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Contributors to This Issue

Emily Donaldson spent the last year and a half working as a contract archaeologist for the Navy in Pearl Harbor, Hawai‘i. This was only the last of several extended visits to Polynesia over the past four years. Having spent most of her life in New England, she enjoyed the change of scene. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, and graduated Magna cum laude from Harvard College in 2003 with a Foreign Language Citation in French. Currently she is applying to graduate school in Anthropology and anticipates beginning her Ph.D. studies in the Fall of 2005.

Jean Guiart, now retired from the Musée de l’Homme, is well-known for his work with various populations of Vanuatu and New Caledonia. He has published extensively on land tenure, myth and social structure, ethnohistory and art. In recent years, Professor Guiart has devote his time and attention to producing a series of shorter, more accessible, books about New Caledonia, intended as essays on issues crucial to that place and designed to provoke wider discussion.

Adrienne L. Kaeppler is Curator of Oceanic Ethnology at the National Museum of Natural History, at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. Her B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees are all from the University of Hawai‘i. Her research focuses on the interrelationships between social structure and the arts, especially dance, music and the visual arts. She is also a specialist on the artefacts collected and their documentation during the voyages of Captain Cook, the U.S. Exploring Expedition and other early voyages. Her recent publication, “Sculptures of barkcloth and wood from Rapa Nui: Symbolic continuities and Polynesian affinities” (RES, 44: 10-69), combines her interest in art, aesthetics, social structure and documentation.

Frederic Pearl is the Director of the Maritime Studies Program at Texas A&M University in Galveston. He is jointly appointed to the Departments of General Academics and Marine Sciences, and has graduate affiliations with the Department of Marine Sciences in Galveston and the Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University in College Station. He received his B.A. from San Diego State University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. His current field projects are in the Samoan archipelago.

Jim Specht retired from the Australian Museum, Sydney in 2000 after nearly 30 years service, and is currently a Research Fellow of the Museum, Honorary Associate at the University of Sydney and a member of the Centre for Archaeology at The Australian National University. His main research interests are Pacific archaeology and the history of museum collections.

The Skinner Fund for Physical Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnology

Applications for grants from the above fund, sponsored jointly by the Royal Society of New Zealand, the Polynesian Society and the New Zealand Archaeological Association, close on 1 April 2005.
The purpose of the fund is to promote the study of the history, art, culture, physical and social anthropology of the Māori and other Polynesian peoples, particularly through the recording, survey, excavation and scientific study of prehistoric and historic sites in New Zealand and the islands of the Southwest Pacific. This includes the detailed analysis of all cultural, artistic or physical remains which have been recovered as the result of such investigations. To this end both research projects having survey, recording and excavation as their goal, as well as those which propose to treat analytically and comparatively materials already so recovered shall be deemed to have equal weight. Preference will be given to well-documented research plans which specify methodology and anticipated outcomes of the proposed research.

The amount available for distribution from the fund is not large and, grants of about $1,000 will be allocated.

Every recipient of a grant from the fund shall report to the Royal Society of New Zealand before 30 June in the year after the grant was made, showing in a general way the expenditure of the grant and the progress made with the research.

The results of research aided by grants from the fund, shall, where possible, be published in New Zealand, with due acknowledgement of the source of financial assistance, and one copy of any report stemming from such research shall be sent to the Society.

Applicants must provide a current curriculum vitae, an outline of the proposed research and a budget. Applications should be sent to:

The Executive Officer—Awards
Royal Society of New Zealand
P O Box 598
WELLINGTON

All applications will be acknowledged.

New Editions of Oldman Catalogues now available

Enhanced new editions of the Oldman catalogues of Māori and Polynesian artefacts originally published and reprinted many years ago are now available. Not only have the plates and text been enhanced and reformatted—as well as edited to remove glaring errors and inconsistencies, but also Roger Neich and Janet Davidson have written an introductory essay about W.O. Oldman, his collection and how it came to be in New Zealand, and produced a list locating which New Zealand museum holds each item.

The Polynesian Society has been able to price the volumes relatively inexpensively for sale in New Zealand thanks to a production grant from the Pacific Development and Conservation Trust and a publishing subsidy from New Zealand Lottery Heritage. For details, see the Society’s publication list at the end of this issue.

The address given at the Oldman catalogue launch by Adrienne Kaeppler, Curator of Oceanic Ethnology at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History, is reproduced herein.