

## A KIND WORD FROM THE INCOMING EDITOR

Farewell Hugh and  
Congratulations...

...you will be a hard act to follow. I always admired your critical eye and determination to be unswayed by any “special pleading” tendencies that occasionally crept in to some of the

more over-enthusiastic Shroud researches. Your own research has been a hive of the most diverse activities. I always envied your obvious access to some kind of lab space to do impromptu tests of the various hypotheses that came your way and the subsequent ability to say something genuinely authoritative and constructive about them.

Your appointment as editor, which I whole heartedly endorsed, was a reflection of my recognition of the value to the B.S.T.S. Newsletter and the membership at large of having an avowed sceptic take the helm. Your thoroughness and meticulous attention to the all important details are an example to us all and me, in particular. I have a weakness for the “big picture” and can sometimes find the details a distraction. I hope to elucidate what I mean and, hopefully, justify this approach as I inherit your mantle from the next issue.

Whatever the Shroud of Turin may be, one thing for certain is that it remains a great mystery. One of my main goals will be to focus attention on the manner in which the C14 test was carried out and, equally important, the way the all-important results were finally announced. The combination of the two has led to nearly three decades of neglect from many of the minds most likely to find the challenge of solving its mystery a great and rewarding pleasure, whatever the outcome or their motivations.

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