

## S&CB Editorial

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I hope that this issue of *Science & Christian Belief* contains at least one thing of interest for every reader. It covers a wide range of topics from molecular studies on the formation of the human brain, to a historical overview of the role of curiosity in research, discussions on whether the bible contains scientific errors and questions of what it means to be living in the tension between soil and spirit. Each of these reflects different aspects of scientific endeavour and theological study in which, as Ted Peters says 'the ineffable God beyond touches the mundane realm of daily existence', for most of our daily scientific research is indeed mundane. If none of these articles attracts your attention or stimulates your imagination, then I encourage you to write something yourself; we are always looking for new (and younger) writers.

Since the last issue we have said 'goodbye' to Sam Berry who was one of the most prolific contributors to S&CB. A quick search of the journal's archive lists 69 of his articles and book reviews. Sam wrote several books, and edited the collections of short essays (*Real Scientists, Real Faith*), in which scientists explained what difference their faith makes to their scientific practice and what difference their science makes to their understanding of their faith. In *Real Science, Real Faith* Sam wrote "As a Christian at university, I was faced with a hierarchy of possibilities. The really holy people became missionaries, the rather holy people were ordained, and the fairly holy people became teachers; the 'also rans' did all the other jobs in the world." Sam discovered that he wasn't called to do any of the usual 'holy' jobs, but realised "that we have all been given different talents and callings, and that there is not (and should not be) such a thing as a typical or normal Christian." Malcom Jeeves, with whom Sam wrote a short history of Christian in Science (S&CB (2015), 27, 125-152), has written an obituary in this issue. Other tributes to Sam's life and work can be found at <http://www.arocha.org/en/news/obituary-professor-sam-berry/> and <http://www.jri.org.uk/news/professor-r-j-sam-berry/>.

Another member of our Editorial Board, Richard Bube (Stanford University), who was a prominent contributor to our American sister organisation the ASA, also passed away in June and a tribute to his life and influence can be found at <https://www.asa3.org/obit/Obits/obit.html#Bube>

These losses are a further reminder that we need to be nurturing, encouraging and equipping the next generation of writers, thinkers and speakers on Science and Christian Belief. There is no shortage of contemporary topics to consider – look at the titles for the CiS student essay competition: The search for 'truth', miracles, robots and artificial intelligence, mitochondrial replacement therapy, awe and wonder, climate change, how does God interact with the world, science as a Christian vocation, neurological basis for belief, genome editing... the list goes on. We'd especially welcome articles that are written by practising scientists.

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