

Editorial

The *Journal of Pacific Archaeology* had its origin at a small conference on Waiheke Island near Auckland, in November 2008. The conference was on archaeological and palaeo-environmental research in the southern temperate zone. After dinner, delegates from Chile, New Zealand and Australia were in a mood to talk about publishing on trans-Pacific themes of multi-disciplinary interest. Sentiment eventually favoured starting a new journal of archaeology and topics of related interest that was open to peer-reviewed research from around and throughout the Pacific Ocean. This is the remit of the *Journal of Pacific Archaeology*, to which contributions in archaeology and upon relevant aspects of biological anthropology, historical linguistics, environmental sciences, material culture, ethnography and history are invited. Further information, including for contributors, is available on the journal website: <http://www.pacificarchaeology.org>

The *Journal of Pacific Archaeology* belongs to the New Zealand Archaeological Association and it takes over from the *New Zealand Journal of Archaeology*, which was published annually from 1979 to 2008. It is fitting to note the service of those who were instrumental in publishing *NZJA*: Foss Leach as the Business Manager throughout, and Jill Hamel (1979–1981), Jill Hamel and Janet Davidson jointly (1982–1984), and then Janet alone (1985–2008) as the Editors. They deserve the warm gratitude of scholars

throughout the Pacific for a task performed to the highest standards.

In setting up the *Journal of Pacific Archaeology*, through 2009, the assistance of Lisa Matisoo-Smith, Nigel Prickett, Ian Smith and Richard Walter, who were at the Waiheke conference, has been much appreciated. *NZAA* President Matthew Schmidt facilitated a smooth transition from *NZJA* to *JPA* and Glenn Summerhayes, Head of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Otago, ensured continuation of the joint publishing arrangement.

Now it all depends on our performance and how the new journal is received in the Pacific and further afield. On this matter we can hardly improve on the words of *The Press* (of Christchurch, New Zealand), which opened its account on May 23rd 1861 as follows:

We shall make no apology for the production of a new newspaper. We are under the impression such a paper is wanted. If we should be so fortunate as to command a remunerative circulation the result will justify our opinion. If not, failure will sufficiently punish our presumption.

We are dedicated to making the *Journal of Pacific Archaeology* a success, and as that depends equally upon the editorial performance, the standard of contributions and the number who subscribe, we welcome your participation.

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