



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

Professor Atholl Anderson Roger Green Lifetime Achievement Award

Atholl Anderson was born in Hawera and was educated at Otago Boys High School and Nelson College. In 1962 he began tertiary studies at the University of Canterbury, graduating BA and MA(Hons) in Geography, and a Dip. Teaching in 1967 from Christchurch Teachers' Training College. From 1970-1972 he completed an MA(Hons) in Anthropology at the University of Otago before being awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship to further his studies at Cambridge University, where he was an Associate of the British Academy Major Research Project into the Early History of Agriculture. In 1974 he was awarded an Anthony Wilkin Studentship at Cambridge University and graduated with a PhD in Archaeology from Corpus Christi College, Cambridge in 1977.

Returning to New Zealand, Atholl became Senior Tutor in Anthropology at the University of Auckland, before taking up University of Otago appointments as Assistant Lecturer (1978), Lecturer (1979-83), Senior Lecturer (1984-88), Associate Professor (1989-90), and being awarded a personal chair in Prehistory (1991-93). In 1993-2000, he was Professor of Prehistory at the Research School of Pacific Studies (RSPAS) at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra. In 1994-96 he was Foundation Head of the Division of Archaeology and Natural History at RSPAS, and in 1999-2002 was Foundation Director for the Centre for Archaeological Research, ANU. He is currently Emeritus Professor of Prehistory at the Department of Archaeology and Natural History, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Institute of Advanced Studies at ANU. He returned to New Zealand in 2005.

Atholl's research interests are focused on: Oceanic (Pacific) prehistory; Indian Ocean prehistory; island colonisation; palaeoenvironments; zooarchaeology; chronometry; maritime adaptations; evolution of seafaring; traditional history; and, and ethnohistory. His Master's research was conducted in New Zealand, and his Doctoral research in subpolar Scandinavia, but he has subsequently focused on New Zealand and the Pacific, and later the Indian Ocean islands. He has run field projects in Philippines, Palau, New Caledonia, Fiji, Tonga, Niue, Tuvalu and Line groups, French Polynesia, Juan Fernandez, Galapagos, southern Chile, Norfolk Island, Lord Howe, New Zealand and Subantarctic, Christmas Island, Seychelles, Chagos Islands and Madagascar.

Atholl's numerous scholarships, fellowships and awards include a Visiting Fellowship at Clare Hall, Cambridge University, Senior Research Associate at the Tokyo University Museum and Research Fellow at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (1986). Anderson was made a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge University (1987) and received the Stephenson Percy Smith Medal for research in Anthropology (1990). He was appointed Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand (1991) and Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (1992). He was awarded a Fulbright Visiting Scholarship to Hawaii (1993) and received the Polynesian Society's Elsdon Best Memorial Medal (1994). In 1996 he was a visiting Fellow at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University; was appointed Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities; and was a recipient of an exchange scholarship with the Royal Swedish Academy of the Humanities. In 1997 he was awarded a Captain James Cook Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He received a Fellowship of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 2002 and was a recipient of the Federation Centenary Medal of Australia

for services to archaeology in 2003. In 2002 Anderson was awarded an Sc.D from the University of Cambridge. In 2005 he was a Leverhulme Visiting Professor at the University of York.

In 2006 he was admitted as a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Anthropology and Archaeology. In 2007 he was Distinguished Fellow, Institute of Advanced Studies, Durham University; 2010 Slater Fellow, University College, Durham University; 2010-2011 Guest Professor of Archaeology, University of Gotland (Uppsala). In 2016 he received the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement (Non-fiction), awarded by the Arts Council of Creative New Zealand to an outstanding writer who has made a significant contribution to New Zealand literature. In June 2019 he received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Otago.

Along with his academic teaching positions, Atholl has held many administrative positions at the University of Otago during his tenure there, and also at the Australian National University. He had an active involvement with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and was on the Board of Trustees from 1984-88. He has been a member of the International Council for Archaeology from 1978-2006, and associated with the Royal Society of New Zealand, the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, New Zealand Archaeological Association and the Otago Anthropological Association.

As can be expected from his wide range of research interests, Atholl has written a large number of publications, academic papers, articles and reports which have been published in many academic journals and publications. He has written some 25 book reviews in journals including *Antiquity*, *Journal of the Polynesian Society*, *Archaeology in Oceania*, *The Contemporary Pacific*, *Journal of Pacific History*, and *Australian Journal of History*. He has been on the editorial boards or committees of *Mankind* (1984-1986), *Archaeology in Oceania* (1988-1993), *Journal of Anthropological Science* (Tokyo 1992-2003), *Archaeofauna* (1996-2003), *Tor* (1996-1997), *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* (London 1998-2003), ANH Publications (Canberra 1993-2002), and *Cultural Landscapes* (Adelaide 2006).

His most significant publications include *Prodigious Birds: Moas and Moa Hunting in Prehistoric New Zealand* (Cambridge University Press, 1989) and *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History* (Bridget Williams Books, 2014).

He co-authored *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History* with Judith Binney and Aroha Harris. It is the first survey history of Māori covering pre-history to the present. It was awarded the Illustrated Non-Fiction award at the 2016 Ockham Book Awards, the 2015 Royal Society of New Zealand Science Book Prize and the Te Kōrero o Mua (History) Award at the 2015 Ngā Kupu Ora Aotearoa Māori Book Awards.

Atholl has also made a significant contribution to tribal history in southern New Zealand in books such as *The Welcome of Strangers* (Otago University Press, 1998) and *Ngāi Tahu: A Migration History*, edited with Te Maire Tau (Bridget Williams Books, 2008), and through his work on the Ngāi Tahu claim in the late twentieth century.

Atholl has been, and continues to be, one of the most significant thinkers and researchers in New Zealand and Pacific archaeology, and is a worthy recipient of the Roger Green Lifetime Achievement Award.

Rick McGovern-Wilson