

**Notes from the Editors**

This edition of the journal again highlights the diversity of regional science and the disciplines and sub-disciplines that make up that entire body of research. It draws case study examples from various Australian regions and, in one case, provides an important international example which would be of high relevance and interest to Association members and others.

The Editors recognise with thanks the high quality of these papers and the efforts of the contributors, drawn from a wide range of institutions and discipline areas.

In the international case study, drawn from Papua New Guinea, Blazey and Perkiss reflect on the often adverse impact on traditional (customary) landholdings, communities and societies; of foreign development investment supported by wider government economic development policy.

The Dollery Ors. paper consider models for the provision of services, particularly for smaller local authority areas. This is particularly relevant given the ongoing trend towards local authority amalgamations across Australia. Perhaps not unrelated is the paper by Grant and Woods which considers new fiscal arrangements that could be applied through a more regionalised revenue raising base.

An aging demographic is a now well recognised characteristic of many Australian regions. The paper by McDonald and Ors. considers an interesting and contemporary aspect of those challenges – that being the take-up and use of digital communication to the benefit of those individuals and communities.

Another important delineation of all regional environments and their economies is the movement in and value ascribed to property assets in each particular region. Small and Ors. paper considers the effect of such property market movements and their impacts on the wider regional economy and community as value rises and, almost invariably in regional areas, falls.

Finally, this edition includes a paper on migration. There are considerable debate and opinion pieces written on migration into Australia – but they are arguably insufficient on the significant internal migration patterns within the country and the effect upon the regions involved. The paper by Vidyattama and Ors. considers this issue using the case study of population shifts in the Murray-Darling Basin prompted by recent drought conditions in that region.

Editors:

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