PUBLICATIONS REPORT TO AGM JUNE 2016

The publications of the Association include Journal of Pacific Archaeology, monograph series and Archaeology in New Zealand.

The 2015 balance sheet for publications is not an accurate reflection of the activity for the year. This was largely due to the late invoicing and consequent outstanding payments for JPA. The cost of AINZ production and mail out remains high and the council may wish to consider additional alternatives to reduce costs. The profit varies on a yearly basis depending on the volume of sales in the year and whether a monograph has been published. The time elapsed between the last monograph publication is increasing, and sales are declining, with the exception of Change Through Time.

The Journal of Pacific Archaeology is self-sustaining due to the low production costs. As of last year, the first four issues of the JPA are now open access. This is part of a trial to move to a delayed open access publishing model, in which there will be a 2-3 year moving wall beyond which articles will become free to access for non-subscribers. This is based on higher readership of content previously open. Having a moving wall will open up research published in the JPA to a much wider audience, whilst maintaining the financial viability of the Journal. The number of online subscriptions should be monitored over the next two years to document attrition due to open access. This does not appear to be the case thus far. The management of the Journal has seen a rocky start to 2016 due with the departure of Emma Brooks as business manager and consequently lateness of invoicing and associated problems. Louise Furey kindly assisted with the 2016 institutional invoicing. Dylan Gaffney agreed to step in to cover the mail-out from the beginning of 2016, and has agreed to take on Emma’s role thereafter.

Monograph sales were steady, similar to 2015, particularly with renewed interest in In Care of the Southern Oceans due to a number of activities in the sub-Antarctic islands. Some volumes continue to be popular amongst students, including Change Through Time, which is often viewed as a text book for New Zealand archaeology and Finding Our Recent Past. Sales to university book shops continue to be high. Given the popularity of Change Through Time, reprinting will be investigated in the coming months. Interest in this volume is such, and given the time since publication, that a 2nd edition should perhaps be seriously considered. However, another new monograph publication will assist in the continuing health of publication finances. Finances for publications continue to be healthy and the association does well in the New Zealand and Pacific archaeology academic community, despite the small size of the organization.

Thanks are due to Emma Brooks for managing the Journal of Pacific Archaeology subscriptions in 2015, Louise Furey for assistance with 2016 invoicing, Dylan Gaffney for managing the first 2016 mail-out, to Tim Thomas as editor, and Les O’Neill for layout and formatting.

Rebecca Phillipps

Publications Manager