After such an eventful and action packed three months, news has been plentiful; the Symposium at the British Library had a terrific response and was highly successful. The IMCoS map fair was an economic success although a few exhibitors doubted the benefit of a two day event. Rodney Shirley and his team of helpers organised a magnificent display of World maps, one of the largest ever seen. For everyone concerned in the organisation and running of all the events during “that” week in September, the reward was the overwhelming support of IMCoS members and the general public.

One piece of news I am sad to have to report is the sudden death of Heather Lawrence. It came as a great shock to me as I am sure it will to all of you. She will be greatly missed by all her friends and colleagues in the Society.

The Society is now entering its fifth year and I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Ray Hutchinson, our new Membership Secretary, to gently remind members that Subscriptions are due from 1st January 1985 for all those who pay annually. Please note, there is now a three year membership at a reduced rate of £30.

The committee of IMCoS is very aware of the “value for money” aspect of the Journal, not only for its UK members but more especially for all our overseas members who are not always able to attend the many meetings and functions. The more response we get from our un-ending pleas for news items and articles, no matter how small or seemingly uninteresting, the bigger and better we can make the Journal. I have some articles in reserve for use in forthcoming issues, one from Mr Gunnarsson of Reykjavik and others. With the newly appointed International Secretary, Alan Bartlett, constantly hounding you all for news we hope to increase the content in the coming year.

In closing I would like to thank Yasha Beresiner for the marvellous job he has done in the past on the Journal and I hope he keeps up the good work by supplying us with regular chatty and informal news and articles in the future.

I join with the committee of IMCoS at home and abroad in wishing all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.