.Wesson. Models of Philippine prehistory: a review of the flaked stone industries.

Janet Davidson. The prehistoric exploitation of stone resources in Northern New Zealand.

Takenobu Higashimura, Tetsuo Warashina and Yoshimasa Kamaki. Provenances of Sanukite implements in Western Japan.

G. Kovnurko, V.I.Mishin and G.I.Suslov. Statistical analysis of multi-element data from prehistoric sources of raw material - some geochemical considerations.

B.Foss Leach and S.E.Warren. Neutron activation analysis of New Zealand and Oceanic obsidians: towards a simple screening technique.

Helen M.Leach. Technological changes in the development of Polynesian adzes.

Isabel McBryde and Graham Harrison. Valued good or valuable stone? Consideration of some aspects of the distribution of greenstone artefacts in South-eastern Australia.

Douglas G.Sutton and Hamish J.Campbell. Patterns in the prehistoric distribution of stone resources in the Chatham Islands.

Tigger Wise. Archaeological artefact dispersals: a new way to test them for evidence of prehistoric trade.

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### Conservation course

Gerry Barton is a recent graduate in archaeology from Auckland University and a member of the Association. He is interested in general museum conservation as well as the conservation of archaeological finds, and recently attended a course in Rome on the subject. I asked him to tell us something about it. He writes:

The International Centre for Conservation Rome (ICCROM) was founded by UNESCO in 1959 as a scientific organisation dedicated to the collection and dissemination of documentation related to the problems of the

preservation and restoration of cultural property, giving advice on conservation problems, and training research workers and technicians. Each year the Centre runs three intensive study courses: architectural conservation, conservation of mural paintings, and conservation science, and students are selected world-wide. The Centre occupies four floors in the wing of an eighteenth century building standing on the bank of the River Tiber more or less opposite the ancient centre of Imperial Rome - Capitol Hill, the Forum, etc., so, apart from the content of the course itself, it was stimulating being surrounded by such a historical environment as the old city of Rome. The numbers of students in each course were small (there were thirteen of us participating in the conservation science course, coming from West Germany, Italy, Tanzania, Nigeria, India, Australia, Panama, the United States, Canada, France, Belgium and myself from New Zealand) and this meant it was possible to meet socially most of the students who were attending the courses. Something like 30-35 different nationalities were represented at the Centre. The various parts of the conservation science course was largely given by visiting experts, the teaching language being English.

The first seven weeks of the course were devoted to the more general aspects of conservation science - chemistry; biology; climatic, environmental, and lighting control in museums; and plastic technology in regard to its uses in conservation. The rest of the course was divided into the study of specific materials and our work encompassed metal, wood, textiles, archival materials, decorative stone and ceramics. The daily timetable was usually lectures in the morning and practical work in the afternoon. The practical work was largely of an experimental nature rather than working on actual museum items. For instance, we would use a variety of solvents on a variety of materials in order to determine which ones worked well, which ones were adequate, and which were useless in a specific context. As well as such experimentation we were made familiar with standard conservation equipment and techniques and given opportunities to use them. An example of this was a week of practical work in the Roman Forum cleaning Roman masonry with various solvents, ionized agents and air abrasive equipment. On another occasion we spent a day consolidating deteriorating wall frescoes in an Etruscan tomb at Tarquinia, north of Rome. Lectures and practical work were supplemented by visits to conservation laboratories and museums in Florence, Rome, Bologna and Faenza and, at relevant times during the course, to a bronze foundry, a wood workers' factory, a sculpture moulder's studio and the stone quarries at Tivoli. For my own interest I made visits to Pompeii, the Archaeological Museum in Naples where many of the most famous classical Greek and Roman art treasures are housed, the Imperial Roman port of Ostia Antica at the mouth of the Tiber, as well as most archaeological sites in Rome itself.

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