

Editor's Preface

This is the first issue of the 100th volume of the *Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia*, and so represents a significant milestone. It is also the last issue with which the present editor will be involved.

The *Journal* has, throughout its history, attempted to be 'relevant': this issue contains several papers that might be described as having an 'applied biology' theme, documenting human impacts on the Western Australian environment.

The islands off the Western Australian coast have, for over a century, been an important 'natural laboratory' for Perth scientists, and discoveries made in these locations have sometimes had wide relevance elsewhere. The first paper in this issue discusses attempts to restore the vegetation on Penguin Island, south of Perth, a popular locality for recreation, as well as an important conservation site, albeit one that had been affected by anthropogenic pressures.

The second article offers an investigation of an organism (the brown lace lerp) that has recently become established in the state; with appreciable climatic change within the next few decades a distinct possibility, the spread of this insect may have important conservation and economic consequences.

The paper on the development of a species of *Typhonium*, a rare plant from the east Kimberley, also speculates on the possible effects of climatic change on the localised small populations of this interesting species.

The final paper in the issue emphasises the importance of understanding the population dynamics of invasive plant species: this is fundamental to being able to appropriately predict and manage plant invasions. The example here is the North American species *Solidago canadensis*; its spread in an area in Europe is considered, and some Australian comparisons are offered.

I thank the Editorial Board for their support, along with all those who have refereed papers over the last three-and-a-half years. I am also particularly grateful to the Assistant Editor, Dr Desiree Moon.

Patrick Armstrong
Editor-in-Chief