

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Most of you know that this edition of the journal is my last and with it I wish to introduce your new editor, Jennifer Aldred whose full contact details are on the front and back inside covers.

Jennifer was a long time editor of the *Australian Quarterly* as well as having edited a number of the Australian Institute of Political Science's Summer School publications, including *A Fractured Federation* and *Industrial Confrontation*. Jenny remains a consultant to government as well. And, if that were not enough, she is, most of all, a delightful person. I know I have left the journal in good hands.

And I leave you with my constant request that you send material to the journal: we depend on your commitment for an interesting and healthy journal. Please send your own research articles; interesting speeches you come across; addresses to the ASPG chapters; and important government and parliamentary Reports that have not received sufficient publicity, especially given that one State really does not know what the other is doing in detail.

And, most of all, can the chapters please ensure they have allocated specific people to write up the Parliamentary Chronicles from their State; and an Election Report when these events occur. The parliamentary chronicles rotate and are only due every 18 months but they tend to get forgotten.

I would like to know that the journal is viewed as a reliable journal of record for parliamentary events — a record which is no longer kept by newspapers and, alas, the web can be ephemeral: material can be there one year and gone the next.

In the words of the Chinese curse, we live in interesting times politically. And to paraphrase Dickens: it is the best of times; it is the worst of times. We have the luxury of being able to observe, analyse, research and comment on politics in all its vanities. I exhort you to do so — and try and enjoy it and feel blessed about all the wonderful aspects of our society.

My best wishes to the ASPG, Jennifer Aldred the new editor, and the future of the journal.

My thanks to all the support I have received from my editorial board and referees whose capacity to assess and return materials quickly is responsible for the journal's ability to produce current materials rapidly.

My special thanks to our president, Kevin Rozzoli and to our typesetter, Stephanie Hancock whose intelligence, expertise, speed, care and liaison with our printers has meant the journal is being reliably produced. I could not have wanted for a better support.

Dr Elaine Thompson