

## **KEVIN JONES**

## ROGER C GREEN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Kevin grew up in St Kilda, Dunedin. Like many of those passionate about heritage he went to secondary school in Ōamaru.

His journey to archaeology meandered through a year of engineering, as well as philosophy, anthropology, and library school. In 1972 he was with Dr Chet Gorman in the far north-west of Thailand (Mae Hong Son) where several new Hoabinhian era caves and open sites were recorded.

He completed a Master of Arts at University of Otago, supervised by Dr Foss Leach, with a thesis titled:

Prehistoric Polynesian Stone Technology: A study of usage and flaking technique with special reference to assemblages of stone flake debitage of New Zealand archaic cultural provenance.

His early career experience was at the DSIR central library (1975-1978) where he was involved with batch processing of Boolean logic searches of biological data bases, a pioneering and cumbersome antecedent of Google run out of the National Library of Australia.

From 1978 he was employed for 12 years with the then New Zealand Historic Places Trust as part of the archaeology unit, undertaking archaeological fieldwork across the motu, but with a particular focus on new afforestation and landscape survey of North Island East Coast and Bay of Plenty River valley systems such as the Rangitāiki and the Waipāoa.

In 1987 the archaeology unit moved to the Department of Conservation where he worked for another 20 years. His research interests during that time included:

- Katherine Mansfield Birthplace
- Archaeology and geomorphology of the eastern North Island
- Remote sensing utilising aerial photography in archaeological survey
- Forestry archaeology
- Conservation planning and management of archaeological sites
- Horticulture and population studies on the East Coast.

In the 1980s Kevin published a number of papers on the Cook voyage observations of horticulture on the East Coast and the 1761 George III medalet recovered in the course of archaeological survey at Whāngārā.

In 1993 he completed a Master of Public Policy, at Victoria University of Wellington, with a thesis topic on statutes that require public servants to prepare policies that can be binding on the public, such as charters and policy statements. A degree that reflected his interest in heritage practice and policy.

In 1993 Kevin was the recipient of a Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship to the USA researching site stabilization and reconstruction, travelling widely in the mid-West, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Mississippi. This resulted in the publication of:

 Archaeological site stabilisation and reconstruction in the United States: Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship Report. 1993

This was followed by other publications including:

- Ngā Tohuwhenua mai Te Rangi: New Zealand Archaeology in Aerial Photographs.
  1994 (now available on the New Zealand Electronic Text Centre)
- Caring for Archaeological Sites. Practical guidelines for protecting and managing archaeological sites in New Zealand. 2007
- The Penguin Field Guide to New Zealand Archaeology. 2007
- Cultural Landscapes of the Pacific Islands: ICOMOS Thematic Study for UNESCO. 2008
- Edited (with Paul Dingwall and Rachael Egerton). In Care of the Southern Ocean: an archaeological and historical survey of the Auckland Islands. NZAA Monograph. 2009

On long-service leave in 1997 Kevin visited many earthwork sites in the south-west of England published in *Antiquity* as 'The state of large earthwork sites in the United Kingdom'.

Kevin was also involved with the DOC science programme of national thematic and regional studies aimed at describing and contextualizing the significance of sites throughout New Zealand. In private practice in the last decade he also worked on cultural assessment of a number of high profile site area such as the Abel Tasman National Memorial, the Te Awaiti whaling station and the Whakaari (Glenorchy) scheelite mining landscape.

Kevin has always been a fierce advocate for archaeology, archaeological best practice and the relevance of archaeology to the development of cultural renewal and identity. He has had a long and influential career in archaeology and heritage protection in New Zealand. For many years he has also been an active member and supporter of ICOMOS and has undertaken expert missions to Australia, French Polynesia and the Federated States of Micronesia assisting with the assessment of sites proposed for World Heritage inscription.

He embraces new technology, as demonstrated by his expert work in the utilization of aerial photography within archaeological survey and condition monitoring. He was a leader in the early adoption of techniques we now take for granted, such as remote sensing and archaeological site stabilization and conservation planning. He is an NZAA member of long standing and long a member of the Aerial Archaeology Research Group. Kevin is an enormously patient and generous mentor for students and people new to the heritage sector. He loves a robust discussion and will not hesitate to offer a provocatively different perspective.

## Summary

Kevin has had a long and influential role in archaeology and heritage protection in New Zealand in his various roles. He has been the leader in a development of techniques such as aerial photography use and site stabilization and has been a longtime supporter of NZAA, ICOMOS and New Zealand archaeology.