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PREFACE

At a time of increasing pressure and deadlines for examinations and presentation of theses, it is refreshing to witness the appearance of a journal which illustrates the work and diverse interests of a committed group of undergraduates and postgraduates. A broader testament to the activities of students in this department is provided by the catalogue of ongoing postgraduate research and the dissertations completed last year by undergraduates. It is true that some of the articles in this volume reflect both ongoing and completed work, but it is welcome to read other distinct issues which these contributors believe need to be aired. Although the Geographical Society is not directly responsible for the production of Chimera, they also merit appreciation for a programme of successful activities launched at a time of a general decline in student interest in some kinds of college societies.

A production of this kind is important as it reflects the ethos of a generation of students whose own views on issues are not always explicitly stated. Our congratulations are extended to David Storey and all those who participated in this important and enduring venture of exploration whether as contributors, or editors, proof readers and supporters.

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