

EDITORIAL

It is my pleasure to be the editor of this special issue of the Journal of Hydrology (New Zealand). At the end of 2016 a joint Conference for NZ Hydrological Society, Australian Hydrology and Water Resources Symposium and Institute of Professional Engineers of New Zealand Rivers Group was held in Queenstown with the theme 'Water, Infrastructure and the Environment'. As has become the 'norm' there were papers from colleagues from the Korean Water Resources Association (KWRA) as a result of the relationship that the NZ Hydrological Society has with the KWRA. Hence the authors of the papers in this issue come from our Australian and Korean colleagues and have a slightly different focus to the usual papers in the *Journal*.

The papers in this issue are diverse. Chen *et al.* examine the difficult issue of forecasting a meteorological drought index. Vongphachanh *et al.* undertook a challenging hydrogeological reconnaissance of Sukhuma District, Laos. Kwon and Kwon examine the important issue of criteria for storm water system design. Ollett *et al.* examine the issue of blockages in hydraulic structures and how new expectations need to be incorporated into current practices. Rahman *et al.* assess the hydrological drought characteristics in the Yarra River, Australia. Ronalds and Zhang examine the issue of on-site stormwater detention design in order to optimise design outcomes and avoid over investment in stormwater storage. Finally, Tegegne *et al.* examine the issue of the most appropriate rainfall – runoff modelling approach for the Yongdam Catchment.

Overall, the *Journal* continues to contain papers on issues that are at the forefront of hydrological science in New Zealand, and more generally. After more than 56 years of publication it is extremely encouraging to see papers in the *Journal* that push the research boundaries and contribute more broadly to water management. While the majority of papers in the *Journal* continue to be from New Zealand-based authors, there is always a number from overseas-based authors.

As editor of the *Journal*, I would like to express my appreciation to all those who have supported it by reviewing manuscripts. While not always pleasant or easy for authors, this high standard of reviews does benefit both the author and the reader.

I would also like to thank Laura Keenan for her wise counsel and copyediting; Jo Dickson for her layout and production work; and, the staff at Caxton for their fine job of producing the *Journal* on a tight schedule. Finally, I thank all authors for their continued willingness to put in the effort to maintain the flow of manuscripts to the *Journal* and for their willingness to respond to my demands. I look forward to the flow of manuscripts continuing.

Dr Richard Hawke

Editor, Journal of Hydrology (NZ)

