

Editorial

It is a pleasure to present volume 15 of *PIA* (2004). It has been a year of many important developments behind the scenes, which although not apparent to most readers, will enable us to bring you better volumes and improved service in the future. Watch this space!

The topic of islands in archaeology is particularly strong in this volume. Jago Cooper and Helen Dawson review Scott Fitzpatrick's (2004) *Voyages of Discovery: The Archaeology of Islands*, which is perhaps a good starting point for reading this volume, as it highlights the geographical and topical breadth of island archaeological studies. All three fieldwork reports discuss archaeological investigations on islands, with the Caribbean well represented by preliminary surveys in Cuba reported on by Jago Cooper and Roberto Valcarcel Rojas and a follow up to last year's report on works in Carriacou by Quetta Kaye, Scott Fitzpatrick and Michiel Kappers. Somewhat unexpectedly, Eric McCann's interim report on excavations in Sudan also discusses island sites, which will soon be flooded due to dam construction. Research papers continue the theme of island studies with Borja Legarra Herrero's study *About the Distribution of Metal Objects in Prepalatial Crete*, and Naoise MacSweeney includes some island sites in *Social Complexity and Population: A Study in the Early Bronze Age Aegean*.

The Classical world features again in the Forum, *Whither Roman Archaeology? Or Wither Roman Archaeology! A London Perspective*, where Mark Hassall and a group of notable respondents including Andrew Gardner, Jenny Hall, Martin Millett and Peter Ucko, discuss the future of Roman studies in the UK. Hassall's suggestion of creating the University of London Consortium of Classical Archaeology Departments to unify the different organisations with interests in Classical archaeology is truly inspired, and we hope it can be realised as a tangible result of this year's Forum.

Other submissions continue to show the wide scope of research by Institute of Archaeology current and past postgraduates. Akira Matsuda gives a considered and thorough account of *The Concept of 'the Public' and the Aims of Public Archaeology*. Mike Galter, Emma Harvey and Marcos Martín-Torres review conferences regarding human remains, archaeobotany and metallurgy, respectively. Continuing on from last year's Forum about the future of archaeology in Iraq, Andrew Shapland provides a spirited review of Roger Matthews' (2003) *The Archaeology of Mesopotamia: Theories and Approaches*. Two previous *PIA* editors also provide reviews (Andrew Gardner) or have works reviewed (Roberto Novella *et al.* (2002) by Agapi Filini), which is particularly appropriate for this 15th anniversary volume of *PIA*.

Last but certainly not least, Mike Heyworth, the newly appointed Director of the Council for British Archaeology (CBA), shares his vision for the CBA and archaeology in general in an informative and at times animated interview. Indeed, the future looks bright!

I would like to thank all the authors, referees and the production team (past and present!) for the time and energy devoted to making this journal a success and enabling us to reach this milestone 15th volume.

Julie Eklund
Senior Editor