

## EDITOR'S REPORT 2022

Last year I mentioned I was looking forward to receiving lots of new papers for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. With a bit of planning this proved to be the case, with Volume 35 of the Journal extending to 440 pages and a special Reminiscences issue, a further 144 pages.

Steve Lings designed the logos for our anniversary volume and the first ever insect motif to adorn the Society's journal, designed by Arthur Smith back in 1968, made a re-appearance on the cover of 35 Part 1. Covers for Parts 2 to 4 included colour photographs of a lacewing, damselfly and clearwing moth.

For the first time there were many more substantial papers than short observational notes. This was largely the result of the President, Steve Judd, compiling a Special Anniversary Issue (Part 3) by inviting contributions from leading figures in world invertebrate conservation biology to write about 'their personal perspectives on the major challenges and opportunities facing world invertebrate conservation over the next fifty years'. Complimenting these were papers presented at our Members' Day Meeting at Oxford exploring 'future challenges, initiatives and potential developments in British insect recording, identification and conservation biology'. There were also contributions by next generation entomologists and a series of articles reviewing the development of the Society over the past 150 years.

The President also had the brilliant idea of inviting Honorary and Special Life Members to consider writing their own contribution to the Society's anniversary celebrations. They were invited to consider what started their interest in entomology, who inspired them, what they have achieved and what their membership meant to them. i.e. their Reminiscences. Some members replied quickly with enthusiasm, others required gentle persuasion, 53 responding in total. The President set the entire issue himself and we were fairly relaxed about style preferring members to express their own story in their own words, rather than worrying excessively about details such as authority names. As Part 4 had already been printed we decided to publish the issue as a Supplement with its own page numbering.

Most of the main articles in the rest of the Volume were on Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera and Coleoptera, with a sprinkling of articles on Diptera and Hemiptera. Four species new to the British insect fauna were described, down on previous years, together with two using mitochondrial CO1 gene sequencing to clarify the existence of problematic species presumed to be on the British list. Papers of wider interest included the apprenticeship of Moses Harris, author and illustrator of *The Aurelian* (Alec Harmer), ways of improving the selection of hoverfly species for citizen science projects (Roger Morris), dispersion monitoring of a reintroduced butterfly (Andrew Osborne and Emma Coulthard), the effects of flooding on conservation of tansy beetle (Geoff and Roma Oxford), analysis of by-catch in Rothamsted light-traps (Ian Sims, Jon Cole and Chris Shortall) and moth decline in the UK (Richard Fox).

There were ten book reviews and six obituaries, of John Langmaid, Bernard Nau, Anthony Hopkins, Nigel Cuming, Allan Jenkins and David Young, all kindly written by members of the Society.

I would like to thank Sean Clancy, Peter Chandler, Roger Booth and Andrew Halstead for helping compile the virtual Annual Exhibition report. Les Evans-Hill also provided assistance in accessing difficult files. Thanks are due to proof readers Jolyon Alderman, Adrian Knowles, Darren Mann, Tony Galsworthy and Les Evans-Hill and to those who helped with an independent

check of the Reminiscences supplement. Special thanks go to Roger Hawkins for compiling the Index, and to Peter Chandler and Norman Hall for checking species names. Thanks are also due to those who kindly acted as referees and to Jon Cole and Andrew Halstead for arranging receipt of the journal for storage at Dinton Pastures.

JOHN BADMIN