

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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# **Notes and News**

### **New Members**

Jaime Grant, Ilmars Gravis, Cadence Kaumoana, Andrew McAlister.

### Donations

Warren Gumbley, Jeremy Habberfield-Short, Jean Spinks.

# NZAA 2019 Conference

This year's conference will be held on Rakiura/Stewart Island. The dates have been chosen with accommodation availability and university breaks in mind, running from Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August. There is an informal welcome event at the South Seas Hotel on the evening of Wednesday 28th. We encourage attendees to prepare early this year, to ensure they have suitable accommodation and travel. NZAA have organised a \$25 discount for attendees on return flights from Invercargill to Rakiura. Information about these flight discounts, sessions, papers and registration will soon be available online.

# NZAA 2018 Awards

A number of awards were made at the NZAA Conference in Auckland in November. Nigel Prickett was presented with the Roger Green Lifetime Achievement Award (see Frontispiece), and Garry Law was presented with Honorary Life Membership of NZAA (see image on page 5). Both are longstanding stalwarts of NZAA.

A new award at the conference was the NZAA Photograph Competition, which was decided by popular vote. The winner was Josh Emmitt with his image 'Lost in Space,' reproduced on the next page. Another entry, by Kirsty Potts, appears on the cover of this issue of AINZ.



#### Lost in Space

A surveyor sits on a limestone remnant while reviewing details of a middle-Holocene site that was recorded in the area in the early twentieth century. Fayum North Shore, Egypt. Josh Emmitt, 2018 NZAA Photo Competition winner.

Other awards were:

Best student paper in AINZ for 2017/18: Best student conference paper (MA): Best student conference paper (PhD): Best conference poster: Best student conference poster: Alana Kelly Alana Kelly Kate McDonald Rebecca Ramsay & Mica Plowman Jennifer Lane



Garry Law receiving his Honorary Life Membership of NZAA at the Auckland conference.

### **Student AINZ Paper Prize**

The prize for the best student paper in AINZ is being offered again. The prize is open to any enrolled student: if the winner is already a NZAA member the prize is \$300; if the winner is not already a member the prize will be a year's membership plus \$250. Each prize period runs from the September to June issues.

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### **Recent Reports & Publications Indexes**

AINZ no longer carries a list of recent consultancy reports, but Heritage New Zealand maintains the Digital Library of consultancy reports, copies of which can be emailed (or sent via Hightail.com for large files) on request. More information and the excel spreadsheet of the library contents can be found at: <a href="http://www.heritage.org.nz/protecting-heritage/archaeology/digital-library">http://www.heritage.org.nz/protecting-heritage/archaeology/digital-library</a>

The New Zealand Archaeological Association also maintains an archaeological report library. Scans of this collection have been included in the HNZ Digital Library. The role of the NZAA Central Filekeeper is currently being discussed: hopefully the next issue of AINZ will have updated contact details for access to the archaeological report library.

### **Digitisation of LINZ Records**

Access to Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) records (the old Department of Lands & Survey map, plans, fieldbooks etc) is of great importance to archaeologists. Progress on the digitisation of these records was reported at a recent meeting of the Constituent Organisations of the Royal Society of New Zealand:

At the CO Meeting in November 2016, the issue was raised by the New Zealand Historical Association (NZHA) and the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors (NZIS), now Survey and Spatial New Zealand (S+SNZ), that old survey records be listed, digitised, housed and conserved to archival standards, and for free public access to be made on the same basis as collections in Archives New Zealand. The NZHA and S+SNZ wish to join with other organisations in placing the matter before the Royal Society of New Zealand (RSNZ), to raise the matter with Government, pointing out the scientific, historic, cultural, and economic value of the Land Information NZ (LINZ) records, and the pressing need for digitising, housing, and conserving them, and making them freely available for public access. Records include: survey plans, field books, traverse sheets, record sheets, aerial photographs, and supporting indexes.

At the CO meeting in 2017, it was reported that the LINZ digitising program was proceeding with funding from LINZ. Attention was being paid initially to the digitising of records held in Hamilton: South Auckland 30" by 30" and 20" by 20" Colour Imperial Plans (up to 1965), and all North Island Land District (North Auckland, South Auckland, Taranaki, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay and Wellington)

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field books (up to 1932). The digitising was being done by a digitising company NZMS, which provided very high quality images in JPEG2000 format; these are very large images, and derivative images of about 10mb each are being produced for Land on Line. The derivative images are also of high definition.

At the last meeting it was reported that the LINZ Aerial Photographs had been digitised in conjunction with Local Authorities, and could be found on the RetroLens website. I am pleased to report that LINZ has now completed the digitising of field books for the North Island, and that these too are now available for free for public use on the LINZ website. LINZ is to be congratulated for its achievement. The original North Island Field Books from North and South Auckland and Gisborne have now been sent to Archives in Auckland. The Field Books from the rest of the North Island will be sent to Archives in Wellington once damage from recent earthquakes at Archives has been repaired (probably within next two years); in the meantime, they are stored with LINZ in Wellington.

There is still the issue of old survey plans to consider. In 2016 it was pointed out that the electronic database of survey plans that replaced the old system, whereby a surveyor consulted an original copy, unfortunately contains old plans that are virtually unreadable. This is not because the originals are unreadable, but because they were digitised from microfiche or photocopies. Although such plans are rescanned at no cost whenever a request is made, there is no formal programme to rescan them. This matter is now being addressed to ensure that all digitised survey plans are of an acceptable standard, and when a request is made, the relevant plan is digitised, along with other plans stored in the same box.

LINZ currently has an internal budget bid for the digitisation of the South Island Field Books, to be carried out next, over several years

# NZHA Conference: Kanohi ki te Kanohi: Histories for our Time

The New Zealand Historical Association will hold their biennial conference in Victoria University of Wellington Te Whare Wananga o Te Ūpoko o Te Ika a Māui, from 27-30 November, 2019. Papers for the conference are currently being sought and the NZHA is very keen for archaeologists to attend the conference, to encourage collaborations between our disciplines. The closing date for the call for papers is 31 March 2019. Please note that you have to be a member of NZHA in order to present, but membership is only \$30, or \$15 for the unwaged. The call for papers is reproduced below.

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We welcome proposals for papers, panels, roundtables, buzz sessions and other forms of presentation. We particularly encourage proposals from post-graduate students, early career academics, teachers and those working with and for heritage institutions and collections. Dr Wayne Ngata stated: 'Kanohi ki te kanohi' or 'face-to-face' communication is a facet of human behaviour. It allows one to not only see who or what one is communicating with, but also to hear, feel, and smell the relationship.

We offer several methods for generating thought about our theme:

- How have people come face-to-face through ritual, in curiosity, attraction, conversation, misapprehension, misinterpretation and conflict, and how have processes of exchange occurred?
- What were the contexts for such encounters place, language, culture, materials, social, economic, legal and political systems and how was power coded age, race, ethnicity, genders, sexualities, status, wealth, class and military might?
- When did encounters take place, when were histories of encounter told, and how have they been preserved through time?
- What are the material and methodological challenges of creating history for our time?

Ōkawa – rituals of encounter Wero – taking up the challenge: doing history now Waerea – methodology/theory Karanga/Whaikōrero – gendered histories Waiata – form/format/style Hariru – relationships Kai – conversation/debate

Proposals should be made to: <u>NZHA2019@vuw.ac.nz</u>