



EDITORIAL

Welcome to the printed version of Volume 27 of *Metamorphosis*, which contains 19 articles and notes published on our website www.metamorphosis.org.za during calendar 2016. The most outstanding achievement was undoubtedly the publication of the Caterpillar Rearing Group results, with 318 supplementary pages containing the results of 1 778 rearing experiments recording the early stages of 972 lepidopteran species. It is intended to annually update this resource and to make it available to all lepidopterist researchers by publishing it on our website.

Mark Williams' Afrotropical Butterflies has been updated on the website to the December 2016 edition. Mark needs a huge accolade and thank you for regularly updating this fantastic resource of information with the latest publications on the African butterfly fauna, and continuing to improve the quantity and quality of images included.

The *Metamorphosis* articles featured this year include six on Afrotropical moths, and nine on ecology and conservation. Butterfly taxonomy articles were reduced to only three. I understand that there are quite a few new taxonomic articles in preparation for publication in 2017.

Our application to the Department of Higher Education and Training for *Metamorphosis* to become an accredited journal was unsuccessful. They recommended that we expand our Editorial Board to include more external academics and this has been implemented. Our application for 2016/2017 included more emphasis on the international scope of our authors, the outstanding quality of our best articles, and the research work being published in the journal.

We have inducted another five new authors in Volume 26, and our scientific peer reviewing team strengthened further. All our authors and peer reviewers are thanked for their considerable and painstaking efforts.

My five years as *Metamorphosis* Editor will come to an end in December 2016. Since no-one was nominated or came forward to volunteer for a five year term at the AGM, Mark Williams, a most distinguished previous Editor, has volunteered to take over from January 2017 until another permanent Editor can be found.

I will be continuing as a Sub Editor to assist Mark with the scientific accuracy of articles published, or any other way in which he needs my assistance. Prof. Huib van Hamburg of North-West University has accepted our invitation to become a second Sub Editor, mainly concentrating on ecological articles. The editorial team has also been extremely fortunate to secure the services of Ms. Marion Maclean to be responsible for the layout, formatting and grammatical editing of our articles.

I trust that you all will have a peaceful and prosperous 2017, with many enjoyable Lepidoptera experiences and fascinating outcomes of your research projects.

Yours sincerely

Dave Edge

orachrysops@gmail.com

31st December 2016