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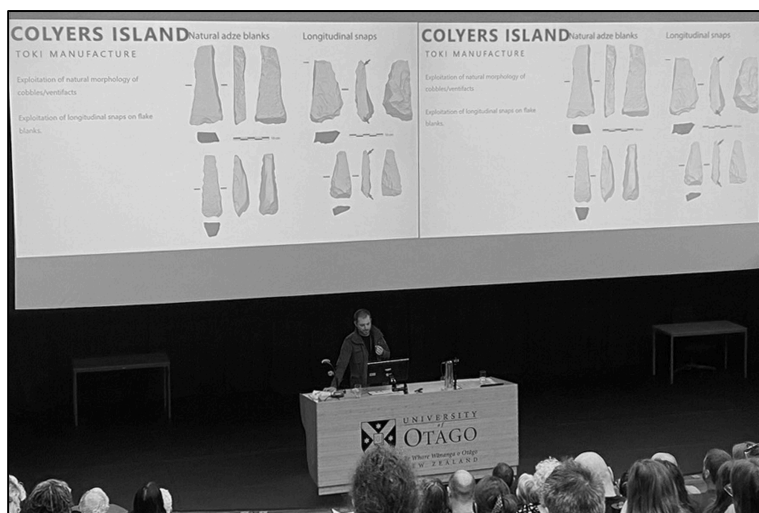
2022 NZAA Conference Report

University of Otago, Ōtepoti Dunedin
21 - 24 November 2022

Josie Hagan

The 2022 NZAA Conference was held in Ōtepoti Dunedin and hosted by University of Otago, with a theme of archaeology and the climate crisis. The conference kicked off with the CFG Heritage Pre-conference icebreaker, held in The Atrium of Otago Museum.

Monday began with mihi whakatau led by Ngāi Tahu, with Edward Ellison reminding us of the previous conference having been held in Ōtepoti in 1995 when the hot topic was the upgrade of archaeological site recording. The first paper session of the day was focused on the theme of this conference, with talks about climate change, coastal erosion, rising sea levels and coastal cultural redress. Papers after lunch focussed on early-Māori archaeological research, then followed a session about Aotearoa New Zealand's more recent past. The day was finished off with New Zealand Heritage Properties & Underground Overground Panel Discussion: Archaeology and the Climate Crisis.



Chris Jennings presenting on research on Colyers Island lithics (SPAR).

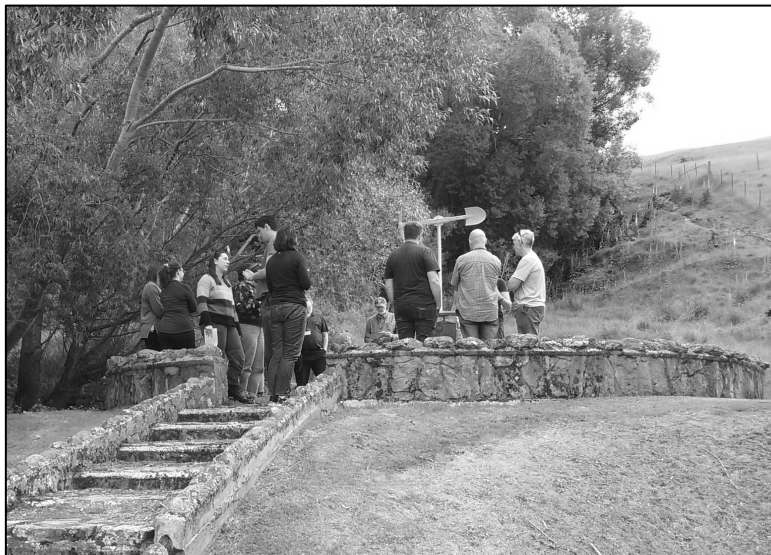
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Tuesday began with an excellent session, focussed on different techniques used in archaeological science. Emma St. Pierre presented an interesting talk about the use of GPR to assist Indigenous Communities in Mapoon, Australia and Rebecca Benham educated the audience on her fascinating Masters topic of Starch and Raphides as evidence of Cultigens from Wetland Māori Ditch Systems- a paper she won the Student Paper prize for. Later papers in the day focussed on Invercargill's historic past and an interesting session using bone (human and fish) to interpret the past. Brooke Tucker's excellent paper, *Fishing for Data: a deep dive into the analysis of Barracouta harvest and preservation*, winning her paper a prize. The poster session followed, then the NZAA Professional Organisation Workshop and the day was rounded off with the 100 years of Anthropology at Otago drinks, which was well attended and by most accounts carried on after The Staff Club called last orders.

Wednesday was the Southern Pacific Archaeological Research Field trip. This began with a tour of Sinclair Wetlands hosted by Te Nohoaka o Tukiauaui Sinclair Wetlands Trust, followed by Lawrence Chinese Camp where we met with members of Lawrence Chinese Camp Charitable Trust, a quick visit to Gabriels Gully, and ending the day at Weatherstons Brewery. In the evening, the first Kaihura (Māori archaeologists) caucus was held.



The conference fieldtrip at Gabriels Gully (Josie Hagan).



*At the miners' monument at Gabriel's Gully during the fieldtrip
(Gabrielle Johnston)*

On the last day of conference, sessions started with an eclectic mix of papers, including The wreck of the Robina Dunlop (Mike Johnson), Lapita stilt structures (Nick Hogg), The archaeology of Newtown (Mary O'Keefe), Social media adventures (Gary Law) and Private collections in the public eye (Claire Thorrold). After morning tea, paper session 8 discussed whakapapa, cultural landscapes, identity and mapping, wriggle match dating and Sabre Baker-Anderson's personal and insightful reflections on becoming a Māori archaeologist. After lunch, the final session of the conference was themed around the archaeology of Christchurch and Dunedin, including developments from the Dunedin Hospital (Bree Wooler) and the University of Otago Campus (Nick Sutton) tying the conference together nicely. Lynda Walter gave the closing speech, noting the changes she has seen in the conference proceedings over the years and the particular delight in hearing increasing Te Reo Māori being spoken among archaeologists during tea breaks.

The Gala Dinner at Lanarch Castle was kicked off with a traditional Scottish procession with Rachel Darmody, Sabre Baker-Anderson and Chris Jennings, who entertained us all with a majestic Braveheart impression. After, Brooke Tucker, Rebecca Benham and the HMS Buffalo Re-examination Project accepted

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their prizes for their contributions to archaeology and (too) many drinks were had, and the entire conference attendance took to the dancefloor for a jolly good night.



Larnach Castle for the conference dinner (Rebecca Benham).