Editorial

Since Hazel and Helen had obviously been drinking champagne, they chose not to ride their favourite motorcycle home

This year's UKSG conference at Warwick was up to its normal excellent standards with a record number of delegates and exhibitors. This of course means that we are limited to the number of venues which we can use and the Committee is looking at potential new venues, and how these would change the nature of the conference. If you have any ideas or opinions, do contact Alison Whitehorn at alison@uksg.org.

The new Chair, Paul Harwood, took over from the outgoing Chair, Keith Courtney. Keith has

been part of the publishing/serials scene for nearly 45 years, and Paul presented him with a Mont Blanc pen and a book containing photographs and reminiscences of his years in publishing at T&F. In addition, all the delegates at the conference signed a hand-made card for him.

We have a selection of the conference papers in this and the next issue. The ever entertaining Rick Anderson (we have to be nice to him – he's on the Editorial Board) gave his vision of the future. Two papers looked at research funding, with Jonathan Adams's important and absorbing paper concentrating on the RAE (the assessment of research output and its relationship to UK higher education funding), and Robert Kiley looking at how research funding is changing in the research councils and foundations like the Wellcome Trust. Gordon Tibbitts gave an interesting overview of e-journal archiving from the view of a commercial publisher. Melinda Kenneway's conference briefing session was so universally acclaimed that she has been persuaded to document it as a formal article. The final paper from the highly successful e-books seminar last year, by Jill Taylor-Roe, is also in this issue.

We are excited to have a profile of Youngsuk ('YS') Chi, Vice Chairman, Elsevier, written by our roving reporter Dan Tonkery in New York recently, which gives a fascinating insight into open access, Google and other topics. To continue the US theme, our mini-profiles are of Amy Brand and Jill Emery who are working with e-resources in very different jobs in very different locations.

If you want a lighter account of some of the conference happenings – including the dinner at the National Motorcycle Museum – read the student reports. The students are sponsored by UKSG and clearly got an enormous amount out of the conference. We are sure we will see them again as delegates in future years – but who knows where?

The mammoth Editorial Board meeting held at Warwick stretched on into the evening, with a record number of overseas members able to attend and help plan the next issue of 'Serials'