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Editors

JUDITH HUNTSMAN
MELINDA S. ALLEN

Review Editors

LYN CARTER
ETHAN COCHRANE

Editorial Assistant

DOROTHY BROWN

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Cover image: *Kalia/drua* of the combined Tongan and Fijian fleets shifting tack in rounding a reef to approach Ovalau, 1855. Painted by Glen Wilson. Permission courtesy of John Denham, London.

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Inquiries should be made to:

Hon. Secretary
af-jps@auckland.ac.nz.
The Polynesian Society
c/- Māori Studies
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019, Auckland

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AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

CONTENTS

Notes and News 333

Articles

FERGUS CLUNIE

*Tongiaki to Kalia: The Micronesian-rigged Voyaging-canoes of Fiji
and Western Polynesia and their Tangaloan-rigged Forebears* 335

GEOFFREY IRWIN and RICHARD G.J. FLAY

*Pacific Colonisation and Canoe Performance: Experiments
in the Science of Sailing* 419

ANNE DI PIAZZA

Words for Canoes: Continuity and Change in Oceanic Sailing Craft ... 445

Publications of the Polynesian Society 461

NOTES AND NEWS

Contributors to This Issue

Fergus Clunie, who worked for the Fiji Museum from 1969-87, is a Sydney-based research associate of the Sainsbury Research Unit, University of East Anglia, UK. He is particularly interested in Fijian material culture, and in tracing cultural, spiritual and historical linkages between Fiji and Western Polynesia. Besides conducting ongoing research into the history and consequences of Tu'i Tonga embroilment in Fiji and Samoa in the 16th century, he is currently investigating the artistic and scientific heritage of the voyage of HMS *Herald* to the southwest Pacific in the 1850s.

Anne Di Piazza is a research archaeologist affiliated to CNRS-CREDO, the French Centre for Pacific Studies at Marseilles, France. Her main research topics are voyaging and cultural seascape, reconstruction of ancient canoes, computer simulation of settlement processes, as well as canoe building.

Geoffrey Irwin is Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at the University of Auckland. He has carried out fieldwork in New Zealand, New Guinea, Indonesia, the Solomon Islands and Fiji. He has long-standing interests in wetland archaeology, settlement pattern archaeology, and in the prehistory of Pacific colonisation and inter-island voyaging. He grew up on Auckland's Waitemata Harbour and has sailed ever since. In the 1970s and 1980s he was fortunate to sail on the double *orou* canoes of the Mailu on the south coast of Papua New Guinea and on outrigger canoes in the Massim. He later took his own 11-metre yacht *Rhumblin* across the western Pacific, along routes first taken by Lapita sailors. These experiences have influenced his views about voyaging in prehistory.

Richard Flay is Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Director of the Yacht Research Unit at the University of Auckland with research interests in wind engineering and yacht aerodynamics. He has been responsible for many wind tunnel investigations of large buildings and high performance yachts and has been involved in several successful America's Cup campaigns. He has helped organise five High Performance Yacht Design Conferences and designed a large Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel recently constructed at the University of Auckland. His interest in the performance of Polynesian sailing vessels, and its impact on the settlement of the Pacific, is a natural complement to his work on the innovative modern high performance vessels which have been the traditional focus of the Yacht Research Unit.

A Life Member's Gift in Appreciation

On behalf of the Council of the Polynesian Society, the editors acknowledge the sizeable monetary contribution of Marianne Skanland, a long-standing Life Member, given in appreciation of the Society's work. The Society is most grateful for her support and is considering ways to use the gift as the initial donation for a programme supporting NZ graduate scholars' research in Oceania.

In years past the Society's President has asked Life Members for contributions to the Society's publication fund. These contributions made it possible for the Society to embark on a publishing programme that resulted in significant additions to the Memoirs in the past two decades as well as the new editions of the four volumes of *Ngā Mōteatea*. In the present academic environment, support of emerging scholars undertaking research in Oceania, the teachers and established researchers of the future, and authors of future journal articles and memoirs, seemed an important undertaking for the Society in light of its aims since its establishment 125 years ago.