

EDITORIAL

The only malacological journal in Poland – *Folia Malacologica* – was founded in 1987. Its founder and first Editor in Chief was Professor dr hab. STEFAN W. ALEXANDROWICZ from the Academy of Mining and Metallurgy (malacologists are sometimes employed in strange places!). The latter institution financed the journal and published it as a part of the series of mining, metallurgy and geology journals it produced. In this way four volumes (1987–1990), and after a longish break one more (1994), appeared. In 1994, in connection with drastic changes in financing scientific institutions and with an equally drastic reduction of their funds, the Academy had to cut down on its publications, *Folia Malacologica*, as only loosely connected with mining and metallurgy, being among the first to be cancelled. In 1995 the Silesian University in Katowice, Faculty of Biology, took over the title and agreed to finance the journal IF there were any manuscripts to publish. Alas! There were no manuscripts to publish. The malacological community had begun doubting if the journal would ever start appearing again, and got used to publishing elsewhere. A typical Catch 22 situation followed: the Faculty said 'we will give money if there are manuscripts', while the authors said 'we will submit manuscripts as soon as we know that there is money'. The clinch lasted till April 1998. At the General Assembly of the Association of Polish Malacologists it was decided that the title should be taken over by the Association who should also finance or find a source of funding for the future

volumes. Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and its Faculty of Biology turned out to be such a source, as they decided to support the Association financially, at least at the beginning. The provisional committee that was supposed to change the fate of the *Folia* included: Dr hab. MAŁGORZATA STRZELEC (Silesian University, Katowice), Dr hab. ANDRZEJ LESICKI (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań) and Dr hab. BEATA M. POKRYSZKO (Museum of Natural History, Wrocław). Though provisional, the committee has made a truly desperate effort and somehow managed to convince several people to submit their manuscripts. Now the journal has been resurrected and this is the first volume after the long break.

Folia Malacologica will publish all the papers dealing with all the possible aspects of malacology. Be it ecology, physiology, taxonomy or genetics, what we share and have in common is molluscs. Conference reports and book reviews are also welcome, as long as the conferences and the books have anything to do with molluscs. Regional faunistic papers will be published in Polish, with an English summary. Papers of more general interest will be published preferably in English, but German and French are also acceptable. You are all welcome to join us in our attempt to make the journal worth reading by submitting your mollusc papers to *Folia Malacologica*!

EDITORS