



EDITORIAL

In the halcyon days of 2020 we decided to forego publishing the Lincoln Planning Review for a year while we coped with the pressures of Covid. It's fair to say that 2021 has not been quite what we planned for and it says something for the resilience of our authors, reviewers, proof readers, layout and editorial team that, despite another year of lockdowns and constraints, Delta and Omicron, we are again able to welcome you to another (slightly delayed) volume of the LPR.

The three research articles in this volume have a common focus on systems' governance and design. Soo Jyu Park, a Visiting Fellow at Lincoln University's Land Environment and People Research Centre in 2021, sets out a manifesto for urban seascaping. This she sees as a design approach that recognises human-sea relationships and accommodating sea level rise through urban design. Her research is largely based on Danish experience, but in this article she introduces a number of design concepts and principles that could prove of interest in Aotearoa New Zealand. Interestingly, her examples focus on the use of kelp, a sea plant that is receiving considerable attention in this country for its commercial potential. Soo advocates a more holistic approach, focussing on relationships. This is a lengthy article, but we decided to print it as a whole in order to maintain the cohesiveness of the manifesto. It is unlikely to be read in one sitting, but rewards return visits.

Mark Christensen's passion for sustainability drives his comparison of urban design and water in Christchurch and Auckland. This piece, empirically grounded in an analysis of the water planning in these two cities, should inform and engender some debate over how we are planning for the sustainable use of freshwater in urban areas. Mark has presented his analysis in a number of forums and we are glad to be able to provide it in a more permanent form here.

Katie Nimmo critiques implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the local level in the Waikato. Biodiversity loss is one of the major global challenges and Aotearoa New Zealand has been prominent on the international stage, but how well does it really measure up on the home front? Originally undertaken as a student research assignment in 2020 (the year we did not publish), there have been changes at the national level in the time that has elapsed. However, this study still provides an interesting and informative snapshot-in-time, and a baseline upon which future studies could usefully build.

In addition to these more substantial research articles, we also include three articles in our field notes and case studies section. Relationships are the focus of Emily Ireland's case study on the personhood of the Whanganui River (Te Awa Tupua), a legal recognition that has grabbed

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attention around the world. Malcolm Campbell and co-researchers provide a field note on the planning and policy implications for the housing and rental markets of Airbnb accommodation. And in the year of the (postponed) Olympic Games, Greg Ryan has provided a brief note on when town planning was part of the games.

We close the issue with our usual collection of book reviews, reports, profiles and lists of relevant awards and publications. In a year in which Lincoln University offered its first online post-graduate courses (including ERST 630 Environmental Policy and Planning), there is a brief report on the online developments in the Master in Environmental Policy and Management, which may be of interest to planning professionals who are looking into options for further study.

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