research group, the graduates of which now hold positions all over the world, became a Fellow of Queens' College, and was renowned at both Departmental and College level for his teaching and lecturing. He also served as British Coeditor of Acta Crystallographica from 1969 to 1980, processing a phenomenal number of papers with care, knowledge and not a little tact! Peter was very active in College life being, at various times, Junior Bursar, Senior Bursar and Director of Studies in Natural Sciences at Queens. He was made a Life Fellow when he retired in 1988. On his retirement Peter joined the Crystallographic Data Centre part-time as the Senior Database Editor who ‘sorted out’ the more complex problems that arose during the CCDC’s checking process, leaving only a couple of years ago due to failing health. His contribution at the CCDC was immense, due to his infectious enthusiasm and deep knowledge of his subject.

As a person, Peter was both a very private man, who delighted in his family and the progress of his grandchildren, and also an engaging and humorous companion with an endless capacity to surprise. He always detected and laughed at the absurdities of life, and debunked anything pompous or pretentious. He had a lifelong interest in many sports and played cricket enthusiastically (and extremely capably – as this bowler rapidly came to know!) well into his fifties. Peter was a wonderful colleague and friend and many areas of life are the poorer for his passing.

FRANK ALLEN

Software Reviews

Software for review in this section should be submitted directly to the Software-Review Editor (P. S. White, Department of Chemistry, CB#3290 Venable Hall, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3090, USA).

Lists of software presented and/or reviewed in the Journal of Applied Crystallography are available on the World Wide Web at http://www.iucr.ac.uk/journals/jac/software/, together with information about the availability of the software where this is known.


ORTEP-3 for Windows – a version of ORTEP-III with a Graphical User Interface (GUI)

LOUIS J. FARRUGIA. Available from the author (e-mail: louis@chem.gla.ac.uk; WWW: http://www.chem.gla.ac.uk/~louis/ortep3). Version 1.0 Beta, 1997. Free.

ORTEP-3 [L. J. Farrugia (1997). J. Appl. Cryst. 30, 565] is a useful GUI for the latest version of the venerable ORTEP program, the standard program for the preparation of thermal ellipsoid drawings of crystal structures. Mastering the preparation of the input to ORTEP has always been something of a challenge for students, especially as familiarity with programming and data input has decreased as a result of the spread of user-friendly crystallographic software. ORTEP-3 provides a Windows interface, with reasonably intuitive point-and-click commands to generate ORTEP drawings, and facilitates labeling, rotation, and the preparation of stereo and packing drawings as well as all the other features available in ORTEP-III. One of the best features is the preparation of a standard ORTEP-III input file, which can be edited to achieve effects that might be difficult to produce directly with the ORTEP-3 program, such as final tweaking of packing drawings. As the authors admit in the instruction manual, ORTEP-3 can be slow, and it certainly is on the lower end of the spectrum of PCs on which it runs. However, on a 90 MHz Pentium, the speed of execution is quite acceptable, and even for ORTEP users who are familiar with the preparation of input files, ORTEP-3 can be a significant time saver.

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Books Received

The following books have been received by the Editor. Brief and generally uncritical notices are given of books of marginal crystallographic interest; occasionally, a book of fundamental interest is included under this heading because of difficulty in finding a suitable reviewer without great delay.


X-ray and neutron dynamical diffraction, theory and applications. Edited by A. AUTHIER, S. LAGOMARSINO and B. K. TANNER. Pp. ix + 419. New York: Plenum Publishing Corporation, 1996. Price US $125.00. ISBN 0-306-45501-3. This volume collects the proceedings of the inaugural 23rd International Conference of Crystallography, a NATO Advanced Study Institute, held in Erice, Sicily in April 1996. The part reviews the basic principles of dynamical diffraction by perfect and nearly perfect crystals, the second deals with diffraction topology, the third with X-ray standing waves, the fourth with the theory and applications of high-resolution diffraction, the fifth with multipole-beam diffraction and the sixth with X-ray and neutron interferometry.


