

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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# NOTES AND NEWS

## **New Members**

The New Zealand Archaeological Association would like to welcome the rollowing new members and wishes them well in their future archaeological endeavours:

Mauriri McGlinchey, Gerald O'Regan and Frank Walsh.

#### NZAA Web Address

There is a change to the web address which appears on the inside cover of *Archaeology in New Zealand*. You can still access NZAA's web page via the old address but it is a long circuitous route. The new address is: http://c14.sci.waikato.ac.nz/nzaa

#### **Call for Papers**

I would like to thank all those people who sent in papers, promises of papers, and reviews so promptly after my plea for new material in the last issue. I would appreciate more though. Any contributions you may have in the pipeline such as articles, book reviews, suggestions for books for review, letters to the editor etc..will be gratefully received.

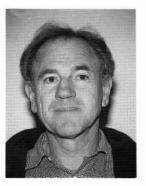
#### New NZAA Computer

This issue has been prepared on a new up-to-date computer. My sincere thanks to Gareth de Walter and Geraint Rees-Jones for setting it up and special thanks to Simon Bickler for all his time spent constructing a template for *Archaeology in New Zealand*.

## Geoffrey Irwin, FRSNZ

Our warmest congratulations to Professor Geoff Irwin of the Anthropology Department, The University of Auckland, who was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He is one of 19 New Zealanders whose contribution to science and technology has been judged worthy of the Society's highest honour.

Geoff is the world authority on the prehistory of Pacific voyaging and his book, *The Prehistoric Exploration and Colonisation of the Pacific*, has been widely acclaimed. His research, undertaken in



New Zealand, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia has covered the archaeology of fortifications, prehistoric trade in the west Pacific, and the mechanisms of Pacific colonisation.

## 2000 NZAA Conference Preliminary Announcement

Next year's conference will be held in Wellington from the 5th-8th of May with the core days being the 6th and 7th with field trips on the other days. More details in the March issue next year.

#### Storage Facility for NZAA Archival Material

This has been set up in Rotorua. Please contact Rick McGovern-Wilson or Lynda Bowers if you have material you wish to store in this facility.

#### NZAA Council Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Council of the New Zealand Archaeological Association was held on the 4th of September 1999.

Issues discussed included:

1. Handbook update. The handbook is ready to go to the printers.

2. Site Recording Scheme Upgrade progress report. Lynda Bowers gave a detailed account of progress since her appointment as project manager (Report below).

3. 2000 Conference. It was decided to hold next year's conference in Wellington as it was felt that it was prudent to be close to the seat of government at this

important post-election period. Conference will be held over the weekend of the 5th - 8th May with the core days on the 6th and 7th. It is being organised by Ian Barber with help from Rick McGovern-Wilson, Karen Greig and Tony Walton.

4. Editorships. No firm offers have been received. It was suggested that monographs might be edited by different people or could be a team effort.

5. Honorary Members. The Association has 15 Honorary Members including the late Alastair Buist. With the recent death of Alastair it is time to consider a new Member. This will be announce at Conference 2000.

6. Ministry of Culture and Heritage. This came into being on the 1st September 1999. Rick McGovern-Wilson showed the meeting a structural diagram of the ministry and noted it could make funding for the Historic Places Trust more difficult.

7. DoC Napier. It was noted that Elizabeth Pischeif is now working in Wanganui. Concern was expressed at the disestablishing of Heritage in the Napier Conservancy.

8. Storage of NZAA Archive and other material. Lynda Bowers looked at the options of hiring storage space in Rotorua. One facility was suitable, being specifically designed for archival storage.

9. RMA Amendment Bill. The NZAA Draft Submission was discussed. Ian Barber's draft will be sent out though PIN for comment a short time before the final submission is sent.

## NZAA Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project

Fieldwork for the Upgrade Project is now well underway within the East Coast file district. Since June this year approximate 500 sites have been assessed by a small band of dedicated NZAA members who have left the comfort of their home districts to brave the elements and hazards of East Coast fieldwork. The work of Ken Phillips, Brenda Sewell, Mary O'Keeffe, Vanessa Tanner, Kate Hill, John Coster and Barbara Proctor is greatly appreciated. Pam Bain has spent many hours collating information for the project and the East Coast file now occupies an extra filing cabinet as upgrade forms are returned to the system.

The district has been divided into survey areas based on the rohe boundaries of

each Iwi involved in the project. All the Iwi contacted to date have enthusiastically supported the project, and in the majority of cases the field crews include an Iwi representative. Fieldwork has been undertaken with Ngai Tamanuhiri, Te Aitanga a Mahaki, Rongowhakaata, Ngati Konohi and will shortly commence with Te Aitanga a Hauiti in the Tolaga Bay area. The archaeologists involved in the project have found working with each of the Iwi a rewarding experience.

The assistance of Gisborne District Council staff, particularly Wendy Turvey and Leanne Williams, has been invaluable in the process of matching archaeological sites to landowners. Each landowner has been contacted in writing by the Council and follow up work to ensure that property access consent forms are returned has been undertaken by members of the Planning Committee. The efforts of Councillor Patrick Willock have been greatly appreciated. The success rate in getting permission to enter properties has been 100% to date.

Fieldwork on the East Coast will be suspended over the Christmas/New Year period due to the Millennium madness, but the deadline for completion of work is 31 March 2000, so we will be looking for people to assist with fieldwork from mid January onward to complete the work from Tolaga Bay up to Cape Runaway.

Mary O'Keeffe recently completed a review of the Canterbury file with Chris Jacomb. Approximately 600 sites need to be visited in the Canterbury region and discussions are underway with Canterbury Regional Council. Work should commence in Canterbury early next year. At the same time the records for the Eastern Bay of Plenty have been reviewed and fieldwork will begin there next year. The intention for 2000 – provided that funding for the project continues – is to commence work on the Canterbury, Bay of Plenty and Wanganui/Manawatu files. If any members are undertaking work in these areas please contact me so that our efforts can be co-ordinated.

The project upgrade form and further information about fieldwork can be obtained by calling the project CLEAR toll free number 0508 ARCHAEOLOGY (0508 272 423).

Lynda Bowers Project Manager

## Report on the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Conference

I recently attended the conference of the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology, held in Sydney on 18-21 September. The theme of the conference was "Pacific Rim - Trade and Migration". There was a wide and interesting variety of papers, on topics including whaling and gold industries, wrecks in Fiji and Tonga, the Bounty wreck at Pitcairn, investigation of historical sites including wharves, and a survey of Sydney harbour defences. There was a session on technical developments, including multibeam sidescan sonar and nitrox diving.

There were two keynote speakers, including Dr Kathy Abbass, the director of the Rhode Island Maritime Archaeology Project, who has confirmed the presence of Cook's Endeavour as one of a number of wrecks deliberately sunk in Newport to form a defensive breakwater during the American War of Independence. The other was Dr Shelli Smith, who is the director of the Newport Maritime Museum. She gave a wonderful, entertaining "big picture" view of the settlement of the Pacific, looking at all the various nations involved over time, and the social, political and religious factors which triggered the activity, with the occasional delve into food and fashion!

I presented a paper on the Inconstant project, on which I assisted Susan Forbes. The paper was very well received; the conference members were extremely impressed with the number and range of positive outcomes of the project.

It was interesting to talk "shop" with the Australians, and to compare the heritage industries between the two countries, to see how their industry operates, what they're up to etc. I gained the strong impression that there were some serious misunderstandings and misinformation about how things work in NZ, so I plan to put that right with a quick note in the AIMA newsletter.

There were some global issues that speakers from most countries alluded to in some form - the first being the ongoing issue of site disturbance, I was relieved and dismayed to have confirmed this is a problem everywhere, irrespective of what institutions or legislation is in place. The second and related issue was that the best way to counter this is through education rather than waving big sticks.

Mary O'Keeffe