

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the printed version of Volume 28 of *Metamorphosis*, which contains 13 articles and notes published on our website www.metamorphosis.org.za during calendar 2017. The most outstanding achievement, as was the case last year, was the publication of a new set of Caterpillar Rearing Group results. This consists of a single submission by Colin Congdon, Steve Collins and Ivan Bampton[†] of the African Butterfly Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya. This article contains the results of 458 rearing experiments recording the early stages of 424 species of Papilionoidea. These rearing experiments were carried out from 1990 to 2015. Further rearing experiments from this period, as well as others, will hopefully be published in *Metamorphosis* in 2018.

The other 12 *Metamorphosis* articles featured this year included descriptions of six new species of Afrotropical Lepidoptera (four articles), a note on a fascinating migration of *Coeliades libeon*, and an intriguing article on the ecology of a *Crudaria* species at Tswalu in the Kalahari by Reinier Terblanche. The Sharp family submitted an article on the diurnal butterflies of Franklyn Park in Mpumalanga Province and Ian Sharp added yet more larval host plants to his already impressive list. Our geographical coverage of the Afrotropical Region continues to expand and we received a note on an aberrant *Junonia hierta* from Oman, an article on a moth pest from Nigeria and a new record of a butterfly on Mauritius. The Afrotropical Butterfly encyclopaedia will be updated on the *Metamorphosis* website to the December 2017 edition during January. On a sad note, we lost yet another stalwart of the Society this year, the wonderful André Claassens. In typical André fashion he actually wrote a large part of his own obituary, which is, consequently, a fascinating insight into his amazing life.

All our authors and peer reviewers are again thanked for their time and efforts, and for sharing their expertise with us. Since no-one was nominated or came forward to volunteer for a five year term as editor when Dave Edge's term expired at the end of 2016, I volunteered to take over from January 2017 until another permanent Editor could be found. Since this has not yet transpired, I will be continuing as Editor in 2018. During 2017 Dave Edge was one of my Sub Editors and I want to record my deeply felt thanks for all the support he has given me. Dave's selfless contributions to our Society are a shining example to us all. Without his hard work and dedication to excellence my job would have been infinitely more difficult. Together Dave and I will tackle the creation of Volume 29 for 2018, with a view to making it a valuable product for our members.

I wish you all a prosperous and productive 2018, and implore you to send in your contributions for publication. Our team of editors and reviewers are keen to help you share your work with the wider community of lepidopterists.

Yours sincerely

Mark Williams

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