

## Editors' Page

This issue completes volume 28 of *Historical Records of Australian Science*, with four biographical memoirs of deceased Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science, five articles on the history of Australian science, and a selection of book reviews.

Included in the historical articles are: an account of the involvement of a physics professor in the development and use of the new medium—radio—in the 1920s and 1930s; a detailed review of the life and work of Australia's first professor of biochemistry, T. Brailsford Robertson; and further details of the career of nineteenth-century plant scientist, Hermann Beckler.

Perhaps the most significant articles to be published in this issue are those by authors who made their careers in the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) studying the influence of greenhouse gases on the earth's atmosphere. The articles detail the modest beginning of the programme, its increasing sophistication as the importance of the phenomenon became more apparent, and the way in which the results obtained here have been integrated into a global research effort. The CSIRO work with other greenhouse gases will be the subject of future articles in this series.

The biographical memoirs published in this issue honour the contributions of a mathematician (Peter Hall), a geologist (Bruce Chappell), a marsupial biologist (Geoff Sharman) and a chemist (David Craig). Craig was part of the generation of Australian scientists who studied in Britain and held senior university positions there and in Australia. He returned to Australia in the early 1950s to take up a position at the University of Sydney, only to relinquish it and return to Britain for some years before coming home to occupy a foundation chair at the Australian National University. Craig was a Fellow of the Royal Society and this biographical memoir has also been published by the Royal Society.

In a new development for the journal, we brought together articles and biographical memoirs from past issues that described the careers of nine Australian women scientists. This 'virtual issue' was made available without charge to participants in the Science and Gender Equality (SAGE) conference in early September. Another of our efforts to make the journal more noticeable and accessible was to create the category of Online Early publications. Once editorial processing had been completed, six of these were made available through the website so that they could be accessed before the formal publication of the journal issue took place. In addition, one of these, the biographical memoir of Bruce Chappell (1936–2012), was made available without charge for a month to participants in a conference on granite geology held in late September. This was the field in which Chappell was a world leader.

We will be bringing forward the next issue of the journal to January 2018 and continuing twice-yearly publication, in January and July, rather than June and December as has been the practice for many years. Editors always like to have plenty of material to fill an issue, but publishing in the journal has become very popular and we are bumping up against our page limit for 2017. One consequence of this is that we have had to hold over some of the book reviews, compiled by Peter Hobbins who is responsible for selection of books and reviewers. We will publish more book reviews in *HRAS* 29(1), early in 2018.

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