



Editorial

Coming of age

The transition from childhood to adulthood is celebrated in almost every society. Each country may display its own different character of ceremony; the age at which it happens can also be different. There is always pleasure, however, that an important stage has been successfully completed and there is always hope that a splendid future lies ahead.

A common choice is twenty-one years. And this is the one which now occurs for the Journal of the European Ceramic Society. Launched in 1989 at the Maastricht meeting of the Society by President Hans Hausner, and by Founding Editor Richard Brook, the Journal has now completed twenty-one years of existence. In that time, it has succeeded in winning a place among the most consulted and respected publications in the ceramics literature.

The Journal has been greatly assisted by the loyalty of the European Ceramic Society, by the eminent professionalism of the publisher, Elsevier, and by the continuing enthusiasm, expertise and energy of its authors and readers. The Journal is delighted to record its debt to all these good friends.

The changes have been dramatic as the Journal has grown up. Two of these should be emphasised. The first is the formation of the JECS Trust whose role it is to share in the work of the

Journal and to ensure that the benefits arising from its publication can act for the well-being of our ceramics community both within Europe and indeed more widely. A second is the transfer from hard copy submission of papers to electronic submission, a change reflected also in the appearance of downloading as the main access route used by readers of the Journal.

And with twenty-one years, there is time for a further change. Richard Brook has acted as editor throughout this period. The hard copy to electronic transition has, however, provided a happy mechanism for the gradual transfer of duties to Richard Todd and this transfer is now almost complete. With effect from 1st July 2010 therefore, the JECS Trust and Elsevier are delighted to announce that Richard has passed to Richard the task of Editor.

The Trust thanks the one for all his efforts in building the Journal to its present stature and wishes every success to the other as he continues the tradition.

Anne Leriche (President)
JECS Trust, Belgium

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