

## S&CB EDITORIAL

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It is thirty-two years since publication of the first issue of S&CB in 1989. During this time there have been many changes in the way that journals accept and publish their content. All papers are now submitted electronically, and when accepted are available online as well as in print. Many journals now have abandoned printed copies, appearing online only and we are considering whether to take this step for S&CB. There is something special about holding a paper version of the journal and being able to annotate with comments, but there are cost and environmental reasons for going online only. We will therefore be surveying our readers in the near future to find out if this would be an acceptable development. Be assured that if we do this, then the format will look very similar to the pdf versions that are already available online.

Many journals also publish Open Access papers, which anyone can view and download without a subscription. There are great advantages for this, as it means that good quality reliable information is freely available and is not hidden behind a paywall. Although this open access might be desirable, and we would like everything in S&CB to be more widely read, this is probably not feasible at present. For several years we have made our papers free to download, five years after publication; we have now decided to reduce this delay to only three years.

We have recently discovered that the technology supporting the journal's website is about to become obsolete. We have therefore commissioned a new website that will include new and better functionalities, which may be operating by the publication of this issue of the journal.

Whatever might be the technological changes, the purpose, scope and quality of the journal will be most important and will stay exactly the same. It is therefore worth repeating words from the Editorial by Oliver Barclay in the first issue in 1989.

“Our scope is intended to include any topic that bears on the discussion about the relationship of science and faith, including the history and philosophy of science... Sometimes we shall need to evaluate developments in science and technology or in theology to see what their implications are. Our aim is not only to inform the readers of the trends and fresh ideas in these areas. That is very important and a necessary first stage if the journal is to be useful. More than either information or critique, however, we aim to help those who want to develop a more adequate Christian approach to the scientific enterprise, to its implication for our day... There is great need for, and great opportunity for, the establishment and dissemination of a soundly based Christian view of science, of scientific knowledge, its relationship to theological knowledge, and what it means to be a Christian in a scientific community. Ethical questions that arise

in science and technology will therefore be included”.

The articles in this issue are examples of these principles, and include ethical issues, historical and philosophical discussions as well as original research on attitudes to miracles, together with an extended book review, as well as the usual collection of book reviews.

One further change is that Meric Srokosz has said that he intends to step down as the Reviews Editor at the end of 2022. We will therefore be looking for a new Reviews Editor – watch this space.

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**Keith Fox is Editor of Science and Christian Belief, Professor of Biochemistry at Southampton University and Former Director of The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge**

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