

PROFILE

Local correspondents

The Profile (formerly Centrefold) feature has appeared in most issues of this Newsletter. Some subjects have been chosen for their mathematical achievements, others for their service to the community. Every article so far has dealt with a single person. This issue, I will dedicate the feature to many people without whom this publication would not have been able to function properly. They are the local correspondents.

Stephen Joe has produced clear and concise reports from Waikato for 20 years (!) and is handing over to Kevin Broughan, who was his predecessor as local correspondent (!!). Jörg Hennig has been a model of punctuality and nicely produced LaTeX in reporting from Otago. Peter Donelan has joined us from this issue, producing some long-needed input from Victoria. Günter Steinke has reliably sent in news from Canterbury (and has exceptional taste in clothing). Alona Ben-Tal reports from ANZIAM and this issue has also dealt with Massey-Albany. Wenjun Zhang has recently started reporting from AUT. There are a few other current correspondents who didn't send anything for this issue.

The champion correspondent is of course Garry Tee, who has sent reports from Auckland since the Newsletter was founded over 40 years ago, missing only about 7 issues in that time (!!!). His reports are comprehensive (sometimes too much so) and always on time.

Many others have fulfilled the role of local correspondent over the years (space and lack of knowledge prevent me from listing them, but this article is also dedicated to them). They will surely tell you that producing such a report is not trivial. The apathy of most colleagues, and the sometimes excessive self-promotion of others, must be balanced. I have tried to reduce the basic listing of CV items in favour of more personal information. After all, the aim is to create a community of mathematically-minded people. Current political trends make this needed as much as ever, if not more so.



Left to right, top to bottom: Stephen Joe, Jörg Hennig, Garry Tee, Peter Donelan, Günter Steinke, Alona Ben-Tal, Richard Brown, Wenjun Zhang.

Mark C. Wilson