

EDITORIAL

In assuming the rôle of Editor of the Bulletin, I am conscious of the high standard maintained by my predecessors, and particularly by Martin Mathieu over the past ten years. The Society owes him a substantial debt for his dedicated service and his achievement.

I hope to remain true to the objectives that the Society has set for the Bulletin. This will be possible as long as the membership continues to support it, as in the past, by contributing interesting material of a suitable standard.

The Research Notes section attracts many submissions of indifferent quality, on rather niche or special subjects from people with no particular Irish connection. There is no point in encouraging this kind of submission, and I have determined to take a rather severe approach to all submissions for the Notes. I think that other categories of paper have been much more successful, and aligned with the aims of the journal, and I would like to encourage more submissions along the hitherto successful lines:

- 1. informative surveys of active research areas, written for the general mathematically-literate reader,*
- 2. biographical and historical articles related to Irish mathematics, including obituaries and interviews with senior figures. The recent series of interviews by Gary McGuire was very well received.*
- 3. informative and factual articles, and letters with views, about important developments and events in Irish mathematics,*
- 4. thesis summaries or abstracts from Irish schools and departments in the mathematical areas*
- 5. book reviews.*

The Research Notes section will continue, but I am looking for well-written material likely to be of wide interest, preferably by someone with some obvious connection to Ireland.

Of course, if you feel the above policy does a disservice to the membership, I would be glad to listen to your views, and indeed the Bulletin is open to publishing letters on maths-related policy

Happily, Ian Short has undertaken to manage a Problem Section, and this is launched with this issue. It is really a re-launch: we had such a section for a period in the past, run by Tom Laffey (from Newsletter #1 (1978) to #4 (1981)) and by Phil Rippon (from Newsletter #5 (1982) to #15 (1985) and Bulletin #16 (1986) to #23 (1989)), and we hope that it will again prove a popular and useful feature.

This issue also sees the launch of a Classroom Notes section, dedicated to innovative teaching ideas.

Finally, we include a survey article on paradoxes, written in Irish. This is the first article in Irish since Jim Flavin's paper in Bulletin 54 (2004), pp. 53-62. It includes a glossary, and we hope members find this useful. People reading the pdf online can take advantage of the popup glosses that appear when the mouse is passed over terms that occur in the glossary.

—AOF