

## Contributor Profiles: Christopher J. Bradley



As a child, Bradley displayed signs of being mathematically precocious, disconcerting some visitors at a very early age by being able to read a clock face and telling them when they should leave in order to catch the bus home, and boring everyone in sight with mathematical amusements. Playing trains was always accompanied by reference to the timetables in Bradshaw. His trains, unlike those on the national networks, were always punctual. He could also play an adventurous and unorthodox hand of bridge at the age of five.

Bradley gained entry to Clare College, Cambridge at age 16, but on good advice delayed going for a year. In his final year, Bradley won the Mayhew University Prize. He migrated to Oxford for his D.Phil., and in 1963 was elected to a Fellowship at Jesus College. His early research was on the representation theory of groups.

It was a rich and secure life in Oxford in those days, but he preferred teaching to research, and in 1977 Bradley took the unusual step of leaving university life to become a schoolteacher. He feels he has been fortunate to have had two careers, both of which he enjoyed enormously.

Eventually, he became Head of Mathematics, and then Deputy Head (Curriculum) at Clifton College, Bristol, and during this period he was a Chief Examiner for International Baccalaureate. He then became involved with the Olympiad world, specializing in geometry and to a lesser extent in number theory. He had the good fortune (so he describes it) in the early 1990s of being introduced to *Crux Mathematicorum*, and contributed to its pages for many years. The discipline of regular problem solving helped him to extend and broaden his knowledge. He was Deputy Leader of the UK IMO team for a few years, and he is still involved in team training.

If his name no longer appears in the pages of *Crux Mathematicorum*, it is because (in retirement) he has embarked on a third career, research and writing, which has left him little time to contribute. He has written three books, one on crystallographic space groups, one on the appearance of integers in geometry, and one on plane euclidean geometry, co-authored with Tony Gardiner. Other booklets are under preparation.