

## Editorial

There has been a gratifying response to the first issue of *JPA* and we thank all contributors and subscribers. As yet, we do not have as many university, museum, and other institutional subscribers as we would wish. Times are difficult everywhere, but if you like the way in which *JPA* is shaping up then please make the effort to contact your library. It is possible that our Business Manager, Louise Furey, might be able to make some copies of the first issue available to colleagues who need them to make a case for an institutional subscription. Do contact her.

In this issue you will see that we have an Invited Comment by Jon Erlandson. Jon is well known around the Pacific and beyond as an archaeologist who takes a wide view, very appropriately, of the ancient Pacific. His ‘kelp trail’ hypothesis, and his research at the intersection of bioarchaeology and conservation are but two of his important contributions. We shall be seeking other Invited Comments by distinguished colleagues from time to time.

It is worth pointing out here that contributions are welcome as Notes in French or Spanish. Your editor has no facility in these languages but a conviction, nonetheless, that the relentless demand to have everything expressed

in English is not altogether a good thing. Languages are the key to culture, as in New Zealand we are often and rightly reminded by Maori (and therein lies another issue for future comment). For practical reasons, *JPA* must be largely an English-language journal, but the different perspectives formed in other languages need to be expressed in journals such as this, in part to bring comments, reports and reviews to our multi-lingual readers and in part to encourage all of us, perhaps mostly our younger colleagues and students, to follow Pacific archaeology in the broader diversity of its different scholarly traditions.

We also welcome Letters to the Editor. Unlike some of our contemporaries, *JPA* is not afraid of critical comment. Indeed, quite a lot of what of what is written in Pacific archaeology, as elsewhere, would profit from a large dose of scholarly criticism. There is a place for it in *JPA*.

Lastly, and paraphrasing the closing words of the immortal Dean Martin, ‘keep those papers and letters rolling in!’ But remember, this is a journal of Pacific archaeology so to our Italian colleague who proposed a paper on the Turin Shroud, thanks, but sadly not here.

*Atholl Anderson*

