

THE NIGERIAN FIELD

Volume 70, Part 1, April 2005

EDITORIAL

This year's Annual Business Meeting, held at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, marked the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Society. Another celebration, another cake, chocolate this time, with our green chameleon logo on the top. Why a chameleon?—someone asked last year. I do not know who chose this creature as a symbol, but its characteristics seem to be in harmony with those of the Society. Its eyes swivel in all directions, taking in all aspects of its environment, it can modify its appearance without losing its essential nature—just like the Nigerian Field Society.

Two distinguished Nigerians, Professor David Okpako (former President of the Society, 1996-2000) and Dr. Bruce Onobrakpeya (Nigeria's Master Print-maker) were invited to speak to mark the 75th anniversary. Their lectures, delivered to an audience of 85 people, reflected the scientific, sociological, cultural and environmental interests of the Society.

At the Business Meeting, five branches of the Society were represented: Abeokuta, Asaba, Benin, Ibadan and Lagos. It was decided to increase the annual subscription to ₦600 because of rising production costs for the Journal. Elections were held for the posts of President, Secretary, Treasurer and Business Manager. The present incumbents were returned unopposed with the exception of Eng. N.O. Oyelola who did not wish to serve for another term. Our new President is Professor D.U.U. Okali, retired Professor of Forestry, University of Ibadan.

The members of the Nigerian Field Society extend their warmest congratulations to Mr. A.P. Leventis, a generous supporter of *The Nigerian Field*, for the honour bestowed on him in the 2004 Birthday Honours List of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II when he received the C.B.E.

Details of Mr. Leventis' support for conservation activities in Nigeria appear on pages 87-88 of this issue.