



# Editorial

*John Merriman*

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The Annual Conference held at Keele University, 10-12 April 2000, proved to be another very successful event.

The presence of 420 delegates, 92 of whom came from overseas, confirmed that this remains a popular event.

Since we last met at Keele, many improvements have taken place, particularly the exhibition area which housed 34 exhibitors. The University has twice won the 'Best Conference Venue' award, and it is easy to see why. The staff were smart and always helpful.

One of the largest campuses in Europe, it is definitely designed for fine weather, as the halls of residence are some way from the centres of activity. Unfortunately the rains came! However, a combination of good papers and interesting social activities seemed to keep the delegates happy.

For those who were not fortunate enough to attend, most of the papers will be published in *Serials*.

A new committee was elected and those members who are new to the job are particularly welcome, as they will bring new ideas.

One really excellent piece of news which came out of the Conference was that Alison Whitehorn agreed to take over the post of Business Manager, formerly occupied by Jill Tolson. As the UKSG Administrator, Alison is already well known to many of our members. We are very fortunate that

she has agreed to take on what is a key role in the Group, and we all wish her every success.

While on roles, it is perhaps an appropriate time to announce that I will be giving up the Editorship of *Serials* at the end of this year, i.e. on the completion of Vol. 13. This gives ample time to find a replacement.

The journal has always been a blend of news for members, people, and serious articles, and I believe the recipe has worked. It is ten years since I retired, and buried in the Cotswolds is not the best place to keep up to date with the ever-changing scene. It is time for a younger, more technologically aware person to take over.

I have always believed in the saying "Quit when you are still winning". My interest in and support of the UKSG will continue.

*John Merriman*