

## Foreword

This special issue of *The French Australian Review* is dedicated to Emeritus Professor Colin Nettelbeck and contains five articles arising from papers presented at the ISFAR Conference, ‘ISFAR@ 35: Australia and France in a Regional and Global Context: Past Engagements and Future Research Directions’. The conference took place in April 2021 and it too was dedicated to Colin Nettelbeck, one of the founders of this journal.

Alexis Bergantz and Elizabeth Rechniewski, Co-Chairs of The ISFAR Research Committee, have joined the usual team to produce this longer-than-usual number of *The French Australian Review* and they introduce the articles in their overview, ‘ISFAR@35’, beginning on page eleven. Written during the fallout from the cancellation of the French submarines in September 2021, several of the articles place these topical events in a historical and socio-cultural context.

We are pleased to include five reviews of books which make important contributions to contemporary research and debate on French-Australian relations. Reviewer Danielle Clode writes of *Roaming Freely Throughout the Universe*, edited by Jean Fornasiero and John West-Sooby: ‘This collection is far from just an anthology. It is a revelation, of character, personality, tragedy, sadness and monumental achievement. It is both a delight to read, for the new insights and discoveries it reveals, and is also a lasting document of great value to French-Australian scientific history’. Andrew Montana reviews *Two French Sisters in Australia*, John Drury’s ‘warm and uplifting tribute’ to Berthe Mouchette and her sister, Marie Lion. Other books reviewed are *Rose*, the story of stowaway Rose de Freycinet imagined by Suzanne Falkiner and Andréas Pfersmann’s *La Littérature irradiée*, a collection of essays exploring literary representations of France’s nuclear experiments on Moruroa and Fangataufa. Finally, Edward Duyker questions whether or not Lapérouse was engaged in a race with Arthur Phillip, as asserted by Margaret Cameron-Ash in her recently published book, *Beating France to Botany Bay*. The book reviews are followed by the usual Bibliographical Notes.