

## Annual Reports 2002/03

### NZAA President's Report 2002/03

A sad event in the year was the death at the age of 91 of Ron Scarlett. Ron was a founder member of the Association, the first editor of its Newsletter, which was at first a mimeographed effort. Ron was a noted student of ornithology, particularly bones of recently extinct species, a long term member of the staff of the Canterbury Museum, a frequent worker on excavations and one of life's characters.

Cultural heritage has been in the media more than somewhat in the past year. Many people took offence at the World Heritage Day speech by the Race Relations Commissioner. Most seemed to have missed the fact that the day had been created by UNESCO in response to the cultural affront of the Taliban destruction of the Afghan Buddhas. That the speech was about the severe loss of natural and cultural heritage in New Zealand all got rather lost in some dubious assertions about settlers being responsible for all the natural heritage loss and the presumption that Mr De Bres had directly compared Pakeha with the Taliban. Careful reading shows he did not, but it was easy to think he had and many commentators seemed not to have read the speech or understood its context. A World Heritage Day is a good idea. We should be able to celebrate what we have done well and as well be frank about what we have not.

Secondly there was the Holmes programme attack on HPT registration of a Wahi Tapu area at Tauranga. The mis-information on this was appalling. Our website and email news did a little to counter this and publicised the Trust's efforts to put the story straight.

Our membership has reversed its past downward trend. I hope this will be permanent. A marketing plan to assist with this has been drafted and we are using a mentor with commercial experience to help us review it.

One initiative to draw in new interest has been an NZAA email news which draws on media news items and highlights NZAA events and publications. Visit the NZAA website [www.nzarchaeology.org](http://www.nzarchaeology.org) to sign up. It is intended to supplement Archaeology in New Zealand, not replace it. The use of the website for news/views/links etc has seen quite a bit of development this past year.

Welcome to Matt Campbell as the new editor of Archaeology in New Zealand. His predecessor Joan Lawrence had a long and distinguished run and we will mark that at this conference.

Trading in antiquities has become all the easier with the advent of internet auctions. This trade encourages the looting of archaeological sites especially in war torn countries. This trade happens through New Zealand, with local dealers trading material which has clearly come from archaeological sites. The international convention on limiting this trade – that of the *UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (Paris 1970)* - has been in place for a long time. Most western countries are signatories. New Zealand is not. NZAA has been advocating to the Government it should ratify this treaty. The Government has to amend the Antiquities Act to achieve this. I am pleased to say that the Government seems to be of that intent.

Some representatives of Council met with the Associate Minister of Heritage and Culture, Judith Tizard during the year and discussed antiquities trading with her, supported the change to the RMA upgrading heritage, the SRS upgrade project and the funding of HPT.

We have attempted to get a meeting with the Director of Conservation to discuss the declining resource for archaeological heritage in his department but without success.

We made a number of other submissions on archaeological issues during the year, including:

To the Auckland Regional Council on a stonefields area.

To Auckland City Council on the south- east corridor project.

Auckland Museum on trading in antiquities.

To the Royal Society questioning their funding of a Stonehenge reconstruction as an astronomy teaching facility.

To DOC on the draft of the Caring for Archaeological Sites manual.

To the Historic Places Trust on its governance structure.

To Carter Holt on a sustainable forestry manual.

The survey of NZAA members last year supported our being more active on matters like this. I trust we are delivering on this.

New advances in mapping and electronic data management mean there is a forthcoming change to the map grid and the move away from published map sheets. This affects the site recording scheme. This has led us to the decision in principle that we will move the numbering system to a national system rather than a map sheet based system. There is a lot of detail to work through on this and we will be wanting input from those affected.

The future storage and access to the SRS is also an issue we have started to address. The advent of local and regional Council systems storing our information will mean we will lose control of our data if we do not move to the electronic storage and access that most planning users need. Without this step the great achievements coming from the Upgrade Project will not be used to their best advantage.

Council has decided to hold the annual conference celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year in early December, rather than the usual earlier time in the year so we have an issue over holding our annual election of officers and AGM, which constitutionally must be earlier than that. Council is proposing that it will call an AGM at the normal time to deal with the election of officers and any matters which constitutionally have to be done at that time, but then adjourn the meeting until the conference so members will then have the opportunity to discuss any matters they wish that are normally open at an AGM.

With the decision planning for that 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference is underway. The venue will be New Plymouth. It should be a great one.

I would like to thank all the officers of NZAA and the council members for their work during the year. NZAA is lucky in the support it enjoys from them.

Garry Law President

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#### AINZ editor's report

Since I have only so far edited a single issue of AINZ there is not a great deal to report. The handover from Joan to myself went smoothly, with a great deal of patient help from Joan. The computer and printer are now installed in my office. The Association has since upgraded the computer with a zip drive and CD writer, which will better enable me to share files and deliver AINZ electronically. AINZ is now prepared using page layout software (Adobe PageMaker), and apart from a few teething troubles, which resulted in the March issue being a couple of weeks late, this too has gone smoothly. Papers were slow to come in at the start of the year (Joan tells me this happen every Christmas), but I hope things will now pick up. Doubtless I still have much to learn about this editing business. Thanks are due to Joan for putting my name forward for the job, and to the Association for their help to date.

Planning for the a special edition to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Association and the 2004 conference is proceeding. I already have offers of some photographs. We expect that, because of the photos we hope to include, this issue will need to be printed by offset rather than laser copy, and also that it will be considerably larger than normal. Until we have a better idea of the contents the exact format remains unclear. Thank you to Stuart Bedford, Rick McGovern-Wilson and Nigel Prickett for their assistance in this project.

Matthew Campbell

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#### **Report of the Webmaster For Calendar Year 2002 *nzarchaeology.org***

Garry Law

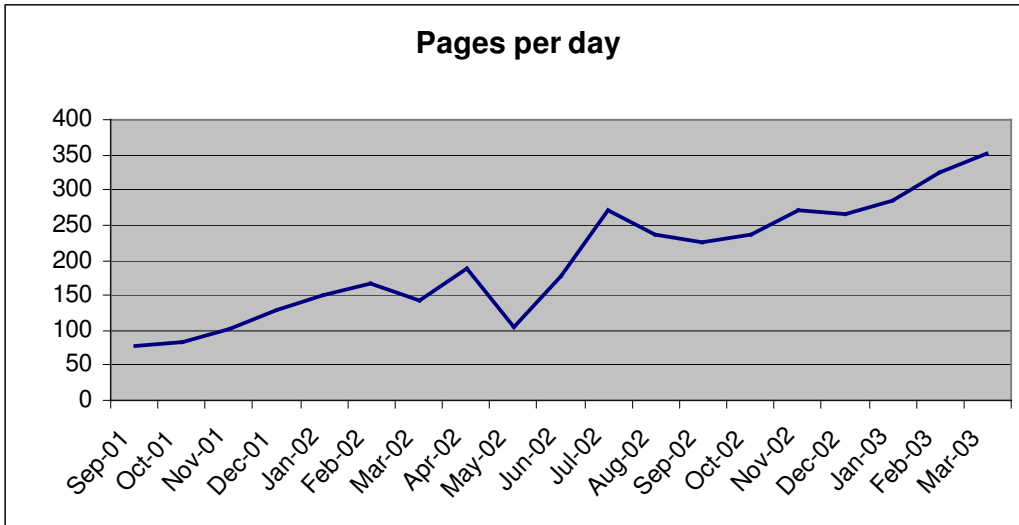
The visitor totals for the year were:

Hits 250,440

Pages 74,030

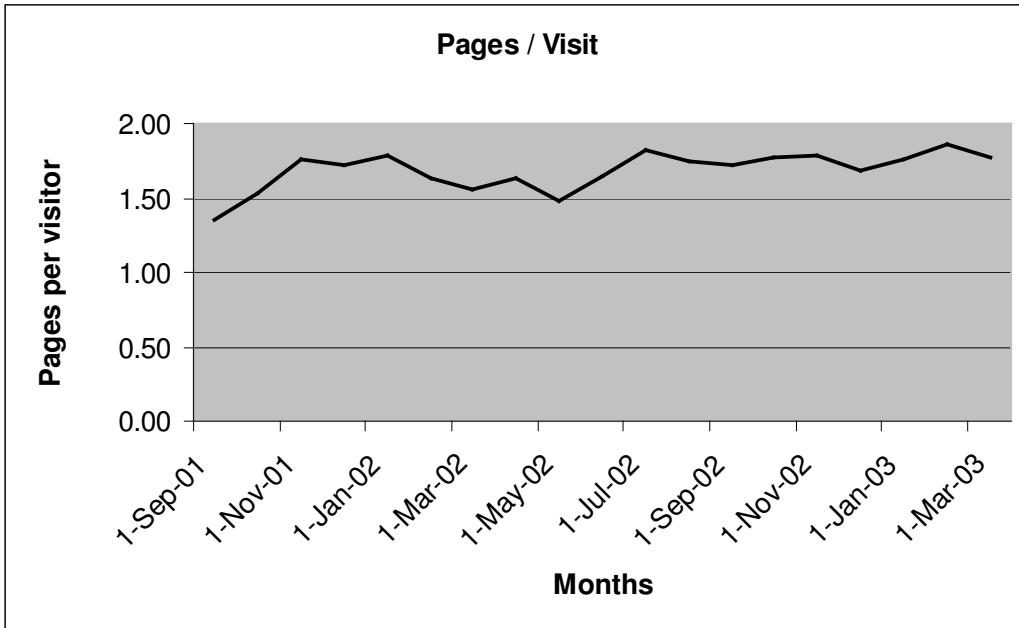
Visits 43,394

We don't have a full year of previous results to compare these with but the trend for the period we have records is strongly upwards.



The

number of pages per visitor continues to be low and fairly steady (it is a measure of how many of our visitors find the site interesting enough to surf around in).



A electronic newsletter has been added as a feature (this is intended as a teaser for becoming an NZAA member). Sign-ups for this have been encouraging.

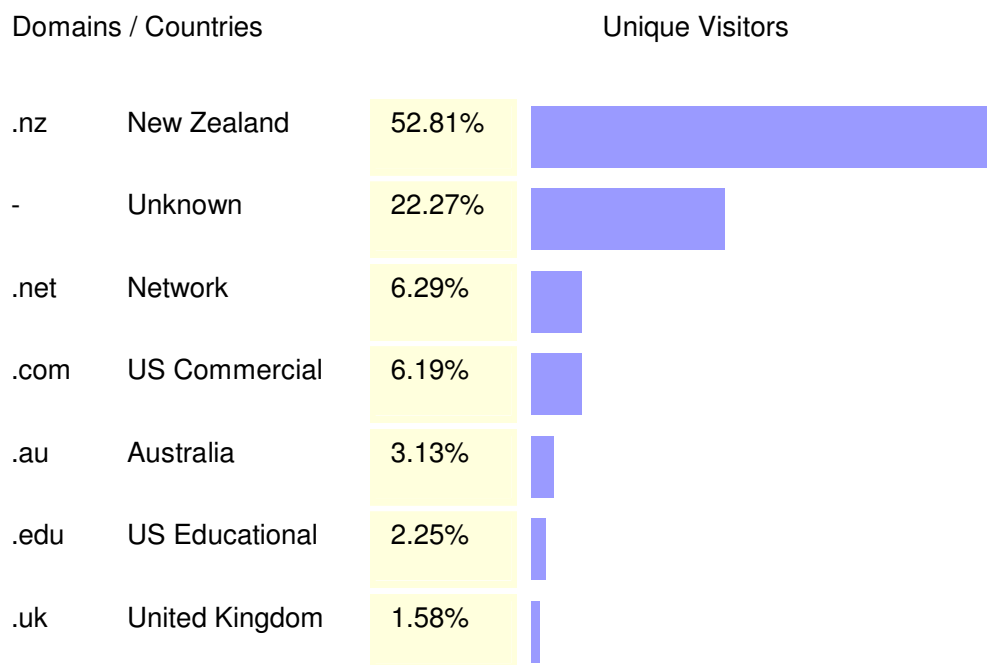
Summaries of the contents of AINZ are being added on the home page as they appear.

There were four new electronic publications on the site in 2002.

The jobs / digs wanted guestbooks are attracting posts. Jobs / digs offerers are much more scarce.

The homepage is the most common entry page followed by the archaeologists email list (probably spammers) and the Kevin Jones electronic publication on aerial photography. The latter probably gets a lot of search engine links on place names in the article.

The visitors are dominantly from New Zealand (table below not counting return visitors).



Our most frequent referrer is the Google search engine. The top keywords in searches which get referred to us are: new, zealand, archaeology, maori, archaeological, history, association, settlers, sites, early, gold, settlement, mining, map, first, nzaa.

Planned new features are a guide to sites to visit for cultural tourists and I am looking at how to get a book purchasing system back that we used to have with Flying Pig.

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## **NEW ZEALAND JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY**

### **EDITOR'S REPORT TO AGM, APRIL 2003**

The retirement of the Editor and Business Manager and their move to the Marlborough Sounds effectively disrupted progress towards getting the Journal back on schedule.

Volumes 23 and 24 were discussed in my report last year. Volume 23 contains seven papers, six of which are on New Zealand topics. This volume is in the process of being typeset at the moment and should go to the printer shortly. Five of the papers for Volume 24 are ready for typesetting; two still require editorial work.

Fortunately, there has been a marked improvement in the rate of submission of papers, although most of those submitted recently are on Pacific rather than New Zealand topics. There are currently eight papers (three of which are short and relate to each other) in various stages of refereeing and revision.

This relative abundance of papers should not be cause for complacency. There is still as great a need as ever for continuing submission of papers to ensure that the Journal, once back on schedule, remains that way.

I should like to thank the referees, those who have acted as assistant editors, the typesetters, the business managers, and those who continue to support the Journal in the most important way of all – by contributing papers.

Janet Davidson.

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### **SIZE OF CENTRAL FILE as of 31 March 2003**

On 31 March 2003 the Central File held a total of 55,458 records. This is an increase of 645 on last year's figure of 54,813. This represents an increase of about 1.2%.

Regional totals are as follows:

Region	2002	2003	Change
Northland	10285	10490	+ 205
Auckland	8770	8811	+ 41
Coromandel	4184	4253	+ 69
Waikato	3322	3427	+ 105
Bay of Plenty	7992	8061	+ 69
Taupo	455	455	
East Coast	2853	2876	+ 23

Taranaki	1542	1571	+ 29
Inland Patea	297	297	
Hawkes Bay	1907	1940	+ 33
Wanganui	882	887	+ 5
Wellington	1062	1077	+ 15
Nelson	1569	1587	+ 18
Marlborough	538	543	+ 5
Canterbury	1346	1346	
West Coast	907	908	+ 1
Otago	2518	2521	+ 3
Central Otago	2087	2110	+ 23
Southland	1466	1467	+ 1
Outlying Islands	831	831	
	54813	55458	+ 645
Summary			
North Island Files	43551	44145	+ 594
South Island Files	10431	10482	+ 51
Outlying Islands	831	831	
	54813	55458	+ 645

Pa sites (excluding gunfighter pa) comprise 12% of all recorded sites (n = 6852). Historic archaeological sites make up about 15% of all recorded sites. The three largest files continue to hold 49% of the records.

A. Walton

Central Filekeeper

31 March 2002

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## TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE AGM - 2002 FINANCIAL YEAR

2002 was another busy year for the Association, we ended the year with a total of accumulated funds of \$87,6551.31. This is a small increase from 2001 and again includes funds held in advance for the Upgrade project. The following comments should be read in conjunction with the annual accounts, which have been posted to all members.

The General Account again had a high level of activity in 2002 due to the Site Upgrade Project. The project has remained within budget. The income for the Project was made up of \$45,000.00 from Lotteries and \$44,472.22 from District Council grants.

The cash flow problems that have hindered the Association in the past were somewhat alleviated last year due to a number of factors. The increase in membership fees and file searches resulted in the generation of more income, the Conference in Russell realised a \$3000 profit and reductions were made in production costs for *Archaeology in New Zealand*. In 2002 the General Account was able to support the Upgrade Project, fund all four issues of AINZ, and meet general expenditure. The increased income from file searches and the conference profit is not however guaranteed and cash flow problems are still of concern.

Realistic cost recovery and the benefits of holding the annual Conference at a smaller venue with lower overheads were apparent in the relatively large profit generated by the 2002 Conference.

Operating cost for the Association remained at a similar level to previous years.

In 2002 the NZAA Council formalised the roles of Business Manager, NZ Journal of Archaeological and Business Manager, AINZ and Monographs. These positions have delegated authority for financial reporting and normal running expenses, while capital and extraordinary expenses still require Council approval.

The annual accounts presented to members this year have been audited in keeping the requirements of our Lotteries Environment and Heritage funding.

Karen Greig