

Editorial

In the previous issue of *Gold Bulletin* we carried the very sad news that David Thompson, our former Technical Editor and member of the Editorial Team had died. In issue 42(4) we will carry a special appreciation of David, which we hope will do justice to the memory of this very fine man. I personally learned a great deal from David and I am sure that many readers of *Gold Bulletin* did too. He will be greatly missed.

The piece about David is written by Chris Corti who has edited *Gold Bulletin* for 13 years, but who has recently retired from this position. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the transformation of *Gold Bulletin* under Chris's leadership.

When he took over as Editor (Vol 29 Issue 1 1996), *Gold Bulletin* had been struggling to maintain the high standards of earlier years. Chris set about raising the standard of the journal. His recruitment of David Thompson as Technical Editor was a shrewd decision and together they were successful in almost immediately attracting good quality manuscripts for publication. Later, with the recruitment of Patricia Harris as David's replacement, Chris again demonstrated his great ability to identify the 'right person for the job' and the journal continued to attract a growing and loyal readership.

During Chris's period as Editor of the journal (during some of this period he was also Managing Director of International Technology at World Gold Council), his achievements have included the vastly increased quality of the papers published in the journal, the successful transition to an e-journal format, the creation of an Editorial Advisory Board to raise the journal's profile and the achievement of some incredibly high 'Impact Factors' as defined by ISI. Chris deserves to be congratulated for these successes.

So, this is very much a new era for *Gold Bulletin*. We will aim to sustain the current high standard of the journal and at the same time evolve and develop new aspects and features that we think meet the journal's aims and objectives. As Chris described in an editorial during 1996 these were to 'disseminate results and technology development as widely as possible to both academic and industrial communities worldwide, acting as a bridge between science generators and technology users.' That description has stood the test of time and is still accurate today.

It's not all change at the journal. Patricia Harris is continuing as Technical Editor and Chris himself won't be leaving the *Gold Bulletin* scene completely; he will remain as an advisor on the Editorial Team. At the same time we are being joined on the team by Dr Trevor Keel, who is a new project manager in the industrial sector at World Gold Council. Together, I am sure we can continue to bring you a high quality, free-to-access journal focused only on gold.

If you have comments on the future direction of *Gold Bulletin* please send them to me at Editor@goldbulletin.org



Richard Holliday