

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

As the newest editor of the journal, it is my pleasure to welcome you to *Lithics* 38. First, however, I must give thanks to my predecessor, Wei, for his help and guidance while transitioning to my new position.

As many will be aware, 2016 saw the loss of Alan Saville, one of the society's founding members. Alan saw fit to bequeath the society a sum of money and we wish to express our thanks to him for his generosity. The society is keen to use this money to further research and support different avenues of work with stone artefacts that aims to benefit all our members.

The journal continues its evolution with the advent of articles in early view. Papers will now be published as soon as they have been peer-reviewed and corrected, allowing readers to access high quality research ahead of its publication in the print volume. As a result, we now welcome articles for submission all year round.

In addition, we see the inclusion of supplementary online materials. I hope this will encourage a greater diversity of research to be presented, allowing for large datasets and other digital materials to be included alongside papers. All supplementary materials will accompany their associated paper online and can be accessed via the journal's website.

Changes aside, the journal would be nothing without the papers submitted to it. I want to thank those who have submitted their research to the pages of this volume. We have a broad range of topics covering periods from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic and from the Old World to the New. I hope you find their contents as interesting and enjoyable to read as I have.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Peter Hoare, who has been a great help both with editing duties and my settling into the position of editor. I look forward to continuing to work with Peter in 2018. In addition, I welcome Lawrence Billington to the *Lithics* team, who has also offered to aid in the journal's production and share our work.

As always, we are on the lookout for outstanding research contributions to fill the pages of *Lithics* and help secure it as the foremost journal dedicated to the study of stone technology. With our move towards a year-round submission format, articles may be submitted to the journal at any time. And if you have any questions about our new online formats I will be more than happy to help.

I hope you will enjoy *Lithics* 38. Happy reading!

Frederick Foulds

Cover. Experimental quartzite handaxe used to test modern human perceptions of size, raw material and symmetry on lithic tools. (Photograph © Tumler et al. 2017)