Editorial

Dear Reader,

The months since the last edition of the Journal have been extraordinary, often troubling, for much of the World. For myself, COVID-19 has meant that for the whole of the period since I penned the last editorial, I've worked from home. I've not once attended my office at the university. In that period, I have spoken at several international conferences, where all delegates participated remotely from their own home or office. I've taught my university classes where students and lecturer sat in their living rooms. Keep in contact with friends and relatives through the use of rapidly maturing technologies. It has indeed been a strange time.

Like much of the World I've become far more adept at home working, online conferencing, and nurturing relationships at a distance. For me, the adaption to the new way of living has not been overly burdensome. Although, there was a need early in the pandemic to upgrade our home internet connectivity to deal with the significant increase in electronic traffic. That upgrade was, however, a relatively cheap and quick process.

Nonetheless, what has become apparent as I have engaged with colleagues, students, and family, is that for others it has not been so straightforward a change in adapting to the new, far more homocentric, way of living. COVID-19 has highlighted a stark difference between those that are digitally connected and those that are not. Going forward, I hope governments take the lead to help industry and academia develop cost-effective ways of bridging that digital divide. That divide needs to be bridged by technologies that are cost and power-efficient, secure, and interconnected. Reviewing the papers included in this Journal, give me confidence that we, as a community, can help play our part in this grand challenge.

In these extraordinary and challenging times, my thoughts and prayers are with all our readers.

Professor Andrew Ware,
On behalf of the Editorial Board,
Annals of Emerging Technologies in Computing (AETiC).