
In this issue

We have three interesting articles in this issue of the *Review*. The first is by Assoc Prof Azra Moeed from Victoria University of Wellington, who shares her thoughts on Mātauranga Māori and School Science. Azra, who is now a respected university researcher, spent 45 years teaching science within the New Zealand school system. Her view is that, if we help children to understand how science ideas are connected and relevant to them, and teach them to look for the connect-edness of all things living and non-living that is integral to Mātauranga Māori, then science may well be a way to understand the world for all students, including those who do not engage with it at present.

Our second article, *The role of experts in the Covid-19 pandemic and the limits of their epistemic authority in democracy* by Profs Andrea Lavazza and Mirko Farina, looks at the role experts have played in advising policymakers during the COVID -19 pandemic. In their paper they attempt to analyse the basis of this epistemic authority and the reasons why in this case it has not been challenged, contrary to the widespread tendency to devalue expertise that has been observed in recent years. They argue that, when values are involved, it is no longer just a matter of finding the ‘best technical solution’, but also of making discretionary choices that affect citizens and that cannot be imposed solely on the basis of epistemic authority.

In the third article, *A potted history of freshwater management in New Zealand*, Dr Catherine Knight traces the history of freshwater management in New Zealand from the earliest laws to protect newly introduced trout and salmon from pollution in the 1860s through to what an increasing number of New Zealanders today consider to be a ‘freshwater crisis’. This crisis has arisen as a consequence of the government’s failure to respond adequately to the speed and scale of land use intensification and its impacts over the last few decades. In this history she highlights the tension between the use of our water (and land) resources and their protection, and the tendency of government to intervene only when serious environmental damage has become evident.

In addition to the articles we reproduce the abstract of an international study on the evolutionary origins of the SARS-CoV-2 sarbecovirus lineage responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic, which indicates that it has been circulating unnoticed in bats for decades.

We also have a book review and a book notice. The first reviews Teall Crossen’s *The Climate Dispossessed: Justice for the Pacific in Aotearoa?* This book takes us from the fundamental needs for a healthy society through to the legal realities of giving rights to entire Pacific nations as their homes succumb to rising seas not of their making. The second notifies the publication of a huge 996-page book, *Communicating Science. A global perspective*, describing how science communication has developed around the world. One of the first chapters, on Aotearoa New Zealand, was written by Jean Fleming. This book is available as a free download from <https://press.anu.edu.au/publications/communicating-science>. Hard copies are available on demand.

Finally, two recent public statements from the Association are shown, *Responding to New Zealand’s early career researcher crisis during the pandemic* and *A role for science and scientists in economic stimulus*.

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