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Editorial

Susanne Gannon

This issue of English in Australia celebrates half a century of scholarship of English teaching in Australia. Previous editors, and volunteer members of AATE executive, were invited to trawl through and select one article from each period of editorship. They were to consider currency, appeal, charm, rigour or whatever criteria they chose and to consider how each paper might resonate with the present. Their introductions to each of the selected papers and their authors provide a potted history of crucial themes and issues through the last fifty years, and the political contexts within which each of them was written and published. Hundreds – probably thousands – of people have volunteered their labour to the English teaching profession and English in Australia as authors, reviewers and editors. I thank them all, particularly those who graciously dedicated their time to work through the dusty volumes of our earlier undigitised issues, retrieving them from attics, bookshelves and plunging with such pleasure into their pages. I hope your experience is comparable.