

EDITORIAL

With this issue we greet the arrival of Miss Kate Christie as our new Editor and say farewell to Mrs Christine Madden, who left the Institute in July to await the arrival of her second child.

During her four years as Editor, Christine Madden has maintained the character and standards of the *Polar Record* but at the same time has made fundamental changes. Her major alterations in style and format, introduced with issue No 112, have resulted in more efficient printer's schedules and a more attractive appearance, especially in the increased quantity and more flexible presentation of photographs, yet at no rise in cost over the former printing methods. On the business side, a significant increase of circulation and the introduction of advertisements enabled us to hold the price constant for four years whilst also absorbing some substantial costs previously met from University funds. The range of the journal's coverage has not altered, though her new 'In Brief' page allowed her more scope for reproducing short news items and points that intrigued or amused her, and the occasional series of biographical sketches in 'Profile' has similarly added interest to the journal. I speak not only for the Editorial Committee but for all our readers in expressing our sincere thanks to Christine for her outstanding service as Editor.

Our new Editor, Kate Christie, brings with her a new range of expertise and enthusiasm for things polar. After obtaining a degree in zoology from the University of Bristol and qualifying as a secretary, she came to work in Cambridge and became personal assistant to Dr R. M. Laws, Director of the British Antarctic Survey, when the Survey moved to the city in 1975. She later spent a year at the University of East Anglia, until the prospect of rejoining the growing polar community in Cambridge, by editing our journal, brought her back. She has had a warm welcome from old and new friends, who wish her well and look forward with confidence to the continued success of the *Polar Record*.

Gordon Robin