EDITORIAL

The printed version of Volume 30 of Metamorphosis, for the year 2019, contains 12 articles and notes published on the website of the Lepidopterists’ Society of Africa, http://www.lepsocafrica.org/. The Metamorphosis publications featured this year included four taxonomic articles in which descriptions of one new genus and seven new species of Afrotropical Lepidoptera were given. Mey erected the new genus Filiramifera for a new species in the family Eriocottidae from Madagascar, and Bayliss, Congdon & Collins described a new species of Leptomyrina (Theclinae) from Mozambique. Maes described four new species in the family Crambidae and Pringle a new Thestor species (Miletinae).

More papers on aspects of the morphology and biology of species of Lepidoptera were published. Grehan, Ralston & van Noort produced a fascinating article on the specialised wing scales of the Keurboom Moth, Leto venus, whilst van Noort & Moll reported their observations on feeding behaviour of adults of the Common Buff butterfly, Baliochila aslanga (Lycaenidae: Poritiinae) at extra-floral nectaries on Adenopodia spicata (Mimosaceae).

Tennent & Russell produced two more articles on the butterflies of the Cape Verde Islands, the second one concentrating on the enormous variation of phenotypes of Leptotes pirithous across the various islands of this volcanic archipelago.

There will also be a rather large supplement to Volume 30 (150 pages) on a revision of the genus Neptis – the first of a series of publications making up a monograph on this difficult genus. Dr. Ian Richardson has put in an enormous amount of work to produce this noteworthy tome.

Last year we lost two stalwarts of the Society, the warm, generous and funny Dave McDermott, and the all-round naturalist Cameron McMaster, describer of many butterflies and plants. This year we have lost most unexpectedly one of our most knowledgeable and likeable members, Dr. Martin Krüger, curator of the Lepidoptera collection of the Ditsong Natural History Museum. His huge volume of publications on the taxonomy of African Lepidoptera may never be surpassed in quality and quantity. LepSoc Council had decided earlier in the year to award Martin with Honorary Life membership to acknowledge his enormous contributions to lepidopteran science, but his untimely death meant that the award had to be made posthumously to his widow Dr. Kerstin Krüger. An obituary worthy of his life’s work will be published early this year.

It has been my pleasure and honour to be reappointed as Editor of Metamorphosis for 2019 and 2020, and I have been fortunate indeed to have the assistance of Dr. Silvia Kirkman as my Sub Editor.

Finally, I would like to wish all our members a prosperous, productive and joyous 2020, and encourage you to send in your contributions for publication to me at orachrysops@gmail.com. Our team of editors and reviewers are keen to help you share your work on Afrotropical Lepidoptera with the wider community of lepidopterists.

Yours sincerely

Dave Edge
orachrysops@gmail.com
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