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Detailed notes for guidance in the preparation of manuscripts are printed in Volume 25: pages ix to xxii. A few general points are given below.

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Units of measurement. The International System of Units (SI) should be used, with the recommendations and modifications in Quantities, Units and Symbols, The Royal Society, London, 1975, and Metric Units, Conversion Factors and Nomenclature in Nutritional and Food Sciences, The Royal Society, London, 1972—reproduced in Proc. Nutr. Soc. 31: 239–247, 1972.

Symbols and abbreviations. Authors should consult the notes prepared for guidance. Levels of statistical significance must be clearly indicated.

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Front cover centrepiece by Dr Anne Hurst: Hawk attacking a duck, from a Persian stucco wall decoration at Ruyy, dating from the 11th century.