

Editorial

Michael Rosenbaum¹

¹Ludlow, UK. E-mail: msr@waitrose.com

Over ten years has elapsed since publication of the last volume of the Proceedings, No.10, in 1994 (for 1992-3) so it was felt that a note from the Editor would be appropriate. Being a relative newcomer to Shropshire, although I've been a regular visitor to the area since my first visit, on a YHA geology holiday led by Brian Wood (then Warden at Ludlow Youth Hostel) and John Norton (Curator of Ludlow Museum), the Proceedings have provided me with a valuable resource for discovering the secrets of what lies beneath the County's landscape.

The publications of the Shropshire Geological Society have evolved since the Society's formation in 1979 from a brief Newsletter, joined by the Proceedings in 1981, through the growth (in both size and coverage) of the Newsletter through the 1990s leading to suspension of the Proceedings, to the explosion of geological activity at the present day with the web as well as the printed word available for recording the Society's activities.

The Newsletter is now returning to its *cause d'être* under the editorial care of Keith Hotchkiss. The more substantial articles describing the research, projects and surveys undertaken by members, field trip reports and summaries of Society lectures of particular relevance to Shropshire and the Welsh Marches will henceforth appear in the Proceedings.

Geological publications benefit enormously from the inclusion of colour, in maps or photographs, so it is desirable to provide this facility within the Proceedings. Costs for conventional reproduction would prove prohibitive for the Society. It has therefore been accepted that the primary vehicle for publication should be the Society web site, at:

www.shropshiregeology.org.uk/SGSpublications.

In order to ensure a permanent record of our papers remains, and to facilitate access by those without internet connections, a limited number of laser printed copies will also be produced.

Annual compilations of the Proceedings will be printed and distributed to the major geological

libraries and resource centres where they may be accessed. Contact details are listed on the web site.

High resolution digital and additional printed copies may be obtained through Scenesters (Ashleys, Bucknell, Shropshire SY7 0AL; Tel. 01547 530 660; E-mail: scenesters@btinternet.com)

Each individual paper is posted on the Web as soon as it has been prepared and edited. A list of these papers will be printed annually in the Newsletter (sent to all Members), and the papers in this list will be compiled as the printed version.

As Editor, I am responsible for collating and editing material submitted by Members and preparing it as PDF files, i.e. in a form ready for printing on paper or posting to the Web. As time allows, I am also intending to compile an archive collection of past papers. These will be searchable on-line and accessible to anyone on the Web.

It is appreciated that some Members do not have their own private access to the Web. Such Members will be able to see and, if they wish, photocopy the printed papers at one of the libraries mentioned above or borrow them through Inter-Library Loan from their own public library. Alternatively, any Member can access the on-line version from the Society web site using the public terminals now available at all branches of the Shropshire County Council Library Service. These terminals have facilities for printing (monochrome and colour) and for copying to CD. In order to ensure access at a suitable time, terminals generally have to be booked in advance but there is no charge, other than to cover consumables (i.e. printing costs).

It is hoped that the new articles will both interest you and inspire you to share your discoveries and enthusiasm with your fellow members. Please talk to me if you would like to consider writing an article for the Proceedings but are not sure how to proceed. Drawing and sketches can be incorporated, even as hand drawings, such material being digitally captured using a scanner. Help is at hand to compile the material if you feel a bit daunted at the task!