

Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies New South Wales

President's Column

It is again my honour to write to you as President of Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, New South Wales (RUSI NSW).



The excellent quality of our quarterly journal, *United Service*, is a major factor in the success of our Institute and an initiative is under way to expand its content. The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies–Australia Board recently approved-in-principle a RUSI NSW Board proposal that *United Service* become the national journal and be expanded by extending its coverage of nationally-relevant activities and news from each state and territory constituent body. The national journal will be published on behalf of the RUSIDSS-A Board by RUSI NSW. It will retain its current name and will be edited by a RUSI NSW-led editorial team. These changes will come into effect from the beginning of 2022.

In that context, I wish to advise, with regret, the retirement of our editor of the past 17 years, Dr David Leece, to occur at the end of 2021, and the appointment of an assistant editor, Colonel Joe Matthews, who will become the editor of *United Service* on 1 January 2022. Here is an extract from the letter of thanks from the RUSI NSW Board to David:

“Dear David,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of RUSI NSW in reply to your advice that you would be stepping down as editor of *United Service* at the end of 2021, to both congratulate and most sincerely thank you for the enormous range of contributions that you have made to the RUSI in general and to RUSI NSW.

We would like to acknowledge and recognize the major contributions that you have made and continue to make, in your roles as a Council member, President and Past President, Convenor of our RUSI NSW Special Interest Group on Strategy, and in particular, as the long-standing editor of our outstandingly high-quality journal, *United Service*. We all owe you our most sincere thanks and admiration for this incredibly wide range of contributions over many years.

David, on behalf of all RUSI members and RUSI NSW Board, I offer you our most sincere thanks and gratitude for all that you have contributed to our organization. I now ask if you would accept our congratulations and sincere appreciation for the extremely high standard you have developed and maintained in your long-standing editorship of *United Service*.

Yours sincerely
Michael Hough”

I invite your suggestions for and involvement in the ongoing development of *United Service*. Please contact me on mhough5@gmail.com.

Michael Hough