

# NEW ZEALAND JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

## EDITOR'S REPORT TO AGM, JUNE 2005

As foreshadowed in my 2004 report, we were able to publish two issues last year. Volume 24 had eight papers and totalled 156 pages. Volume 25, which appeared at the end of the year, contained seven papers and totalled 157 pages.

We intend to publish two issues again this year. Copy editing and typesetting of Volume 26 is well in hand and it should be published in August. Some papers are already in the system for Volume 27, due to appear in December, but there is still an opportunity for prompt publication of papers submitted in the next few months. The Journal will then be up to date, and will revert to its proper schedule of annual publication in 2006.

There is never room for complacency about the rate of submission of papers. More is always better, and helps ensure prompt publication and good quality. I feel strongly that the Journal should be publishing more papers that report some of the work being done in New Zealand under the Historic Places legislation. We have had several excellent papers in recent years, but I know that other important work remains buried in unpublished reports of very limited circulation. Although a lot of mitigation archaeology does not produce results worthy of submission to a refereed journal, some of it certainly does. I know it is hard to sit down and produce a scholarly paper once contractual obligations have been met and final payments made. But there is little point in doing mitigation archaeology unless its results are adequately disseminated to the archaeological and eventually wider communities. It is a pity that HPT cannot award some kind of bonus to contractors producing a refereed paper or papers at the conclusion of a major piece of fieldwork carried out under the Act.

Circulation remains a worry. As I have said before, our subscribers are, on the whole, an aging population. The Journal will not survive unless the younger generation support it by subscribing (and by submitting papers).

Once again, I thank the referees, 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.