

NZAA President's Report 2006/07

The past year has continued to be busy with the Upgrade Project being the major focus of the Association's activity throughout the year. Unfortunately the Ministry of Culture and Heritage funding ceases on 30 June 2007. Although they decided not to continue funding the Upgrade Project due to other pressures, the letter received from Hon. Judith Tizard was a strong endorsement of the of the project. The Upgrade Project report will provide more detail on the progress of this project.

Work has also continued on the joint DoC/NZHPT/NZAA Working Party on the Site Recording Scheme and we have finally signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Garry Law will be reporting on this progress within the general business section of this AGM.

Thanks are due to the dedicated work of the Working Party, Steering Group, Project Manager and Upgrade Project staff who have been managing these projects and who continue to represent the association in a very public way with local authorities, iwi, landowners and Government Departments.

The other major focus of the Council has been looking at the future direction for the site recording scheme based on feedback from the filekeeper's conference in 2003. Garry Law published a paper in AINZ, developed a questionnaire and a workshop session has been held at this conference.

In December 2006 Council submitted an Expression of Interest to the Community Partnership Fund of the Digital Strategy for funding to digitise the SRS. We were then asked to submit a full application which we did with NZHPT and DOC as our partners. We will not know the results of this application until the end of July. I would like to personally thank everyone who went out of their way to assist with both these applications as we were working to a very tight timeframe.

The NZAA Council prepared submissions or provided input to several planning issues during the past year including Ocean Beach, Papamoa Hills Regional Park Management Plan and Maungawhau Mt Eden Management Plan. Cathy Barr acted in the role of submissions co-coordinator on planning matters. As Cathy is retiring from Council this year I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the time and commitment she has put into this role and other Council matters on our behalf.

The past twelve months have also been marked by the deaths of Ken Moore and Graeme Harris. Both made considerable contributions to the Association and NZ archaeology and they will be sadly missed.

During the coming year NZAA Council is committed to securing funding to complete the Upgrade Project and to continue working towards the digitization of the SRS.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the NZAA Council, filekeepers, officers and other voluntary members whose passion and commitment is the backbone of this organization.

Pam Bain
8 June 2007.