



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## NOTES AND NEWS

**New member** Brooke Tucker

**Deceased** Miss Marion Kerr Steven (member since 1962)

**Donations** D J A Gray, G Hamel, I J Morrison, J Tollemache, Kiyoshi Maruyama.

### **An Important Message from the NZAA President**

#### **Future Directions for NZAA ?**

With the proposed changes to cultural heritage management still in a state of flux, while the Labour government decides how it wishes to proceed RMA Amendment Bill, now is perhaps a very good time for us all to critically examine the position of NZAA. Council have decided to undertake a critical evaluation of the Association and the way it meets the needs of its members - "Are we serving our membership well, can we improve what we are doing, and are there things that we should be doing that we are not currently doing ?" For years now we have been functioning around the core services of the Newsletter, the Journal and Monographs, and the annual conference but is that how members want the Association to function ?

This year's conference theme is "New approaches and future directions for New Zealand archaeology" and is a good opportunity to begin the discussion about the functions of the Association. Council recognises that the archaeological climate is changing and we wish to be inclusive of both professional and non-professional members. It is proposed that a short (!) discussion will be held at the AGM to get some ideas on the table and to give Council some direction on how it should approach the question.

I propose that the first part of the exercise should to undertake a membership survey in order to gather information on the membership structure, and to

determine member's views on a number of constitutional issues as well as priorities for existing and future Association functions and activities. This is not intended to be threatening to the current structures or functions in any way - the Association is in good heart, but with an increasing advocacy role and greater demands being placed on Council members' time and good nature we need to examine where we are going and what we are trying to achieve.

Please think seriously about this issue and come to the AGM with positive ideas for improving the service delivery of the NZAA.

If you have any questions, or need anything more please don't hesitate to contact me.

Rick McGovern-Wilson  
President  
New Zealand Archaeological Association

### **Call for Papers: Nzaa Conference, Wellington, 6-7 May 2000**

This year the Association's annual conference is to be held at The Functions Centre, Victoria University of Wellington, over the weekend of 6-7 May. The conference theme is:

New approaches and future directions for New Zealand archaeology.

It is hoped that the conference will attract papers on new ways or methods of interpreting archaeology, or pointing to new directions for the discipline in New Zealand. Proposals for papers on any appropriate aspect of archaeology in New Zealand are welcome. Relevant papers on Pacific archaeology, world archaeology, or archaeological theory or method are also welcome. Proposals for sessions on particular topics or for poster presentations may be submitted as well.

Paper titles and abstracts of no more than 200 words should be submitted on or before Monday 3 April 2000 to:

Ian Barber  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Otago  
PO Box 56 DUNEDIN  
Email: [ian.barber@stonebow.otago.ac.nz](mailto:ian.barber@stonebow.otago.ac.nz)

Wherever possible, please submit abstracts in electronic form, preferably within the body of an Email message. For a session proposal, please also nominate a willing session chair.

### **New Publication**

Monograph 23, *Archaeological Site Recording in New Zealand*, is now available. Edited by Tony Walton with chapters by Nigel Prickett and Bruce McFadgen (and contributions from others) this is an update of the Site Recording Handbook.

Cost: \$10 plus \$5 p&p for members; \$15 plus \$5 p&p for non-members. Bulk orders of more than 10 are entitled to a 20% discount.

If you are planning to attend the May NZAA Conference in Wellington, please delay purchase until then - there will be sufficient books available. Orders to NZAA, c/- Nigel Prickett, Auckland Museum, PB 92018, Auckland. The low purchase price of the book is intended to encourage wide distribution. If you know of any individual or organisation dealing with archaeological sites, please encourage them to purchase a copy.

(See review of this publication in the Reviews section of this issue)

### **New Year's Honours**

New Year's Honours for NZAA Member Dr Jill Hamel was awarded a QSO (Queen's Service Order) in the New Year's Honours list in January 2000, much to the delight of her friends and colleagues in Otago and Southland. Since completing her Ph.D. on prehistoric sites and their palaeoenvironment in the Catlins, South Otago in 1977, and working a few years as a curator in Anthropology at the Otago Museum, Jill has carved out a successful career as an independent archaeologist and conservation specialist. She served on the NZAA Council from 1976-1983, the Otago Regional Committee of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust from 1980-1987 (as Chairman 1981-1983, and now an Honorary Life Member), and most recently has worked tirelessly as an advocate for heritage values on the Otago Conservation Board (1990-1999). She has been the NZAA Filekeeper for coastal Otago since 1982, a long and valuable period of service. Her effectiveness in these roles has been enhanced by active involvement in fieldwork, particularly in the Central Otago goldfields. Jill was one of the first archaeologists to take a systems approach to the interpretation of goldfields landscapes, identifying and studying their components through the water features that link them. She has a special interest

in early European farmsteads in Otago and Southland and has played an important role in facilitating the acceptance of conservation policies in rural communities. 'Aunty Jill' is a hands-on conservator, tree-gardener, botanist, ornithologist, farmer and archaeologist who well deserves this official recognition.

Helen Leach  
Anthropology Dept., Otago University

Others (non-members) to be honoured, but who have links to the archaeological community :

Prof. Evelyn Stokes - Dame Companion of the NZ Order of Merit (DNZM). Evelyn is Professor of Maori studies at the University of Waikato and has been honoured for her services to tertiary education and Maori.

Russell Beck - Officer of the NZ Order of Merit (ONZM). Russell is the director of the Invercargill Art Gallery and Museum and has received his award for services to art and local history.

### **Australasian Archaeometry Conference 2000**

Preliminary Invitation to the Australasian Archaeometry Conference 2001  
FEB 5th-9th, 2001, University of Auckland, Auckland

The Australasian Archaeometry conference meets every four years. This year for the first time the conference will be held outside Australia. In 1997 this conference was attended by several hundred scholars with involvement in the fields of Archaeology, Anthropology, Geography, Conservation, Museology, Material Science and Applied Nuclear Science (e.g. dating, materials analysis etc).

Some topics covered at past conferences included advances in dating (14C, TL, OSL, OHD), bone chemistry, technological and provenance studies, prospection, environmental impact and geoarchaeology.

The conference is organized by a Local Organizing Committee which extends invitations to a broad range of researchers working in the Australasian region and beyond. The main host for 2001 will be the Centre for Archaeological Research at the University of Auckland in collaboration with a number of other New Zealand research centres and academic institutions.

The theme session for this Symposium will be Issues and Developments in Australasian Chronology: New Directions for the New Millennium.

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PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORM

If you wish to receive further announcements and information concerning the symposium, please return this form via e-mail, regular mail, fax, or fill out the online registration form at our web site. The first call for papers will be issued in May 2000.

First Name:

Last Name:

Institution/Employer:

Street Address:

City/Town:

State/Province:

ZIP/Postal Code:

Country:

Telephone/Fax:

E-mail:

Areas of Interest:

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Contact Information

Online registration: [http://car.ant.auckland.ac.nz/archconf/arch\\_feedback.html](http://car.ant.auckland.ac.nz/archconf/arch_feedback.html)

e-mail: P.Sheppard@auckland.ac.nz

Fax: Country code:64, City code:9. Fax number: 373-7441

Mailing address: Australasian Archaeometry 2001, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand

**Waikato University Scholarships**

Dr Caitlin Buck (Cardiff University) and Dr Valerie Hall (Queen's University of Belfast) have been awarded international scholarships by the Waikato Branch of the Federation of University Women to support research with staff in the Department of Earth Sciences at Waikato University this year.

Caitlin Buck is an archaeo-statistician specialising in the calibration of archaeological radiocarbon data. She is one of the pioneers of the application of Bayesian statistics to archaeology. The Bayesian approach allows archaeological data to be interpreted in the light of prior information, which often plays a

crucial part in archaeological research. In the case of radiocarbon dating, Bayesian calibration methods incorporate the stratigraphy of the site and use this prior information in the computation of archaeological occupation dates. Caitlin visited the Waikato Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory in December last year and again in February and March, working with Dr Tom Higham on developing further improvements for archaeological radiocarbon calibration. In addition, she spent time with Dr Geoff Nicholls and Mr Martin Jones at the Centre for Archaeological Research at Auckland University working on code for Bayesian calibration programming. She gave a public talk on Bayesian archaeology at Waikato University and will leave New Zealand on March 5 to return to Cardiff.

Dr Hall is a palaeoecologist from a botanical background who has pioneered research involving tephrochronology - the identification and use of volcanic ash (tephra) layers as a dating tool - to date environmental changes and human impacts and interactions in the Irish landscape. She has also been involved with applying tree-ring (dendrochronological) based calibrated timescales developed by scientists at Belfast to dating palaeoecological changes recorded by pollen and microscopic volcanic ash layers in peat bogs.

Dr Hall is to visit the University in April this year and will work with Associate Professor David Lowe in the Earth Sciences Department on joint research he began in Belfast in 1998 on dating changes, using tephrochronology, in the New Zealand landscape associated with Polynesian settlement around 1300 AD.

Dr Tom Higham  
Deputy Director,  
Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory,  
University of Waikato

### **About.com's Archaeology site**

(<http://archaeology.about.com/>)

Highlights:

- A World Atlas of Archaeology listing excavations, researchers, and information resources for over 150 countries
- A Directory of Graduate Schools listing current faculty and research areas, organized by location and specialty
- Dig 2000, a guide to current and upcoming excavations
- Job listings for field and lab assistants
- Carefully selected Net links covering over 70 topics
- Over 130 articles



- Active bulletin boards and chat rooms
- A rideshare / roomshare board for students headed to professional meetings  
The URL is <http://archaeology.about.com>.

## **NZAA Council**

At the 11 December meeting of the Council of the New Zealand Archaeological Association General Business included the following matters:

### *1. Handbook Update*

A number of issues to do with printing and distribution needed immediate decision. There was general agreement that this print run be 500 copies and that there should be a colour picture on the cover. Costs should be \$10.00 (incl. p&p) for members and \$15.00 (incl. p&p) for non-members.

A free copy should be sent to all Filekeepers; to the six authors; one copy should be sent to each DoC Conservancy Office (directed to the Librarian); one copy to each of the three DoC Regional Offices; one to Science and Research Division of DoC; and one to the Conservancy Policy Division of Head office, DoC.

### *2. Membership Form*

A draft version of the suggested text for a membership form was tabled. This was to be circulated for comments by e-mail. It is our aim to have it ready for presentation at Conference this year.

### *3. SRS Upgrade Progress Report*

The project Manager tabled monthly reports for the period since the last Council meeting. They were now over half way through the East Coast file, which had been a huge undertaking. Thinking of aerial reconnaissance if it proved to be cost effective. John Coster had been asked to conduct an audit of how the project was shaping up.

They were only \$3000 short of the funding total needed for Canterbury. Working on a figure of approximately \$25 per site (excl the Project Manager's salary and volunteers) in making applications to Councils for funding. The continuation of the Project depends on the success of the current Lotteries application but we won't know the results of that until March. The project will generate huge amounts of work for filekeepers in those areas affected. Infrastructure issues (such as the physical location of files and whose computer will be used for what) will arise and need to be resolved.

#### 4. *Conference 2000*

It was agreed that we accept Victoria University as a venue for the 2000 Conference. Field trips suggested for Friday and Monday. Rick to write as soon as possible to Sandra Lee and to Helen Clarke inviting them to attend and asking Helen Clarke if she will open the Conference.

#### 5. *S.A.A. Document*

Copies of a membership survey exercise from the N.Z. Geological Society were tabled. It was decided that we would come back to the next Council meeting with proposals for proceeding with one for N.Z.A.A.

#### 6. *Audited Annual Accounts*

Fees for auditing were substantial and since it appeared unlikely that any financial misdemeanours would be picked up in the process, the possibility of no longer having the accounts audited was discussed? It would be arranged, in such an event, to have someone who was not an N.Z.A.A. member look over the accounts.

A motion that we take the unaudited accounts to the AGM and ask the meeting if they wish us to have them audited was agreed.

The Treasurer recommended that we take the remain with our current accountant and Council were happy to accept that recommendation.

#### 7. *Fellowship of Royal Society*

Rick informed the meeting that Geoff Irwin had been awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand. Moira was asked to write and officially congratulate him on behalf of the Association.

#### 8. *Central File Location*

Rick informed the meeting that he had met with Elizabeth Kerr the day before at her behest about the possibility of the Central File moving to Antrim House.

Council were unanimous that any such decision now would be premature.

#### 9. *Legislation Revisited*

Given the change of government, it was suggested we write to relevant politicians voicing our concerns about the previous Review and the lack of representation from the archaeological community. We would like them to convene a working party to look at both the Historic Places Act and the

Resource Management Act. Sue to put her ideas for a strategy of working parties in each of the main centres together and email them to the rest of Council. Rick will include this in the next PIN to be sent out.

#### 10. Editorships

A motion that Rick McGovern-Wilson be joint editor of the Journal with Janet Davidson until such time as we find a "permanent" editor. Agreed. It was hoped that the replacement might be found within the next year.

#### 11. Point of Information

A new computer and upgraded software for the Editor of *Archaeology in New Zealand* has been purchased.

### **NZAA Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project**

Fieldwork activity on the Upgrade Project was suspended over the Christmas/New Year period, but resumed in February on the East Coast with John Coster undertaking a review of all recorded sites within forests managed by Hikurangi Forest Farms. This work was a co-operative effort between the Association and the forestry company, to ensure that all the known sites are accurately located and mapped using differential GPS. The East Coast Conservancy of the Department of Conservation is also contributing to a similar exercise on land they administer.

Fieldwork with Te Aitanga a Hauiti at Tolaga Bay started in late November when Brenda Sewell, Barbara Proctor, Kate Hill and Vanessa Tanner completed two weeks solid work which provided a good start to the review of the 646 sites to be visited in the area. The project is now over half way through the review of the East Coast file, but there are still a considerable number of sites to be visited and the fieldwork is now expected to continue until May or June this year.

In the Bay of Plenty, Opotiki District Council and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council are currently working to match property ownership details to the list of recorded archaeological sites, which need to be visited in the Eastern Bay of Plenty (Cape Runaway to the Waiohahi River). Opotiki District Council and the Association are undertaking consultation with landowners and Iwi jointly. Fieldwork in this area is expected to commence in May.

In the Canterbury file district, Mary O'Keeffe recently met with staff of Waimakariri District Council and members of Te Runanga o Ngai Tuahuriri.

Fieldwork in this district council area is scheduled for April, and will be followed by work on Banks Peninsula during May. The fieldwork will progressively complete each district council area (there are nine districts within the Canterbury file area) throughout the year, with the timetabling determined by consultation with Iwi and local authority staff.

The Association currently has an application for funding for the 2000/2001 year lodged with the Lotteries Environment and Heritage Committee, which will be considered at the March meeting of the committee. The project work which has been undertaken to date has been well supported by Iwi, territorial local authorities and property owners, and we are hoping that, with continued funding, the Association can continue to build on this positive start to the project. We believe that there will be substantial long term advocacy benefits for archaeological sites, and historic heritage in general.

I would like to repeat my earlier request that if any members are undertaking work in the East Coast, Bay of Plenty, Canterbury or Wanganui/Manawatu file districts, please contact me so that our fieldwork 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