## The British Society for the History of Science

**Membership** of the Society, which includes a subscription to *The British Journal for the* History of Science, is open to all persons approved by the Council of the Society and elected at an ordinary meeting (formalities required by the UK Companies Act). The annual subscription for the membership year 1982-83 is £12.00 (US\$28.00 in the Americas, Canada, and Japan) or for students, £5.00 (\$11.00). Applications for membership should be made on a form which is available from the

Society's **Administrator** at the address below.

Meetings: The Society mounts an ambitious programme of meetings. The pattern is flexible, the only fixture being the three-day summer meeting, held at a different British University or Polytechnic each year. About four other meetings, lasting for between one and three days, are held during the year, sometimes devoted to a clearly-defined theme or an important anniversary, and often arranged in conjunction with other scholarly societies.

The British Journal for the History of Science is the official organ of the Society. All correspondence on the contents of the Journal should be addressed to the Editor, Dr David Knight, Department of Philosophy, University of Durham, 50 Old Elvet, Durham DH1 3HN, England.

Books for review should be sent to the Reviews Editor, Dr John Hendry, 58 Canfield Gardens, London NW6 3EB.

Advertising: Particulars about advertising in the Journal may be obtained from the Society's Administrator.

Orders and back issues: Orders for the Journal and inquiries about back issues should be addressed to the Administrator. Claims for missing copies should be made within six months of publication. The 1982 subscription rate for non-members is £20.00 (\$50.00).

Other publications: BSHS Monograph Series is designed to allow the publication of monographic studies in the history of science quickly and cheaply. All correspondence on the subject of monographs, and any new suggestions for titles, should be sent to the Scries Editor, Dr Roger Smith, Department of History, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA1 4YG, England. Monographs are available to members at a special price, post-free from the Society's Administrator. Non-members may obtain them through bookshops, or post-free from the Administrator. Now available:

1. Images of the earth: essays in the history of the environmental sciences. Ed. by L. J. Jordanova and R. Porter. 1979. £6.75 (£5.00 to members).

2. The letters of Georges Cuvier: a summary calendar. Ed. by Dorinda Outram. 1980. £4.50

(£3.50 to members).
3. The Royal Society and its Fellows 1660–1700: the morphology of an early scientific institution. By M. Hunter. £,7.50 (5.60 to members).

4. Rationality and ritual: the Windscale Inquiry and nuclear decisions in Britain. By B. Wynne. 7.6.50 (f.4.90 to members).

List of theses: Every December, the Society publishes a full list of current theses in history of science in British universities. This is available free to members, and at a small charge to non-members on request to the **Administrator**. Standing orders are accepted from members or non-members who wish to receive the list regularly.

The Society's Newsletter, an informal publication edited by Dr P. M. D. Collins, 24 Woodgrange Avenue, London W5 3NY, appears in January, May and September each year. It is free to members, £3 for institutions and non-members.

All the administrative business of the Society is handled by

The Administrator, The British Society for the History of Science, Halfpenny Furze, Mill Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks HP8 4NR, England.



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H. S. Torrens: Arthur Aikin's Mineralogical Survey of Shropshire 1796–1816, and the contemporary audience for geological publications
 John Patrick Swann: The Search for Synthetic Penicillin during World War II.
 Book Reviews

Books Received

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