



Editorial

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Well, it is all over - the 20th Anniversary Conference, I mean. In this issue there are various reports, evaluations, etc. All in all, it came up to expectations and everyone who worked hard to make it a success should be congratulated. Nothing happens by magic and no detail is too small to bother about.

First time delegates are impressed by the fact that they can meet so many members of the serials community and exchange ideas in a very congenial atmosphere. One of the great strengths of the UKSG has been the bringing together of the trade and professionals on an equal footing. As we rapidly journey into the new and exciting electronic wonderland, it is ever more important that all concerned should work together and fully understand all the ramifications. We live in a somewhat scary changing world, which some think is out of control.

Derek Law, in this issue, alludes to 'the howling wastes of the Internet'. Many publishers and librarians are uneasy about managing change and the future role of the intermediaries. What is needed is clarification, sensible debate and agreement, and a firm base in the shifting sands. I believe that the UKSG has a very important role

to play here with its unique position of encompassing in its membership so many players in the information game.

Most workers in the serials world are content to get on with their jobs and are already fully stretched. One or two exceptional people rise above the crowd. There could be no better example than Marcia Tuttle, whose retirement is noted in the News from North America section.

Marcia was a leading light in the 'class of 84' who attended our conference at the University of Surrey. Fired with enthusiasm about the UKSG concept, she was one of the prime movers in a small band of dedicated people who founded and nurtured the North American Serials Interest Group. A distinguished writer and speaker on serials matters, probably her most innovative achievement was starting up and running the electronic journal *Newsletter on Serials Pricing Issues* - a title to strike terror into many publishers' hearts. It has proved to be a most successful channel for librarians wishing to let off steam! All her many friends in the serials community wish her a long and happy retirement.