As usual the reporting year has included two issues of Scottish Place-Name News. I am as ever very grateful to conference speakers, and others, who have provided text and illustrative material to fill these issues. Given the increasingly prohibitive cost of overseas postage, overseas subscribers now receive only electronic copies; and UK-based members of SPNS can request electronic copies in addition to paper copies. Electronic versions of course have the advantage that links to websites mentioned in articles can be reached by a click or two, rather than by typing in long strings of letters and symbols on a screen, requiring flawless copying from the printed version.

The production of two issues a year takes a fair amount of time in the weeks before publication, the other main task being to ensure that sufficient material will be forthcoming, by keeping in touch with expected contributors at an earlier stage after each conference. As most of those present will be aware, the bulk of each issue is generally devoted to summaries of conference talks.

I have been carrying out the editorial duty for a good many years and it has been interesting and rewarding work. However, I would be very happy to hand over to someone else, either in one ‘go’ as a new challenge for a person with relevant similar experience, or by increasingly sharing the work with someone who is interested in taking over but would rather gain experience of the task more gradually. Please feel welcome to discuss with me at any convenient break during or after the conference.

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Bill Patterson (SPNS Newsletter Editor) 28 April 2022