



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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## NOTES AND NEWS

### **New Members**

Christopher Dodson, Josh Emmitt, Christopher Mallows, Yann-Pierre Montelle, Glenn Summerhayes, Lisa Truttman

### **New Zealand Archaeological Association Annual Conference 2006**

The 2006 Conference will be held in the Waihi Beach Community Centre, Waihi Beach, at the base of the Coromandel Peninsula, from Wednesday 17th–Sunday 21st May 2006. A street map of Waihi Beach showing the location of venue will be posted on the NZAA website, [www.nzarchaeology.org](http://www.nzarchaeology.org).

Waihi Beach is approximately 12 km south of Waihi Township, or 1 hours drive north from Tauranga. The closest airport to Waihi Beach is Tauranga. Waihi Beach is approximately 2 hours drive from Auckland airport or 1.5 hrs from Hamilton airport. There is a variety of accommodation available from B&B's to cabin accommodation, motels (basic to luxurious) and also baches and houses for short term rent. Visit the Tourism Coromandel website for more information, [www.thecoromandel.com/waihi.html](http://www.thecoromandel.com/waihi.html).

For any assistance with travel and accommodation, please contact Meri Low, one of our conference organisers, via email: [meri.low@clear.net.nz](mailto:meri.low@clear.net.nz). If you are flying into Tauranga contact Meri for assistance with travel to Waihi.

Conference theme: “Managing and interpreting archaeological sites”

Programme:

Wednesday 17 May	Evening – Welcome event
Thursday 18 May	Morning – Papers Afternoon – Fieldtrip (buses provided)
Friday 19 May	All day – Papers Evening – Conference Dinner (buses provided)
Saturday 20 May	All day fieldtrip (buses provided)
Sunday 21 May	Morning – Papers
AGM Friday 19 May	12.30 to 1.30 pm.

Registration forms will be included in the March issue of AINZ and on the NZAA web site: ([www.nzarchaeology.org](http://www.nzarchaeology.org)) in early 2006.

Cathryn Barr is the Papers Coordinator and is seeking offers of papers. Please email to Cathryn\_b@paradise.net.nz. Preference will be given to those papers which address the conference theme.

## **Sessions and abstracts of papers presented at the Motueka Conference, 2005**

### *Session 1: The archaeology of historic New Zealand*

#### *Recent Excavations at Te Hoe, Mahia Peninsula*

Ian Smith, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

Te Hoe, where shore whaling began in 1840, was investigated as part of a programme of research into the role of shore whaling communities in the emergence of Pakeha culture. Excavations in January–February 2005 showed that there had been pre-European occupation at the site, and that historic period activity continued there until about the end of the 19th century. Throughout the latter period there is evidence for the development of local adaptations in whale processing technology, and for diversity in the form and manner of use of domestic structures. The excavations provide strong material evidence for the incorporation of both Maori and European cultural elements within the Te Hoe whaling community.

#### *Beside the swamp: the archaeology of the Farmers site, Dunedin*

Peter Petchey, Dunedin

In 2003 an archeological excavation was carried out on the site of the Farmers Trading Company department store in central Dunedin. The investigation found that until the late 1860s this site had been situated on the edge of the ‘swamp’, a tidal muddy inlet from the head of Otago Harbour that caused much negative comment due to its ‘thick green slime’ and objectionable smell. On its banks, flax and bracken fern grew in abundance, hiding the rubbish that was thrown out from nearby houses. The gold rushes of the 1860s caused Dunedin to boom, and the city grew rapidly. By 1869 the swamp had been filled in, and businesses and houses spread out along George Street, many in small timber buildings. As Dunedin and its merchants gained in wealth, many of these small buildings were replaced by more substantial structures in brick and stone.

The 2003 excavations found part of the shore of the swamp with its flax bushes, fern and rubbish sealed beneath later floors and buildings, and evidence of the first generation of buildings that stood there. The artifact assemblage provided evidence about what people were eating and wearing,

places that imported goods were coming from, and possibly even migration of individuals.

*The Lawrence Chinese Camp Redevelopment Project*

Rick McGovern Wilson, NZ Historic Places Trust, Wellington

The site of the former Lawrence Chinese Camp was purchased in early 2004 to protect it from potential subdivision and private development. Ownership was transferred to the Lawrence Chinese Camp Charitable Trust who have long-term plans to rebuild the 19th century camp, based on survey plans and historic photographs, and to establish a museum and research centre for the study of Chinese heritage. The NZ Historic Places Trust and University of Otago, in association with the LCCCT, have begun a programme of archaeological investigations to guide our interpretation and rebuilding of the site. This paper discusses the integration of archaeology, site reconstruction and cultural tourism in a project that has many potential spin-offs.

*Session 2. West Coast archaeology: the Tai Poutini project*

*The Tai Poutini Project*

Richard Walter, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago and Chris Jacomb, NZ Historic Places Trust, Dunedin

Over the last two years a research group from the University of Otago, in collaboration with the Historic Places Trust and the Department of Conservation, have set up a programme of archaeological research on the West Coast of the South Island. Excavations have been carried out at two Archaic sites, Buller River Mouth and Heaphy River Mouth, and at a later phase site at Karamea. This paper reports on the Tai Poutini research programme, its aims and methods, and field results from the excavations of 2004 and 2005. We talk about future directions, and comment on the implications of the Tai Poutini research for developing new models for prehistoric adaptation and culture change in New Zealand.

*Nga matau kohatu o Kawatiri*

Amy Findlater, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

“Modern techniques of analysis endow prehistoric fishhooks with the power to draw knowledge from the past, much as the magic hooks of the Polynesian demigods drew islands from the oceanic depths” (Emory *et al.* 1959: 3).

Certain classes of material culture have a higher potential than others to contribute to understanding our past. In Polynesia fishing gear has been shown to display temporal and regional patterning in a range of dimensions. In

New Zealand stone minnow lure shanks, as a class of Polynesian fishing gear, have not yet been fully investigated other than in descriptive and functional terms. In this paper an assemblage of minnow lure shanks from the recently excavated Buller River Mouth site (K29/8) is investigated in order to identify their potential to contribute to wider culture history issues. Variations in form, function and material are described, and the lures discussed in relation to other assemblages and classification schemes. A lure manufacturing zone in the Buller Site provides unique insight into manufacturing technology.

*Patterns of variability in South Island flake assemblages*

Sreymony Muth, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

Recent excavations on the West Coast of the South Island have uncovered extensive assemblages of stone flakes from two sites: Buller River Mouth and Heaphy River Mouth. Stone flakes are amongst the most common artifact classes from New Zealand archaeological sites but so far they have played a relatively minor role in supporting models of regional prehistory or culture change. This paper describes the lithic assemblages from the West Coast sites and investigates ways in which these assemblages can contribute to the construction of regional prehistories. Several dimensions of variability within the West Coast assemblages are described in quantitative terms and used to support a model for early regional adaptation. A comparison of these assemblages with two from the South Island's East Coast highlights significant differences in the way in which these East and West Coast communities were accessing and utilizing exotic and local lithic raw materials. The results of this study are discussed in relation to more general models of South Island prehistory.

*Session 3. North Island archaeology: new research*

*Postholes, pits and people at Ohauti*

Matthew Campbell, Department of Anthropology, University of Auckland

Site U14/3207 was located during preliminary earthworks at Richmond Park, Ohauti, Tauranga. While contouring for avocado orchards and topsoil removal with heavy machinery had destroyed any shallow features 13 kumara storage pits and some oven scoops survived and were excavated in March 2004. One of these pits was relatively large and revealed 2 rows of 3 postholes each. What was unusual about these is that they had clearly been dug out prior to the pit being filled. In this paper I discuss some possible explanations for this event and its implications.

***Plant microfossil analysis of soils from the South Auckland stonefields: results and interpretation of fieldwork completed 2004–05***

Ian Lawlor, Heritage Department, Auckland Regional Council and Mark Horrocks, University of Auckland

Pollen, biogenic silica and starch residue analysis of 35 soil samples from six South Auckland stonework complexes (Tapapakanga, Ambury, Mangere, Otutataua, Puhinui and Wiri) reveal evidence of palaeo-environments and vegetation, including agricultural crops. Starch and other residues of sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*) and taro (*Colocasia esculenta*), introduced by prehistoric Polynesians, were identified in a range of stonefield features at four sites. Maize (*Zea mays*), an early European introduction, was identified at two sites. The broad sampling strategy involving minimal disturbance to features is illustrated through a series of slides and results are illustrated using aerial photos. The data represent initial extensive, multi-microfossil analysis of archaeological stonework complexes. Areas are pinpointed for ongoing intensive investigation and excavation.

***Proto-historic evolution of a Maori cultural landscape on Northland's East Coast***

James Robinson, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

Evolution of the rural based Maori cultural landscape in the Far North of New Zealand was associated with fundamental changes in agricultural and subsistence practices prior to, and in the early years of European settlement.

Fieldwork currently underway on the Poor Knight Island group has identified a continuous and pristine cultural landscape that dates back to 1823. Accurate mapping of this landscape is well advanced and is providing data at the feature level for a GIS analysis. Proposed investigations later this year aim to identify both a chronology of human occupation and determine the range of Polynesian and/or European cultigens being grown during this little understood period of Maori settlement.

***Session 4. South Island archaeology: new research***

***Recent and proposed work on the Nelson argillite quarries***

Kevin L. Jones, Research, Development and Improvement Division, Department of Conservation and Steve Bagley, Department of Conservation, Nelson

Recent intensive field survey has documented the extent and state of preservation of some well-known quarries such as those at The Rushpool, Samson Bay and Ohana. It has long been known that the primary sources of argillite are to be found on the outer layers of metasomatised boulders

(some monoliths are as big as a 12-storey building) in particular small areas of stunted vegetative growth on serpentine-derived soils. The outcrops are distinctive in the landscape. Outer layers weather off, revealing and making accessible the fine-grained micro-sources most suitable for flaking. At Samson Bay close examination of the wider area of serpentine led to the discovery of a new quarry, the first to be found in the catchment of the Pelorus or any of the inner Marlborough Sounds. Other new outcrops, some very large, have also been found and documented in the vicinity of The Rushpool and at Askews Hill. Records have been made of quarry setting and likely extraction practices at Askews Hill and at the various Ohana quarries which outcrop at sea level. Planned fieldwork will include refitting of flakes from single-event flaking floors and an attempt at dating first (and last) use of the quarries using AMS dating on soil at the base of outcrops.

*The otolith problem in New Zealand archaeology: a view from Omimi, North Otago*

Kiri Petersen, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

The basic identification and quantification of calcareous ear bodies or otoliths can be of value in interpreting the nature of archaeological fish collections. New Zealand archaeological fish studies have generally relied on selected mouth parts or other special bones for identification and interpretation. Large saccular otoliths have the potential to extend and test the results of fish counts based on selected special or mouth bones only. The distinctive outer face of most saccular otoliths provides a means of identification to species. Furthermore, the literature suggests that the survival rate of these elements can be very high for some important species at least, e.g., red cod or snapper, helping to reduce or even resolve identification problems. This also means that it may be possible to test for the presence of fish that are otherwise poorly represented in an assemblage by mouth parts or special bones alone.

The faunal assemblage from the recently excavated Omimi site, North Otago, is analysed to investigate the contribution of otoliths in quantification studies related to selected species. In particular this research considers the value of presence and absence data on otoliths to improve understanding of the formation and nature of archaeological fish assemblages in New Zealand.

*Sand Hill Point and the archaeological potential of deflated dune landscapes*

Chris Jacomb, NZ Historic Places Trust, Dunedin and Richard Walter, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

Archaeological deposits found in deflated sand dune contexts are generally considered to be of little research value. They have lost any strati-

graphic integrity, wind ablation is likely to have damaged any faunal remains, and they may also have suffered ongoing loss of material to curio hunters. However, there are various aspects of such deposits that make them amenable to particular types of investigation. A recent assessment of the largely deflated site complex at Sand Hill Point, Southland, is summarised and the results are used to argue for the potential of this class of archaeological landscape.

### *Public address*

#### *Nelson archaeology and Maori culture change*

Ian Barber, Department of Anthropology, University of Otago

The Nelson region incorporates a distinctive archaeological sequence of Maori resource use and settlement. The first Polynesian settlers of New Zealand sourced metasomatised argillite rock from the 'Mineral' (Ultramafic) Belt of eastern-southern Nelson for adze production and exchange. Early stone working sites and associated settlements are characteristic of eastern Tasman Bay. In contrast, the western Nelson area presents notable and often later South Island evidence of crop production specialisation, targeted fishing and clusters of pa earthworks. These and other Nelson expressions of settlement, economic and artefact variation over time and space are evaluated so as to contribute to current archaeological thinking about the New Zealand Maori cultural sequence.

### *Session 5. Managing archaeology in New Zealand*

#### *The NZHPT Register and archaeological sites: a progress report for 2003–2005*

Jo Wylie, NZ Historic Places Trust, Wellington

Recent articles (Law and Greig 2004; Prickett 2005) in *Archaeology in New Zealand* have addressed the current inadequacies of the NZ Historic Places Trust Register with regards to archaeological sites, most notably its lack of selectiveness and comprehensiveness, and the inclusion of inappropriate sites. The NZHPT is actively working to improve the quality of the Register, and this paper provides a summary of work undertaken during the period 2003–2005. The results of a recent archaeological audit are presented, and several new archaeological site registrations are discussed.

#### *Using GIS to manage Upgrade Project archaeological information*

Karen Greig, Wellington

Last year NZAA received a three-year funding package from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage to enable the completion of the national

Upgrade Project. The Project was conceived in response to the increasing use of information from the Site Recording Scheme (SRS) for resource management and planning purposes. This changing use highlighted the variable nature of the information held in the SRS. The Project has two key components: the information upgrade and the development of an information management system to hold the upgraded information and facilitate its distribution. This paper addresses the second component of the Upgrade Project, the development of the information system and the distribution of the resulting information. As much of the key information in the SRS is spatial, the decision was made to use a geodatabase data model. The geodatabase will provide a powerful tool for the management and analysis of the information generated by the Project and provide options for the future direction of the SRS.

*A case for the formation by legislation of a Institute of Professional Archaeologists*

Doug Sutton, University of Auckland

A brief review indicates that New Zealand Archaeology currently operates in two principal parts; contract and academic; with the Crown agencies acting in in another capacity which merits separate consideration. Criteria are suggested by which this situation can be soundly assessed. Their application indicates that improvements could be achieved by the creation through legislation of a professional institute, comparable to the Institute of Professional Engineers of New Zealand, and mandated to advise the Crown on archaeological matters, recommend appropriate professional standards, act as an portal by advertising all professional work, disseminate relevant information, technology and innovations sourced nationally and internationally, receive and referee reports, liaise with the related professional organisations, private, communal and corporate interests including iwi, and accredit members.

*Session 6. Myth-making and history in New Zealand*

*Urban myths: a story from central Wellington.*

Louise Furey, Auckland

There is more than one version of history, based on the perspectives of individuals or groups claiming an association with a place or event. The Historic Places Trust has recently carried out excavations in historic Te Aro in advance of construction on the controversial Wellington Inner City Bypass. In-ground archaeology, historical research and buildings archaeology are being used to rewrite a history of Tonks Ave, off Cuba Street.

*The development and consolidation of myths, even with a written language: the life and work of Ernest Rutherford*

John Campbell, University of Canterbury

This paper explores the development and perpetuation of myths, even in the presence of excellent written archives. To do so the paper considers examples from the life and work of Ernest Rutherford who was born in Nelson and whose grandfather settled in Motueka.

*The Sources of the "Moriator Myth": Percy Smith and Whatahoro make prehistory*

Peter Clayworth, Research, Development and Improvement Division, Department of Conservation, Wellington

For much of the twentieth century the most commonly held view of New Zealand prehistory was that the first inhabitants of mainland New Zealand were the 'Moriator', a people racially distinct from the Maori. These people were supposedly killed or driven off to the Chatham Islands by the racially superior East Polynesian Maori. The standard version of this myth, and of the Kupe, Toi and Great Fleet stories, can be traced to *The Lore of the Whare Wananga*, a work co-authored by Stephenson Percy Smith and Hoani Turei Whatahoro. My paper will examine the creation of the *Lore* through the work of Smith and Whatahoro, showing the Moriator Myth, as a product of the interactions between Pakeha and Maori scholars. I will look at the wider aims of both Smith and Whatahoro as each sought independently to develop a comprehensive story of Polynesian migration. The final section of my paper will examine the dissemination of the Moriator Myth through popular media and the reasons for its acceptance as the standard Pakeha view of the past.

**The NZAA Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project**

The challenging task of reviewing the records for over 57,000 known archaeological sites rolls on.

In the Northland region Meri Low is currently working her particular version of magic as she audits the Northland file as part of the Upgrade Project process. Matt Felgate is under way on the stage 1 (paper-based) review of records in the Far North and Kaipara districts, as well as being engaged in on-going fieldwork in the Whangarei district.

The stage 1 review for the Auckland region is continuing, and is due for completion in December 2005. Manukau City Council has confirmed its support for the Upgrade Project, so work will commence in that area of the region in July 2006. North Shore City Council and Papakura District Council have already completed upgrade projects, so Auckland City Council is now

the only council in the Auckland region that is not currently participating in a complete upgrade of recorded archaeological site information.

John Coster has plunged into the task of primary contractor for the Upgrade Project in the Waikato region, taking on responsibility for assessing about 8,500 records. John wanted something to do with his spare time, and I have been happy to solve the problem. Most of the district councils in the region are involved in varying stages of the regional project, and we are working toward a completion date of July 2007. The good news is that there appears to be some possibility that Thames-Coromandel District Council will review its previous decision not to participate in the project following much appreciated advocacy carried out by Rachel Darmody from the Historic Places Trust.

Ken Phillips is finally coming to the end of his Herculean challenge in the Bay of Plenty as the end of fieldwork is in sight. There is still a significant amount of paperwork to be completed, however, as we need to ensure all the data collected over the last five years in the region is adapted to the format of the recently commissioned database.

In the Hawke's Bay region the stage 1 review for Napier City Council and Hastings District Council areas is due for completion in December 2005. Iwi consultation and fieldwork in those districts will be happening during the first half of 2006.

In the Taranaki region fieldwork in the South Taranaki district is being completed following an excellent positive response from landowners and some really good media coverage of the project. Fieldwork in the district will continue into 2006.

In the Manawatu-Wanganui region we are progressing toward fieldwork starting in the Wanganui district in February 2006. Rangitikei, Horowhenua and Taranua districts have all confirmed their funding for fieldwork and the stage 1 review for those districts will be completed in December 2005. Ruapehu District Council is now the only local authority in the region which is not currently participating in the project.

In the Wellington region Karen Greig has been coordinating stage 1 reviews, iwi consultation and fieldwork in multiple local authority areas. Nicola Molloy and Phil Latham have completed the fieldwork in Porirua City and work is scheduled to commence on the Kapiti Coast prior to Christmas.

Nicola and Phil are also carrying out fieldwork in Marlborough district and this will be on-going over the next few months. Fieldwork in Buller district was completed by Katharine Watson and Phil during a week of pleasant weather in early October. The final report for Buller district has been completed.

In the Otago region the stage 1 review has completed for the Clutha district. Work on the stage 1 review for the balance of the Otago region will get underway in 2006.

The stage 1 review for the Southland region has been finished and Upgrade Project fieldwork will commence in February 2006.

On the database front, the Upgrade Project team and the Historic Places Trust archaeologists (who are the group of archaeologists selected to trial web-based access) now have desktop access to the text information contained in the Upgrade Project database via a web-form. Eagle Technologies are in the process of designing a map service which will enable those users who do not have access to a GIS platform to view the spatial data. Now that the database has been commissioned the tasks of loading all the data collected to date, and expanding the web service to local authorities beyond the Bay of Plenty region, can begin. In the meantime the existing CINZAS information is available to the trial group via the Upgrade Project system.

If you would like to know more about what is happening with the Upgrade Project in your region or district, please contact me.

Lynda Walter

Project Manager

Telephone tollfree 0508 272 423

### **The Skinner Fund For Physical Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnology**

Applications for grants from the above fund, sponsored jointly by the Royal Society of New Zealand, the Polynesian Society and the New Zealand Archaeological Association, close on 1 April 2006.

The purpose of the fund is to promote the study of the history, art, culture, physical and social anthropology of the Maori and other Polynesian peoples, particularly through the recording, survey, excavation and scientific study of prehistoric and historic sites in New Zealand and the islands of the south west Pacific. This includes the detailed analysis of all cultural, artistic or physical remains which have been recovered as the result of such investigations. To this end both research projects having survey, recording, and excavation as their goal, as well as those which propose to treat analytically and comparatively materials already so recovered shall be deemed to have equal weight. Preference will be given to well-documented research plans which specify methodology and anticipated outcomes of the proposed research.

The amount available for distribution from the fund is not large and grants of about \$1,000 will be allocated.

Every recipient of a grant from the fund shall report to the Royal Society of New Zealand before 30 June in the year after the grant was made, showing in a general way the expenditure of the grant and the progress made with the research.

The results of research aided by grants from the fund shall, where possible, be published in New Zealand, with due acknowledgement of the source of financial assistance, and one copy of any report stemming from such research shall be sent to the Society.

Please provide a current CV, an outline of your proposed research and a budget.

Applications should be sent to:

The Executive Officer – Awards

Royal Society of New Zealand

P O Box 598

Wellington

All applications will be acknowledged.

## **Obituary**

### *John Yaldwyn 1929–2005*

John Cameron Yaldwyn, former director of the National Museum and a foundation member of the Association, died recently in Wellington after a long illness. John was a zoologist by profession, highly regarded around the world for his work on crustaceans, but he was also a polymath, and among his many interests was a long involvement in archaeology.

John was born at Point Howard in Wellington and attended Christ's College as a boarder. There he met his great friend and colleague Elliot Dawson, who introduced him to Roger Duff and the back rooms of the Canterbury Museum. As schoolboys they cycled out to Redcliffs on many occasions between 1946 and 1948 to work in middens near Moa-bone Point Cave. Thirty years later they both contributed to Michael Trotter's report on the Redcliffs sites (*Records of the Canterbury Museum*, 9(3), 1975). Elliot had excavated a burial at Long Beach, Otago, in 1947 and Roger Duff persuaded him to write it up for the *Journal of the Polynesian Society*. John joined him for a second excavation at Long Beach and their first joint paper was the report on that work, also published in the *JPS*. According to Elliot, this first paper caused the only arguments they ever had over any joint paper they wrote. In these papers on Long Beach they reported faunal material, particularly shell and bird species, in more detail than was usual at the time, and provided a thoughtful discussion of the problems of association of faunal and cultural material. For the rest of his life, John maintained his interest in both natural

and cultural faunal remains; it was in the field of archaeozoology that he made his main contribution to archaeology.

After completing an MSc and PhD at Victoria College, John joined the staff of the Dominion Museum in 1959, as zoologist responsible for Crustacea, but also for sub-fossil birds and other sub-fossil vertebrates. Thus he was able to bring his existing archaeological interests to bear on the moa and other bird remains from archaeological sites in Wellington, South Taranaki, and perhaps most notably the Tairua excavation of Roger Green and Colin Smart (*Dominion Museum Records in Ethnology*, 1(7), 1962). During the 1950s and early 1960s he was also involved in excavations of sub-fossil birds from the Martinborough Caves and, with Ron Scarlett, in Bill Hartree's excavations of natural moa remains in rock shelters in inland Hawkes Bay.

After a period at the Australian Museum from 1962 to 1968, John returned to the Dominion Museum as Assistant Director, succeeding Dick Dell as Director of what was by then the National Museum in 1980. At various times he sought to establish curatorial positions at the Museum in both Archaeology and Fossil Birds, eventually succeeding with the latter in 1987. Although he was never able to establish a paid position in Archaeology, he enabled the setting up of the Archaeozoology Laboratory at the National Museum and the appointment of Foss Leach as Honorary Curator in 1988. This Laboratory is the only dedicated permanent facility in New Zealand for the long-term curation and study of archaeological fauna. John not only permitted but encouraged large collections of archaeofauna from both New Zealand and the tropical Pacific to be permanently housed, catalogued and studied.

As Director of the Museum, John strove to increase the involvement of Maori, encouraging traineeships and the appointment of Maori staff. After the *Te Maori* Exhibition, he was a driving force behind *Taonga Maori*, an exhibition of taonga from the National Museum collections, jointly organised with the Australian Museum, which toured to three venues in Australia in 1989.

After his retirement at the end of 1989 John continued to carry out research at the Museum as an Honorary Research Associate, working with Elliot Dawson on crustacean and various historical projects and, as ever, encouraging and supporting the younger museum colleagues around him. He read as widely as ever and kept up his interests in archaeology and other fields. Ancient rats were right up his alley. In 1996 he remembered and produced a rat bone for dating, which he had believed at the time (1959) to have been excavated from under the Taupo Ash in one of Bill Hartree's sites, and in 2002 he published in *AINZ* a full account of this find. This paper is also a good summary of his archaeological interests and involvements.

At NZAA's AGM this year, John was elected an Honorary Member in recognition of his status as a foundation member and his long involvement in the Association. He will be remembered, by those archaeologists who knew him, for his wide-ranging interests, his great enthusiasm, his humility as a scholar, and his trade mark greeting: "How *nice* to see you."

*Janet Davidson and Foss Leach*

### **Lady Aileen Fox 1907–2005**

Aileen Fox died on 21 November at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, England. She was 98. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of *AINZ*.