

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to this bumper issue of ARD. Scolma is grateful to Hans Zell and Raphaël Thierry for choosing to publish their full length study of Book Donation Programmes in Africa in our pages. It is as they say 'time for a reappraisal' and it is our hope that the ensuing debate will take place in the pages of ARD as well as online. I would therefore invite responses and feedback to this important and provocative study. Feedback from receiving libraries in Africa is particularly welcome.

From this issue onwards, ARD will be published in two issues a year rather than three. There will be no diminution in overall quantity, indeed the total pagination is more likely to increase than to decrease but this change will enable us to re-establish a reliable publishing schedule and also give us the flexibility to publish longer studies such as we have in this issue. We pride ourselves that ARD is one of the few, perhaps the only journal in African Studies valued equally by library, archive and information professionals and by scholars, teachers and research students. We shall continue to publish papers from our annual conferences and we welcome submissions, especially from within Africa, on resources (print, digital and other) for the study of Africa.

There are also changes in the editorial team. John Pinfold (Deputy Editor since 2005, and a frequent book reviewer) and Ian Cooke (who in addition to serving as Scolma's Treasurer has given invaluable help with the more technical aspects of journal publishing) have both resigned from day to day involvement with Scolma. ARD owes them a great deal and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their creativity and diligence.

At the same time, our longstanding printers, Doppler, who have served us for over thirty years, have entered a well-earned retirement. Thanks are due to them for their flexibility, reliability and patience.

Scolma apologises to our subscribers and to Hans Zell and Raphaël Thierry for the late publication of this issue.

**Terry Barringer**  
February 2017