

EDITORIAL

Dear Quaternarists,

AQUA President Tim Cohen summed it up in his President’s Pen this edition, when he said that the global pandemic has changed the face of many aspects in our lives.

Apart from the strange working environment, the sad loss of jobs, livelihoods and in some case lives of people we have know professionally and personally – it is the restrictions on travel that I selfishly feel most strongly about.

We have all been privileged to travel and experience the world as those before us never did. I returned from a dream hiking trip to Patagonia in late February – just before the borders closed in both Australia and South America. I look at my photos from that trip and feel sad that my global travelling not only has been forced to stop – but also with guilt that perhaps I should now be looking at this travel as a privilege that I took for granted, and assess it in terms of what it was doing to our planet and its people.

More than ever – our research into the Quaternary is important. Professionally we have to ensure our work is relevant and robust and that its contribution to the future of our planet is acknowledged.

In this edition of Quaternary Australasia there are many excellent articles.

Tim Barrows (Alaska) and Zoe Thomas (Falkland Islands) report on their amazing trips to opposite ends of the world – and contribute beautiful photography to illustrate.

Patrick DeDekkers article on Lake George is a revised timely snap-shot into past environments in this region. Guest book reviewer Anne-Marie Tosolini provides her glowing praise for a book on the History of Plants by Paul Kendrick – which make me want to buy the book. Larissa Schneider provides a field report on her work on changing climates in Timor-Leste.

Kelsie Long relates her experience in Science Meets Parliament. Kelsie also shares her working from home experiences with some handy hints, and Anne O. Nimmos shows us her sense of humour in these times when we most need one.

I finally encourage you to read the thesis abstracts of our up-and-coming Quaternary scientists and to encourage them in their further research careers.

Yours Quaternarily,

Sanja Van Huet and Carol Smith
Co Editors



Below Left: Laguna de los Tres at the foot of Mt El Chalten, Argentina.
 (All Photos: Sanja Van Huet)

Below: Laguna Torres and Grande Glacier with massive tillite mounds, Argentina.

