



Hilary Johnson

IDA Editor

*Welcome to the
December edition of
IDA Magazine*

Welcome to my last edition of IDA-and it's a bumper edition. The cover page shows the board members, still meeting virtually but also having some fun. Usually in the December edition we highlight our annual conference but this was cancelled because of COVID 19. We are now more reliant on using online platforms and have look at all the varied presentations and webinars ASID produced this year many of which are still available on the website for viewing (<https://www.asid.asn.au/publications/webinars>). As yet ASID has not quite decided the annual conference format for 2021 and are still hoping to have the 2022 conference in New Zealand ([page 32](#)). Researchers from Deakin university describe their successful disability film series as a way to engage with online students and stimulate discussion ([page18](#)).

Academics are continually researching the area of intellectual disability and we have highlighted three researchers who are near to finishing their Ph.Ds. We have also continued the theme of introducing you to established academics with a hello from Dr. Smidt from the University of Sydney.

We have two articles focusing on people with complex communication needs and intellectual disability. Liz Weston & Naomi Rezzani discuss their resources to assist people to talk about abuse and neglect ([page 25](#)) and Dr. Price discusses different research methods to engage people with complex communication (access) needs.

Artists with an intellectual disability have been very productive and you can see some examples of their work ([page 45](#)). I would like to thank Ben Crothers for his interesting quizzes over the last two years - make sure you get a go at his last fully animal quiz.

I would also like to thank you for your feedback about IDA over the last four years and look forward to IDA moving forward under a new editor. As always we welcome ideas comments and suggestions. The final date for submissions in the next edition is February 20th 2021.

■ idaeditor@asid.asn.au