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## Tribute to Janet V. Watson, F.R.S.

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## Tribute to Janet V. Watson, F.R.S.

The suggestion that this Discussion Meeting be held was made by Professor Janet Watson in 1982. Over the next three years she was responsible not only for making the necessary arrangements with the Royal Society and convening our informal meetings to discuss the programme arrangements, but also for countering our regular bouts of pessimism over a meeting on a subject that, it seemed, neither we nor anyone else knew much about. The logic of Janet's view that poorly understood topics are surely the ones to which attention should be drawn and on which discussion should be promoted, inevitably prevailed. Janet's strongest weapons in these arguments, as in so many that we and others were privileged to have with her over many years, were precision of thought and expression and, perhaps most of all, an unhurried and amused tolerance.

Although it had been clear for some time that illness would prevent Janet from attending, her death on the second and final day of the Meeting was a quirk of fate we had to accept, but not only with great sadness. For hers was a life well used, of enormous achievement and many friendships, and we are grateful for having been a small part of it.

Harold Reading  
Juan Watterson  
Stan White