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NOTES AND NEWS

New Members

John T. Penman, Laura Pick and Luke Termlett.

Donations (received with thanks)

Rod Clough and Sarah Macready, Hamish Williams and Kiyoshi Maruyama.

New Zealand Journal of Archaeology

Janet Davidson and Foss Leach have resigned from their long stint in charge of the *New Zealand Journal of Archaeology* and Council have appointed Atholl Anderson to a term as Editor. Atholl asks that papers intended for publication in *NZJA* be sent to him at his home address: 174 O'Dwyer's Road, RD3 Blenheim 7273, New Zealand, and that email correspondence be addressed to: atholl.anderson@anu.edu.au.

New Zealand Journal of Archaeology – the end of an era

A changing of the guard has been announced for the *New Zealand Journal of Archaeology* with long-time Editor Janet Davidson and Business Manager Foss Leach handing over to a new team. In 1979, Volume 1 carried the names of Jill Hamel as Editor and Foss as Business Manager. In 1982-84 Jill and Janet together edited Volumes 4-6, after which Janet has been Editor to Volume 30, due out shortly at the time of writing. While the NZAA has always depended on the time and labour of office-holders, the 30 and 27-year contributions of Foss and Janet stand out, matched, I think, only by Tony Walton at the Central File and by some of the regional file-keepers.

The *NZJA* was established at the initiative of the late Aileen Fox, who saw the need for an academic journal to publish substantial, refereed articles on New Zealand archaeology. Before this there had been some suggestion that the then 'Newsletter', now AINZ, might morph into such a journal. Clearly, however, both were needed. The *Journal* was the last of three NZAA publication series to be established, after the Newsletter/AINZ, now in its 52nd year, and monographs, of which number 27, the Auckland Island volume, was launched

on 21 May at an Antarctic Society meeting in Wellington. Publication is one of the things the Association does well.

While the main focus of the *Journal* has been New Zealand, there has always been a wider Pacific brief. The very first article in Volume 1 was on Papua New Guinea. Since then every issue but for Volume 19 (1997), Volume 28 (2006) and (almost) Volume 23 (2001) has included an item or items on a topic from elsewhere in the Pacific. Volume 14 (1992) was made up entirely of papers on the Hawaiian Islands and Volume 20 (1998) the same for the important New Britain site of Watom. Papers from elsewhere in the Pacific remind us that New Zealand is part of a bigger story, and help maintain the wider conversation.

Running such a journal depends on the wide interests and contacts of the editorial team. New Zealand has a small archaeological community and academic imperatives can encourage publishing elsewhere. Regular appeals for papers at Association conferences show how hard it can be to put together the next issue. This has sometimes resulted in the *Journal* appearing after the due date. But always it has appeared and has published many important and interesting papers over the years.

In Foss and Janet's era other names have also appeared inside the front cover in editing, production, finances and distribution roles for *NZJA*. From 1986 an Assistant Business Manager has managed subscriptions, mail-outs, day-to-day banking and sometimes also type-setting, beginning with Carol Quinn (1986-94), then Carolyn McGill (1995), and Karen Greig (1996-2007) who had the assistance of Jim Samson in 2000 and Emma Brooks (2001-07). Because *NZJA* is published in association with the University of Otago, and printed there, a University of Otago representative has maintained the necessary liaison, in 1989-90 Helen Leach and, since then, Ian Smith. An occasional role has been Assistant Editor, with Carol Quinn (1990, 1993-95), Jill Hamel (1996), Jill Hamel and Karen Greig (1999) and Kevin Jones (2000) acknowledged over the years. The University of Otago Printing Department has printed the journal throughout, except for Volumes 27 and 28 at Clutha Print of Balclutha.

Nigel Prickett

Obituary: H.G.D. (Dave) White (1923-2009)

Dave White was a longstanding member of the NZAA. I first met him when I started work on forestry blocks in the eastern Bay of Plenty in about 1976. He also assisted Anne Leahy and Wendy Walsh in their endeavours in the eastern bay in the mid 1970s. He was a member of the local search and rescue, he knew the eastern bay well and was of great assistance in what can be very difficult terrain. It was also land going through a great change in land use.

Marginal sheep stations on Maori land where the leases had long run out were being converted to forestry, mostly being laid down by P F Olsen Ltd (latterly Tasman Forestry). I learned from Dave that with a 4WD, “If you didn’t have traction, you didn’t have traction” and that it was inadvisable to drive up clay roads if there was rain in the offing. And Dave being a farmer (lately converting to kiwifruit), that wild bulls were dangerous enough but “You never ever get between a wild cow and its calf”.

Dave served on the Raukumara State Forest Advisory Committee from 1980-1987, and was involved in getting the Raukumara wilderness area and the Motu River designated.

Dave was self-taught in archaeology and history and had a fine collection of New Zealand history books that, from memory, had come from his father. He was brought up on the hills just north of the Waimana plains and had a pa or two in his backyard. His property at Paerata Ridge just west of Opotiki was more or less a continuous archaeological site and that too stimulated his interest. Like his contemporary, the late Ken Moore at Kawerau, he was a pioneer of district site recording. He had his own distinctive style of mapping including sheet after contiguous sheet (up to 8 sheets, a legend among filekeepers) of plans of the long narrow ridge pa for which the Bay of Plenty is renowned. His site records cover Waimana, Waiotahi and the immediate Opotiki area.

As with Ken Moore, I am sure his interest was stimulated by the visits in the 1960s of Jack Golson and later Wilfred Shawcross to the central Bay of Plenty. Golson in particular queried an old strand of prehistory practised by students of tradition such as J.B.W. Robertson. He could not have done that, and demonstrated the value of archaeology, without local support from the likes of Anton van der Wouden, W.A. Pullar, A.D. Mabon, Ken Moore, Dave White and others. So Dave lived through a paradigm shift in New Zealand historiography, and at close quarters.

Dave often fronted in conversations with landowners and tangata whenua. He absorbed the advent of the *Historic Places Act 1975* and was for 25 years the Bay of Plenty representative on the Historic Places Trust, travelling to Wellington for those meetings. He was, for many years, the person whom local people contacted when there was concern about threatened sites. He took a quietly supportive interest in the early prosecution (1978?) *Gaskill v. Crown* in the Waiaua valley, where Federated Farmers learnt for the first time that the law would be applied with an even hand.

I always listened with interest to Dave’s down-to-earth accounts of history, prehistory and archaeology; he had an interesting turn of phrase. He had a good relationship with kaumatua in the wider Opotiki area. He knew the names of many pa from talking to kaumatua and from poring over his copy of Best’s

Tuhoe. It was of course a gentler era but I feel sure that his knowledge freely given and his advice to kaumatua was welcome. For many years he stored the marvellous polychrome pou and maihi of a large dismantled meeting house Tane Whirinaki in a shed on his property. The carvings were later re-located back for display at the Waioeka Marae at the entry to the Waioeka River. His *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography* account of Hira Te Popo who built Tane Whirinaki is a model of sympathetic biography of a rangatira who saw his people through the New Zealand Wars and the confiscations.

Generally, Dave was not a great writer so his major contributions from an archaeological perspective were his site records, his long chairmanship of the Opotiki Historical Society (1966-1994 when it was disbanded) and the Whakatane and District Historical Society (1972-1992). The latter society has always been the pre-eminent example of a successful local historical society. It founded the Whakatane Museum in 1972 and played a role in early excavations, above all else in the discovery of the swamp pa Kohika, near Matata.

Articles by H.G.D. White in the *Historical Review (Whakatane and District Historical Society)*:

The Diary of Alfred Parkinson. 20 (1): 28-35.

An Echo of the Tairawhiti Expedition, 1864. 21 (1): 52-53.

Military Activities in the Opotiki District in 1870. 20 (1): 41-45.

Site Recording and Surveying in the Opotiki District. 19 (2): 133-134.

Turbulent Waters - Events at the Bay of Islands in 1845. 21 (2): 66-83.

Also:

White, H.G.D. Te Popo, Hira ?-1889. *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*. http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/DNZB/alt_essayBody.asp?essayID=2T25

For James Cowan's account of Tane Whirinaki see: <http://www.nzetc.org/tm/scholarly/tei-CowYest-t1-body-d1-d10-d1.html>

Kevin L. Jones (with thanks to Lynda Walter and Tiena Jordan)