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## Welcome

Once again we would like to welcome you to the annual conference on Mechatronics and Machine Vision. This is the 26th in the series and we hope that it will be as successful and enjoyable as the previous ones. This conference has this year returned to Toowoomba, where visitors can gaze from the heights of the Great Dividing Range across the Lockyer valley almost to Brisbane and probably meet the kookaburra featured as our logo.

As always, the papers presented at this conference have survived a rigorous refereeing process, first as abstracts to check that they really reflect 'in practice' and then again as full manuscripts. The survivors have been given a final polish in the light of the comments from the reviewing process and most will be revised yet again for inclusion in a second book in the series published by Springer Verlag.

Many papers fell by the wayside. The survivors should stimulate the delegates to constructive discussion. Several of our friends from previous conferences will be here and we extend a warm welcome to them.

With three evenings of social events, there should be plentiful opportunities to meet old friends, make new acquaintances and maybe plot out some international collaborative projects.

With all very best wishes,

John Billingsley and Peter Brett