

Editor's Report – *Aurora* Journal  
2022/2023  
By Dale Jacobsen

It has been a rewarding 12 months as editor of *Aurora* journal, albeit a very steep learning curve. When I took over from our previous editor, David Ellyard, I had to decide whether to remain with the Quark software, or switch to Adobe InDesign. Either choice meant learning from the ground up, so I sought advice from Edgeprint, who have been producing the journal for a good number of years, as well as other professionals in the print and design industry. Without exception, they recommended InDesign. It is a joy to work with this software, and I am pleased to have made the choice.

I also decided, with the changeover of editorship and a new volume number, to bring something of my own design to the journal, whilst keeping many of the established aspects, particularly the font which is kind to older eyes. I did change the colour from black to dark green, in keeping with the overall design colour for the journal. All except two members said they preferred the dark green, so I have decided to stay with this colour.

The most satisfying aspect of being editor is the seemingly endless supply of interesting articles submitted. This has mostly resulted from frequent contact on Facebook. Old and current Antarctic expeditioners respond well to calls for articles, and most are very entertaining, fitting into the 'From the Past' and 'News from Down South' segments. It is also a good opportunity (which I never miss) to promote membership of our Club. The result of this surge in submissions was to increase the page count from 32 to 36, giving more scope for including articles. The cost of postage of the completed journal remains in the same price band.

Due to the unfortunate flooding of Edgeprint's machinery early in 2023, the reproduction of some of the images was not of the standard we expected. This particularly affected Vol 42 no 3 which celebrated Macquarie Island's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In recognition of the disappointment felt by Club members, Edgeprint offered a discount for the subsequent edition (see figures below). It is my belief that the problem has now been addressed.

In summary:

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|--------------|----------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| • Vol 42 No1 | 32 pages | 700 printed | \$2039.40                        |
| • Vol 42 No2 | 36 pages | 700 printed | \$2492.60                        |
| • Vol 42 No3 | 36 pages | 700 printed | \$2492.60                        |
| • Vol 42 No4 | 36 pages | 700 printed | \$1994.06 (discount of \$498.06) |

The Club has provided the following 'tools of trade' to smooth my path as editor, for which I am very grateful:

- Topaz Image Quality AI (which increases the resolution of images for production, giving access to submitted images that would previously not have been suitable)
- Adobe Indesign (enabling print-ready copy to be sent to Edgeprint)
- MacBook Air laptop

I am grateful for the feedback on the 'new look' journal. Your thoughts, positive and constructive, are always welcome. And I thank you for allowing me the honour of bringing *Aurora* to you. I look forward to doing so for quite some time to come.

Dale Jacobsen

Editor *Aurora* journal

