

The 2020 Elery Hamilton-Smith Award

The Elery Hamilton-Smith Award is presented to the author of the article adjudged by the Editor and Assistant Editor of this Journal to have made the most significant contribution in support of the aims of the Association during the prior two years. Although usually presented at the Association's biennial conference, Covid-19 meant that the 2020 award winner was revealed at the Zoom Annual General Meeting held at the end of May 2020.

My Assistant Editor, Tony Culberg, and I selected the article by Mary Trayes (in the March 2019 Journal) entitled "The Maori Heritage Caves at Redcliffs, Christchurch, New Zealand" as the outstanding article of the last two years. Not only was the article well written and comprehensively covering the topic of the preservation of, and recovery actions for, culturally significant caves in the Christchurch region after the serious damage caused by the 2011 earthquake but it also provided an insight into the necessity for culturally appropriate negotiation for such activities.

Kirsty Dixon prepared the certificate awarded to Mary to acknowledge receipt of this award. The certificate was unveiled (on-screen) during the AGM and posted to Mary after the meeting.

As the article noted, the Association has made an offer to Christchurch City Council to contribute \$1,000 toward the cost of appropriate interpretive signage when the location and terms of that can be agreed by the relevant Maori cultural custodians. Although that process may prove to be a lengthy one, your committee recently confirmed that that offer remains open to the Council.

Tim Moore

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