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Editorial

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Editorial

It is my pleasure to present you with the latest issue of *Liquid Crystals Today*. I would like to thank everybody who has so willingly contributed to this issue so that it was possible to put it online only a few months after the last. Please do continue to provide me with any information you would like to see made accessible to the liquid crystal community. Remember, *Liquid Crystals Today* can only be as good as the information and contributions that YOU provide.

Sandeep Kumar, one of the LG Philips Display Mid Carrier Award winners at the last International Liquid Crystal Conference in Jeju, has provided a thorough overview and review of his work on the synthesis of discotic and related mesogenic systems. I am sure this will find the interest of the community and will be of especially good use for other synthetic chemists.

The meeting reports of this issue highlight the fact that once again the occurrence of the biaxial nematic phase has become a considerable topic in liquid crystal

research, with an international conference held in Kent, Ohio (USA), and a somewhat more national meeting in Hull (UK). The developments reported suggest that real progress is being made in terms of physical characterisation of thermotropic biaxial nematics.

Two book reviews encourage you to spend some money and enlarge your liquid crystal library with a couple of very interesting publications. The issue is rounded up by some news from industry and a report on the official meeting celebrating the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Interdisciplinary Award to John Goodby. I am confident that there is something interesting for everybody in this issue of *Liquid Crystals Today*, to give enjoyable reading.

And at last, you may have already read the news of the founding of the Polish Liquid Crystal Society, posted earlier. I am sure that the international community will join me in wishing our Polish colleagues and friends all their deserved success.

Ingo Dierking