

Goodbye to Australasian Mycologist

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Australasian Mycologist began life as the *Australian Mycological Newsletter*, edited by Ian Parbery (Volume 1, 1990), John Walker (Volumes 2–8) and then under the joint editorial management of Jack Simpson and Cheryl Grgurinovic (Volumes 9–25, called *Australasian Mycological Newsletter* from 14(3) in 1995), and was upgraded to full journal status in 1999 with a change of name to *Australasian Mycologist* (Fig 1). Jack and Cheryl continued as managing editors until 2007, when this passed to David Orlovich (Volumes 26–29). The journal continued to thrive under David's editorship, and he successfully obtained indexation by Thompson ISI in 2009. In 2010, by popular vote of the membership, *Australasian Mycologist* became fully on-line with open access available through our website. David stood down as managing editor in 2012, and I took over this role.

The mission of *Australasian Mycologist* was to both serve as an information conduit to our members, and to promote and publish research on the unique mycological biodiversity present in the Australasian region, particularly the macrofungi. However, with the expanding readership via the internet, recent years have seen an increase in the number of international submissions, and the range of topics has likewise expanded from principally taxonomy, systematics, ecology and conservation of macrofungi, to food and agricultural mycology, bioremediation, biotechnology, molecular biology and medical mycology across the breadth of the fungal kingdom. This broadened focus has been seen in the society membership, as reflected in the recent update to the logo (Fig 2). In this issue you will find research papers from Australia, Iran and India, with studies on micro and macro fungi of local and international importance.

Recent years have seen many changes to how science is published, with a large number of new journals entering the field and competing for research papers. Globalisation, open access publishing and indexing by the internet mean there is less need for small, specialized, local journals, as international journals can now easily expand to cover local issues and articles are found by a Google search, rather than browsing the pages of journals in the library or the coffee room. Combined with the push by funding agencies to publish in international journals, this means our members needs are now best served by choosing to publish in larger journals with a global focus. The membership therefore decided at our last AGM to close down the journal this year, with this, our final issue.

In closing I wish to thank the members that have assisted with the publication of *Australasian Mycologist* over the 26 years of its publication, beginning with the managing editors Ian, John, Jack, Cheryl and David, the editorial teams who have handled the papers and reviews, the many reviewers, the production and copy editors, and finally the authors who have chosen to publish their work in our Journal. If you are looking for a new venue for your Australasian work, we encourage you to submit to IMA Fungus (<http://www.imafungus.org/>), the official journal of the International Mycological Association.



Fig 1. Two covers of the *Australasian Mycologist* 2004 (A) and 2010 (B).

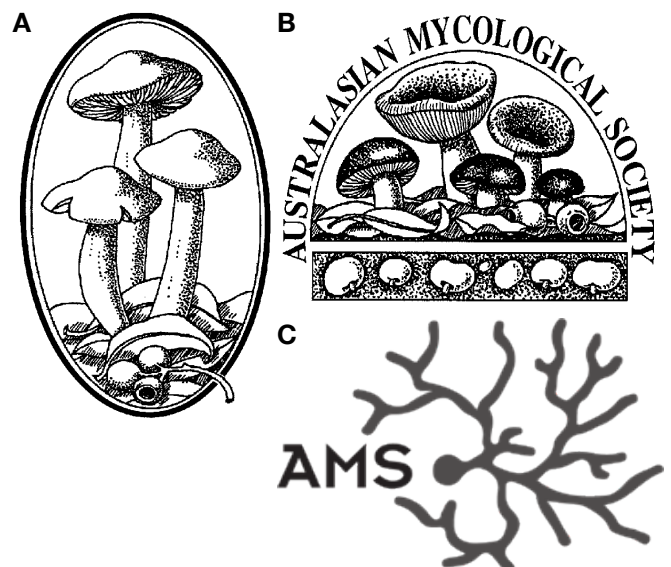


Fig 2. Australasian Mycological Society logos. Early logos were designed by Katrina Syme (A, B). The new logo was launched for the Society's 20th Anniversary and was produced by Bevan Weir and graphic designers from Landcare Research, NZ, based on an original drawing by Heino Lepp (C).