



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## NOTES AND NEWS

### **New members**

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

Janine Townshend, Vanessa Tanner, Karen Duncan, Bob and Suzanne Hemming, University of Chicago, Julie Kleinpaste, John Orchard, Bridget Mosley, C. Wheadon, Tiffany James-Lee, Jonathan Welch, Te Atiawa Trust, Chris Williams.

### **Donations:**

D. M. E. Allen, C. Merrony, P. Fletcher, M. Jackson, S. Macready and R. Clough.

### **New Publication**

The Department of Anthropology at The University of Auckland has recently published Volume 3 in its series RESEARCH IN ANTHROPOLOGY AND LINGUISTICS. It is *Raurimu Frontier Town: 1900-1925: A Social Archaeological Perspective*, by Kate Hill, an examination of the transient railway construction settlement for the Main Trunk and Raurimu Spiral, and its transformation into a sawmilling town which was all but destroyed by fire in 1925.

Volume 4, *Holiday Communities on Rangitoto Island, New Zealand*, by Susan Yoffe, is currently in press and will be available in July. It is an exploration of bach communities and the summer holiday, in the interwar period.

Volumes are available from The Secretary, The Department of Anthropology, The University of Auckland, PO Box 91029, Auckland, New Zealand, or email [RAL@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:RAL@auckland.ac.nz). Costs are around \$20+postage.

### **Call for Nominations for the NZ Association of Scientists 2000 Award**

Nominations are invited for the following medals to be awarded by the Association

**Marsden Medal:** awarded for a lifetime of outstanding service to science in New Zealand, in recognition of service rendered in the cause of profession of science in the widest connotation of the phrase.

**Shorland Medal:** Awarded in recognition of a person's major contribution to basic or applied research that has added significantly to scientific understanding, or resulted in significant benefits to society.

**Research Medal:** Awarded for outstanding fundamental or applied research in the physical, natural or social sciences published during the year of the award or in the preceding three years. Nominees must be under the age of 40 on January of the year in which they are nominated except that, where a scientist has had an interrupted career, the age limit may be extended to a max. of 45.

Nominations should be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae* and a citation, in a style suitable for the judges and the general public, that explains the nominee's contribution. They should be forwarded to:

The Secretary  
New Zealand Association of Scientists  
PO Box 1874  
Wellington  
by 31 July 2000

### **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, OH), bone chemistry, technological and provenance studies, prospecting, 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

#### New Life Members

The NZAA honoured two of its most distinguished members with Honorary Memberships at the 2000 Conference in Wellington.

### **Foss Leach**

With Foss Leach's recent announcement of his decision to step down from the role of Business Manager of the *New Zealand Journal of Archaeology*, Council have taken the opportunity to recognise Foss' service to the Journal, and New Zealand archaeology as a whole, by electing him to Honorary Membership of the Association.

Foss first went to Otago University in 1961-62 to begin studies as a medical student. This was not to be so he spent the latter half of 1962 as a possum trapper in the Rimutakas before returning to Otago in 1963 to start a career in archaeology which continued through until 1988 in Dunedin. Since then he has been an honorary curator in archaeozoology at Te Papa, formerly the National Museum. In 1967 Foss was appointed as a temporary junior lecturer before becoming a fully-fledged member of the Anthropology staff in 1968. From 1969 to 1972 he ran the Southern Wairarapa project which saw the beginning of many other people's interest in archaeology: Foss and Helen both completed PhDs on the project; also involved were Nigel and Kath Prickett, Doug Sutton, Atholl Anderson, Graeme Ward, Kevin Jones, and Neville Ritchie (with apologies to others I may have missed). In fact, many professional archaeologists who trained at Otago in the period from 1968 to 1988 have Foss to thank for their grounding in archaeology.

Foss has also been the Offshore Islands Filekeeper for the NZAA Site Recording Scheme since the establishment of this file as a separate entity.

It is his work with the Journal that we especially want to honour Foss. In 1977 he moved to set it up, taking over the vital role of establishing the style and all the background to launching a new international journal. In 1979 the first issue was launched and the fact that it is publishing today is a testament to Foss' work in doing the typesetting as well as filling the Business Manager's role. It is hoped that as Foss steps aside he will be replaced by someone equally as committed to the ideal of producing an annual, edited journal that can serve as an outlet for New Zealand archaeologists.

### **Nigel Prickett**

Legend has it that Nigel Prickett was lured away from all thoughts of farming, deer culling and work for the old Forest Range Experiment Station after encountering Foss Leach and other members of the Wairarapa Archaeological Research Programme when they visited his home territory at Pirinoa, Palliser Bay in 1969. Looking for adventure he enrolled at Otago University in 1970 and became involved in the Wairarapa Project as a masters student. In 1971-2 he

excavated a house site and cooking area in the Moikau Valley on the family farm. The results of this work were central to his master's thesis, 'Houses and House Life in Prehistoric NZ' (1974). In 1974-5 he was Director of the Taranaki Museum. The rich archaeological landscapes of the Taranaki region stimulated his interest in the archaeology of the New Zealand wars. This led to his PhD. thesis from the University of Auckland, 'The Archaeology of a Military Frontier: Taranaki, New Zealand, 1860-81'. It was based on excavations at Warea Redoubt and Omata Stockade, later the subject of NZAA Monograph 20.

It was with this background that Nigel became Curator of Archaeology at the Auckland War Memorial Museum in 1979. His contribution to John Daniel's 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the *Site Recording Handbook* appeared that year. This was also when he took up the red pen for the NZAA becoming editor of the *Newsletter*. He held the editor's job until 1987, overseeing the production of 36 issues. His contribution continued in 1988 with his involvement in the production of Monograph 16 (L. Furey and N. Prickett. Author, Title and Subject Index of the NZAA Newsletter Vol 1-30, 1957-87).

The red pen was reactivated again for the Association in 1989 when he took over editorship of the Monograph series. He oversaw the production of Monographs 18-22 during a 10 year stint, his final contribution being a chapter on historical archaeology Monograph 23, *Archaeological Site Recording in New Zealand. 1999.*

### **Gumboot Award**

The Les Groube Gumboot Award for 2000 was awarded to Vanessa Tanner at the Conference dinner (6 May 2000). The citation for the Award read as follows:

For those of us who trained in the days when archaeology was done because you loved what you were doing, and making money wasn't the primary driving force, it is refreshing to find a student coming through the system extolling those virtues once again. The Groube Gumboot Award this year goes to Vanessa Tanner and is given in recognition of Vanessa's involvement in a range of fieldwork projects over the past 12 months.

Vanessa has worked on Kevin Jones' Southern Hawkes Bay Project, undertaking fieldwork to identify features initially recognised on aerial photographs; she excavated at the Queenstown casino site with Peter Petchey under extremely trying conditions imposed by the Mayor and casino developers; and she has been the backbone of the fieldcrews working on the NZAA Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project on the East Coast over the last 6 months.

Ken Phillips' nomination for Vanessa refers to her work on the East Coast and captures the spirit of what Council felt were the criteria for awarding the Gumboots to Vanessa:

"Hope it's not too late to nominate Vanessa Tanner for the Les Groube Gumboot Awards. In recognition of her fieldwork for the NZAA Site Upgrade project, carried out in the finest tradition of East Coast archaeology, where only the passionate survive. Following in the footsteps of the irrepressible Kevin Jones and the incomparable Leahy and Walsh, and without shiny four-wheel drive or powerful binoculars, Vanessa faced her fears and did it anyway. Steadfast when confronted with the most fierce of East Coast bulls and most parochial of East Coast banjo players, Vanessa never wavered. Finally, a graduate who knows the joy and ecstasy of sorting single species shell midden samples with little more than Classic Hits FM for company.

Vanessa has rapidly grasped the fact that archaeology is not a career but a lifestyle, and for this she is an example to all archaeology students who aspire to Pajeros and Akubra hats instead of bulla boots and shanks' pony."

### **Annual Report 2000. The NZAA Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project**

The Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project is a national initiative, which the Council has taken to upgrade the information contained on the 53,000 recorded archaeological sites.

The project developed as a result of the scheme information being increasingly used in planning and legal issues of site identification, protection and management. In particular, use of the scheme by territorial local authorities has increased since the advent of RMA in 1991. This is a use that the scheme was not designed for, and the variable quality of records and level of detail has resulted in frustration for many users.

In 1998 the Association was successful in securing funding from Lottery Environment and Heritage to enable the project to get started. I began my role as Project Manager in May 1999, and the first file district selected for review was the East Coast. This was in direct response to the support offered by Gisborne District Council, which included funding and considerable logistical support. Gisborne District Council had previously funded a pilot study to upgrade sites.

The East Coast file contains 2700 sites and provides an excellent opportunity to perfect the process of fieldwork and procedures associated with the project with the assistance of supportive local authority staff and a very committed filekeeper. The project fieldwork has been based on rohe boundaries with fieldcrews usually comprising of one archaeologist and one iwi representative. The support from iwi has been one of the most rewarding aspects of the project to date.

Gisborne District Council took the lead role in landowner contact, including the involvement of ward councillors in contacting owners to ensure that access consent forms were returned.

The district file was reviewed by the filekeeper to identify sites, which required field visits. Exclusions include findspots, sites recorded after 1996, well known or visible sites, destroyed sites, and very isolated sites, which are assessed as being at low risk. Sites which are excluded still have an upgrade form completed, which states the exclusion reasons, date of decision and person making the assessment.

The fieldcrews visit each selected archaeological site and complete an upgrade form for the site. This includes checking easting and northing, relocation information, field sketch, site condition, ownership information and photography. Easting and northing are checked by a manual reference taken from 1:10,000 scale maps supplied by the district council and by using a handheld GPS. Handheld GPS is never relied upon as the sole reference, but is primarily providing a check against the accuracy of manual references and has been of some benefit in relocating sites. Differential GPS is being used on the project in some cases where district councils or land managers have specifically requested it. In all cases trained operators, rather than the archaeologists, are operating the differential GPS.

The East Coast file review is now approximately two-thirds complete. The remaining sites are located between Tolaga Bay and Potikirua. Vanessa Tanner and Bridget Mosley are progressively completing fieldwork in this area with assistance from iwi representatives.

In April this year fieldwork commenced in the Canterbury file district, with Mary O'Keeffe working with Waimakariri District Council and Ngai Tuahuriri. Banks Peninsula and Ashburton districts will both be completed over the next month or so.

Work has also begun on the Bay of Plenty file, as a result of funding support provided by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Opotiki District Council. Fieldwork in the Eastern Bay of Plenty should begin during June, and the Bay of Plenty file is currently being reviewed to identify sites, which require field visits. This file contains 7,700 sites and will be a major undertaking for the project.

At present files are being selected for review on the basis of funding support supplied by local authorities. The lotteries grants received are not sufficient for the Association to operate the project without substantial assistance from local authorities. Indications of support for the project have been received from many local authorities through out the country, however only a few have come forward with confirmed funding to assist with the fieldwork.

The success of the project depends largely upon the support of NZAA members. Each of the people working on the project is to a varying extent subsidising the work. This is a project of benefit to all members who use the file, and obviously of significant benefit to local authorities, land managers, the Historic Places Trust and the Department of Conservation. One of the most useful ways for members to assist the project is to ensure that they complete upgrade forms for sites when they visit them. The upgrade forms are available from me, both in paper form and electronically.

The completed project upgrade forms are currently being entered into an Access database, which includes scanning of field sketches. The database information is supplied to each district council and is able to be incorporated into their GIS systems. By developing an Access database we are hopefully providing the background for a computer-based scheme in the future, which has the potential to provide more extensive information than the existing CINZAS index. The development of such a system would, however, require funding greatly in excess to that the Association currently has available.

The work that has been undertaken to date has resulted in a significant improvement in the standard of information available in the East Coast file. In addition, the advocacy benefit, which has resulted from the time, spent talking to landowners, district council staff, media and iwi during the course of the fieldwork is immeasurable.

Lynda Bowers  
Project Manager

### Historic Places Trust

The last six months have seen a number of significant changes in the Archaeology Unit at the Trust. The Auckland-based archaeologists, Kim Tatton and Amanda Young, have both left for new options in the archaeological field. Cathy Barr has taken up the position of Regional Archaeologist (Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne) and will be based in a new office that the Trust is opening in Tauranga. Karen Greig is working out of Antrim as the Regional Archaeologist for the Trust's Central and Southern Regions. I anticipate making an appointment for the Regional Archaeologist (Northland, Auckland) in the very near future - probably by the time this volume goes to print.

In addition to administering the archaeological authority process under the HPA, we are now also actively involved in the resource consent process, making substantive submissions on applications affecting archaeological sites. There has also been an increase in the number of reports of damage to archaeological sites. All damage reports are investigated, and followed through to prosecution when warranted. With the recent announcement by Government of increased funding for the Trust it is hoped that the Archaeology Unit can capture some of those funds and further expand its involvement in heritage issues. Future options may include the development of cooperative research projects with the Department of Conservation and University Departments.

Rick McGovern-Wilson  
Senior Archaeologist, NZHPT

### NZAA Annual General Meeting

The 2000 Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Archaeological Association was held at the conference Centre at Victoria University on Sunday 7 May.

Approximately 50 members attended. Election of Council was as follows:

<b>President</b>	Kath Prickett
<b>Vice-President</b>	Rick McGovern-Wilson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Lynda Bowers
<b>Secretary</b>	Moira White
<b>Council</b>	Ian Barber
	Sue Bulmer
	Tony Walton
	Sarah Ross

General Business included discussion of the following items:

Future directions for N.Z.A.A. and possible solutions to the decline in membership which had taken place over the past decade.

Establishment of an Auckland committee of NZAA. members. The tabled motion to change the wording of Section 22(c) of the Constitution (dealing with the Annual General Meeting) by deleting the words "duly audited" to read: "Report and Balance Sheet. At such Annual General Meeting a printed or typewritten Report, Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account for the preceding financial year shall be presented" was passed

Honorary memberships for Foss Leach and Nigel Prickett were proposed and agreed.

Best Practise standing committee initiated discussion of a proposal that NZAA maintain a list or directory of those NZAA members who wished to be included which would be available to individuals wishing to hire a contract archaeologist. It was noted that the NZHPT would soon cease to supply the list currently in use and such a move by NZAA might provide an alternative source of this information.

Following a discussion of Memorandum of Understanding agreements [with iwi or other groups] in which archaeologists are called on to act in conflict with our standards and the principles and legal obligations involved in such situations, the following motion was passed: That this meeting strongly endorses the principle that information on archaeological sites is public information and, within reason, should be freely shared; and asks Council to review the Association's Code of Ethics in the light of this discussion and in the context of intellectual property rights.

Moira White, Secretary

### **President's Report**

The past year has continued to be an extremely busy one for the Association and Council has worked hard to place NZAA at the forefront of issues relating to archaeology. The biggest task for the first part of the year was working through our submission on the Resource Management Act Amendment Bill, and I am very grateful to Ian Barber for all the work that he put in to this. Our submission was circulated while still in draft form and I am grateful to those members who took the time to make comments on it. Submissions closed in October and eventually we will get to have our time before the Select Committee. The new Labour Government, however, has already signalled that the archaeological

provisions will stay within the Historic Places Act for the time being, but Council anticipate that at some stage they will be shifted across to the RMA and so we will work towards a smoother transition than was proposed in the Amendment Bill. Council will keep members aware of developments as we hear about them.

Another major project we undertook this year was the production of a new edition of the Handbook. Unfortunately this project was driven by Council with little or no input from the Publications Manager, Louise Furey, and so had a few hiccups along the way. As President I take full responsibility for this oversight and will strive to ensure that it does not happen again. The new volume is an excellent publication and Tony Walton is to be thanked for the work he put in as editor.

The third of our big projects for the year was the initiation of the Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project. We were successful in obtaining funding from Lottery Environment and Heritage and Lynda Bowers was appointed Project Manager, as a result of an application and interview process. Fieldwork began in the Gisborne District and a significant amount has been achieved over the past year. I want to recognise the work that Lynda, along with Pam Bain, John Coster, Vanessa Tanner, Brenda Sewell, Kate Hill, Mary O'Keefe, and Ken Phillips have put into the Project. We are now moving into the eastern Bay of Plenty and Canterbury. Lottery funding has been secured for a further year to cover the Project Manager's salary but we still have a lot of work ahead to raise the necessary funds to ensure the project runs to its full potential.

The Association has continued to submit on Local Authority plans of all types, though most of them now have draft plans well established. We have also submitted on a number of major resource consent issues where important archaeological sites and landscapes are under threat. Examples of this include Greville Harbour on D'Urville Island and numerous Auckland issues. In order to have more immediacy in the Auckland scene Council has agreed to a group of Auckland members forming a local "committee" which will submit and comment on issues on the Auckland scene.

An issue of major concern to Council is the continuing drop in membership numbers – at the rate of nearly 25% in the last 10 years. For a small organisation such as NZAA this is a significant problem. We continue to recruit members but have problems retaining them and it is something that all of us must be concerned about. As a result of this, and for a variety of other reasons which will be spelt out in more detail later in the AGM, Council have decided to undertake

a review of the Association – where we are and where we are going, what we currently offer members and what members want from the Association. All current members are asked to consider this issue and have some input when we seek information from you later this year.

So, after 15 years on the Executive of NZAA it is now time for me to step aside to a more relaxed role – not that I intend stepping down completely (I wouldn't know what to do with the spare time). I want to thank all the members of Council for the incredibly hard work they put in, usually for little or no thanks from the membership. This includes Kath Prickett, Moira White, Lynda Bowers, Sue Bulmer, Tony Walton, Ian Barber and Sarah Ross. I wish Kath all the very best as the incoming President and trust that you will give the same support that I received.

Rick McGovern-Wilson

### **Treasurer's Report - 1999 Financial Year**

1999 was an active and positive financial year for the Association, with an overall increase in accumulated funds of \$8,000. The comments, which follow, should be read in conjunction with the annual accounts, which have been posted to all members.

The General Account had a high level of activity during 1999 as the result of the commencement of the Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project. The project appears as a separate item in the annual accounts. The project is being well supported by local authorities, and fieldwork priorities are currently determined by the funding sources. The continuation of the project is reliant on strong membership support, in order to minimize the direct costs of the project, and continuing success in securing lotteries funding. All income from file searches is directed toward the Upgrade Project.

The mainstay of the Association's income in the General Account is membership subscriptions. The overall size of the membership has decreased in the last ten years by approximately 100. The total membership, including overseas institutions, is 365. There are 264 association members in New Zealand, ten of which are museum memberships. The subscription income in 1999 improved on 1998 as unpaid subscriptions from the previous year were collected. As the Association has such a small membership base, the continuation of the production of *Archaeology in New Zealand* on a quarterly basis relies upon strict credit control. In 1999 the total income from

subscriptions was \$15,222.11 and the cost of producing *Archaeology in New Zealand* was \$15,987.31.

The 1999 conference realised a profit of \$1,567.71. This is an unusual occurrence and reflects the high level of attendance at Auckland. The annual conference is normally subsidised when held in small provincial venues, and there may be some financial justification in considering alternating main centre and provincial venues. Most other areas of expenditure in the general account were consistent with 1998, although there were overall cost increases in photocopying and postage.

The Publication Account realised a small deficit of \$1,574.19, due to lower sales income in 1999, however the account remains in a sound financial position. The Journal Account had a good sales year with a surplus of \$3,885.05.

The annual accounts presented to members this year are unaudited. The constitution requires an annual audit to be conducted. However, recent changes in auditing practice have increased the costs associated with the preparation of annual accounts and an audit of those accounts. In addition, most sole operating accountants have withdrawn from audit practice. The cost to obtain an audit of the Association's accounts is estimated at \$900 - \$1,200 in addition to the account preparation fee of approximately \$800. The Council of the Association as well as the people who run each of the three Association accounts have reviewed the draft accounts. I ask the membership to either accept the annual accounts as presented, or to authorise the expenditure to obtain an audit prior to the accounts being accepted. A motion to change the Constitution wording relating to the requirement for an annual audit is proposed in the General Business section of this AGM, and this will provide an opportunity for further discussion of this matter.

Lynda Bowers, Treasurer

### ***Archaeology in New Zealand: Editors Report***

It is hard to believe that I have been editing *Archaeology in New Zealand* since March 1993 - producing 8 Volumes and 29 issues to date. The contact with archaeologists throughout New Zealand and overseas has given me great pleasure over this time and I look forward to continuing as editor in the future. Without you all, there would be no *Archaeology in New Zealand*, and I value your continued contributions. Please keep them rolling in.

Thank you to the NZAA for providing me with a new computer. I am grateful to Louise Furey for choosing it, Geraint Rees-Jones and Gareth de Walter for setting it up and special thanks to Dr Simon Bickler for his time and effort in constructing an *AINZ* template which is working like a dream.

As for the future direction of *Archaeology in New Zealand*:

I feel it needs to continue publishing short papers which the author knows will appear within a few weeks or months of submission. I would welcome more short reports on archaeological investigations done by contract archaeologists, as I feel a great deal of it gets lost in the grey literature. I also think there is a need for more articles from Masters and PhD students and it is up to the lecturers to encourage and promote this. Above all, as the newsletter of the NZAA, there must be a strong emphasis on informing our members of current archaeological issues and debates within New Zealand, of the activities of the NZAA Council in these matters as well as the reporting off ongoing archaeological research.

Joan Lawrence

Editor, *Archaeology in New Zealand*