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Digitising Back Volumes of the Journal of the Polynesian Society

During the past five years or so, the Honorary Editor has regularly received approaches from commercial firms proposing to take over publication of the Journal and make it available on line. At this juncture the Council considers that shifting publication to a commercial firm is contrary to the aims of the Society and its obligations to its readers. Experience shows that commercial publication inevitably increases costs. The JPS will continue to be an “in-house” publication.
On another front, librarians at the University of Auckland have for some time shown interest in the possibility of digitising old volumes of the *Journal*. There is a continuing, even increasing, demand for access to early volumes, both in New Zealand and internationally. The first two volumes of the *JPS* were digitised in a pilot project and the results presented to Council in March. The volumes could be viewed both in facsimile and in searchable text. On the basis of the pilot project, the Library staff estimates that $90,000 would be needed to digitise the first 50 volumes, Council was impressed, approved seeking funding to digitise the first 100 volumes of the *Journal*, and authorised a working group, including Council members and University of Auckland library staff, to seek the necessary funding. On behalf of the working group, the Hon. Editor would be pleased to receive any suggestions regarding funding sources.

*Part I of the New Edition of Ngā Mōteatea will be available in July*

The first Part of the new edition of *Ngā Mōteatea*, published by University of Auckland Press in association with the Polynesian Society, will be launched on 7 July at Waipapa Marae, University of Auckland. Members of the Society may order the volume at the usual 20 percent discount from the Society’s Office (see inside front cover for addresses). Others may order copies from the Auckland University Press (email: aup@auckland.ac.nz). The volume will be available from most New Zealand booksellers.