Phil Andrews, NIWA, New Zealand

As a child I watched the first Moon landings. As a teenager I read Asimov's Guide to Science, an excellent history of science, which piqued my interest in science. A long time ago I obtained first class honours for a physics degree from Imperial College London. I joined the UK's Meteorological Office in 1991 and, after training, joined the data assimilation group. There I was involved in the initial coding of 3DVAR, including the detailed design of its physical transform and limited area version. I left the UK in 1999 for New Zealand and NIWA, at the start of NIWA's involvement with the Met Office and the Unified Model. I remain at NIWA, where I work in a multitude of areas including: data assimilation; verification; observation monitoring; model science configurations; ensemble forecasting; and have written most of our operational workflows.