

Fritz Scholz

## Editorial

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### **Congratulations to Alan Bond on the occasion of his 60th birthday**

This Festschrift issue of the *Journal of Solid State Electrochemistry* is the result of a joint initiative of electrochemists around the globe who have the sincere desire to congratulate Alan Bond on the occasion of his 60th birthday, on August 17th. Australian born, Alan received his B.Sc in 1966, his Ph.D. in 1971, and his D.Sc. degree in 1977 from the University of Melbourne, Australia. In 1978, Alan became Foundation Professor of Chemistry at Deakin University in Geelong, Victoria, Australia. From 1990 to 1995, he was Professor of Chemistry at La Trobe University in Bundoora, Victoria, and since 1995 he has been Professor of Chemistry at Monash University in Clayton, Victoria. Alan was Visiting Professor at Northwestern University in Evanston, USA; Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Southampton, UK; and Visiting Professor in the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory at

Oxford University, UK, to name but a few of the positions that he has held outside Australia. Alan Bond has been the recipient of many distinguished prizes and honors—among others, he has received the Rennie Medal and the Stokes Medal from the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, the Reilly Award from the Society for Electroanalytical Chemistry, the UK Royal Society of Chemistry Faraday Medal, the Robert Boyle 150th Anniversary Fellowship, and the Oxford University Hinshelwood Lectureship. This may suffice to characterize the official side of his career. Here, however, I would like to focus on his scientific achievements that made his research group an international center of electrochemistry and electroanalytical chemistry. Alan Bond entered the international science arena with his excellent contributions to modern polarographic methods of analysis, the subject of his Ph.D. and D.Sc. theses. During that time and later, Alan was successfully involved in designing new and powerful voltammetric instruments with a special interest in ac-techniques, automation, coupling of electrochemical detection to separation techniques, stripping techniques, microelectrode applications, etc. This engagement for analysis has always been well balanced by his interests in fundamental electrochemistry, be it the theory of microelectrodes, studies of the electrochemistry of organometallics and metal complexes, electrochemistry of solids attached to electrode surfaces, and bioelectro-

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chemistry. Alan Bond succeeded in all these fields because of his own superb contributions and because he has been able to develop a network of cooperation with the most distinguished electrochemists around the world. Alan Bond is not only a researcher, but a very gifted teacher as well. His book, *Modern Polarographic Methods of Analysis*, had a long-lasting impact and considerably improved the acceptance of electro-analytical techniques. This book excels in clarity and conscientiousness. The same can be said about all his other publications. His achievements have been enhanced by his great ability to guide students and to

communicate his own enthusiasm for science to his students, postdocs and collaborators. Everyone who had the great fortune to work in Alan's group or to collaborate with him will never forget the warm and stimulating atmosphere, and will always admire Alan's unpretentious way of steering his group. During the time when our world was separated by an iron curtain, Alan played a very special and important role for those colleagues in the East who usually could not visit the West and work there. Alan succeeded in many cases to open the curtain for some of us. What that meant can be appre-

ciated only by those who had experienced it! These congratulations would be incomplete if we would not equally thank his wife Tunde. Tunde is not only supporting her husband and moving around the world with him, but she is also always the most wonderful host to the guests of Alan's group, so caring and friendly regarding all those tiny bits and pieces that a foreigner may need down-under.

Alan, all the contributors to this special Festschrift issue wish you the best for your health and strength to continue the bright way of excellence that you are pursuing.