

EDITORIAL

Welcome to *Lithics* 36.

Since its initial publication in 1980, *Lithics* has evolved from a photocopied newsletter to a peer-reviewed publication with an international readership. I am pleased to say that *Lithics* 36 represents a new iteration of the journal as we continue to strengthen our online presence.

This issue of *Lithics* is the first on the new online platform where articles will from now on be published. In addition to creating a better interface for easily accessing articles, the new system streamlines the way in which submissions, peer reviews and eventually formatting are handled.

This is also the first issue of *Lithics* in which articles will be given Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) that allow the location and metadata to be permanently fixed to the document. Referring to an online document by its DOI provides a more stable way of locating electronic articles for future reference. Additionally, all articles published in previous issues of *Lithics* will be assigned DOIs so that they may continue to inform future research.

The world of publishing is changing and our new online indexing system is only the first step in keeping up with the times. New publications tangent to our mission sprout up every year stimulating our intellect and urging us to remain current. To do our part, a future plan includes creating online-first publications in which scholars can rapidly communicate their peer-reviewed research to colleagues without waiting for the next printing of *Lithics*.

We also hope to take full advantage of our new online publication medium by enabling and encouraging authors to submit supplementary information as well as digital materials such as interactive maps and 3D models. Eventually this change to digital content will provide a

richer, more interactive environment than traditional print versions, an environment that will continue to evolve. Whatever the future holds, we resolve to stay up to date in order to keep *Lithics* relevant.

Please take the time to visit our new website and let us know what you think.

Of course delivery is nothing without content and one thing that we cannot automate is the hard work of our authors, reviewers and editorial staff. This issue's articles, which stretch from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic and from the New World to the Old, are credits to the breadth of knowledge and hard work of the many different individuals involved. I am certain that you will find the results of their efforts both interesting and stimulating. On behalf of all of us, I extend them a warm thank you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our outgoing assistant editor Lynden Cooper who has been with us for the past year. At the same time, I would like to welcome our new assistant editor (but old friend to *Lithics*) Peter Hoare. Thank you both for your past and future endeavours.

As always, we are looking for quality content to maintain *Lithics* as the pre-eminent journal dedicated to the study of stone technology. If you have an article in mind, I encourage you to submit an abstract to us so that you might take advantage of the big changes and hard work that are going on at *Lithics* right now.

I know you will enjoy *Lithics* 36. Happy reading!

Wei Chu

Cover. A Bársony House handaxe from the Herman Ottó Museum, Miskolc, Hungary, Inventory No.: 53.45.1. (Photograph © Péter Szolyák)