

## A Word from the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

This is our first issue in the new Springer lay-out. You will notice more consistency in the typeset and most of the figures are larger than in previous years. More important—especially with respect to our goal of being



**Fig. 1** St Johannes Erbstollen (dewatering adit) near Witten in the German Ruhr hard coal mining area (constructed between 1777 and 1863)

listed in the Science Citation Index—is a more rapid publishing procedure. Ten days after acceptance of your paper, it will be available on-line at the Springer web site, available in Springer’s “On-line first”, and can be fully referenced using your paper’s Digital Object Identifier (DOI).

As you might have read in the newspapers, Germany decided to stop subsidizing the German hard coal industry. This means more abandoned coal mines in Europe and the end of nearly 450 years of hard coal mining in my country. It is a matter of irony that I am writing these lines a few kilometres away from where hard coal mining started in the Ruhr Area. Nowadays, not much would remind you of those early times of coal mining—if there weren’t colleagues who keep the remembrance of those days alive. Yet, abandoned mine sites means remediation work, such as in the case of the long abandoned St Johannes Erbstollen (St Johannes dewatering adit) near Witten (Fig. 1). Pumping must also continue in the German hard coal mining areas, because stopping the mine pumps would flood several thousands of square kilometres of urbanized land.

## New Members

We welcome our following new members:

Ahmah Aryafar, Sharad, Iran  
Jenny Bearcock, Aberystwyth, UK  
Charlotte Braungardt, Plymouth, UK  
David Ettner, Snaroya, Norway  
Luca Fanfani, Cagliari, Italy  
Daniel Gomes, Sacramento, USA  
Anja Grawunder, Jena, Germany  
Sergio Iriarte, Las Condes, Chile  
James R. King, Morgantown, USA  
Ben Klinck, Nottingham, UK  
Kriegelstain, Erlangen, Germany  
Christian Lorenz, Jena, Germany  
Septimius Mara, Bucureşti, Romania  
Dirk Merten, Jena, Germany  
Arabella Moorhouse, Aberystwyth, UK  
Steinar Nilssen, Trondheim, Norway  
Andrew Pearson, Solihull, UK  
Wolfgang Pelz, Erlangen, Germany  
Michael Riebensahm, Erlangen, Germany  
Henry Sauer, Boulder, USA  
Frank Schindler, Jena, Germany  
Bibek Shrestha, Vancouver, Canada  
Konstantinos Skordas, Larissa, Greece  
Christopher Strachotta, Brisbane, Australia  
Yvonne Unger, Freiberg, Germany  
Serban-Nicolae Vlad, Bucureşti, Romania  
Christoph Wels, Vancouver, Canada  
Zeng, Erlangen, Germany

We hope that our new colleagues will benefit from and contribute to the extensive mine water knowledge and expertise gathered within our group of international experts. Please use your membership number in any correspondence, especially money transfers with IMWA. You can find it easily on your journal’s address label, in front of the word “GES”.

Adrian Brown, Treasurer, Denver, Colorado, USA  
Chris Wolkersdorfer, Secretary General, Munich, Germany

## Back Issues

An overview of European mine water was provided over three issues in 2005. We received many requests for those three issues and therefore decided to put together those country studies in one electronic article. You can download it from IMWA's home page or use the following Digital Object Identifier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10230-005-0081-3>.

Members who recently joined IMWA can find a complete index (issues 1–25) of the *International Mine Water Association Journal* and *Mine Water and the Environment* at our web-page [www.IMWA.info](http://www.IMWA.info). Volumes 17(1), 18(1), 19(2), 20(1) and 21(1) as well as proceedings of the 7th and 8th IMWA Congresses are still available for \$ 15.00 (US) a copy. Some other back-issues are available on request—copies of single pages at \$ 0.60 (US) each. Please add \$ 5.00 (US) for shipping/handling. You can also access the journal on line, using <http://springerlink.com>

Past IMWA issues, published before the year 2000, can be accessed with your private login and password that you received with your last membership status or by e-mail.

Chris Wolkersdorfer, Munich, Germany

## Forthcoming Events

*November 28th–29th 2007, Vancouver, BC, Canada*

**14th BC MEND Workshop:** to be held in conjunction with the International Mine Water Association. This year's theme is: *Challenges in Collection and Treatment of Mine Drainage*.

*December 11th–13th 2007, Bangkok, Thailand*

**SWEMP 2007:** 9th International Symposium on Environmental Issues and Waste Management in Energy and Mineral Production; deadline for receipt of abstracts (maximum 1 page) was 15 April 2007.

<http://www.mpes-cami-swemp.com/intro.html>

*May 6th–8th 2008, Nancy, France*

**Post Mining 2008:** For more information, mail to: [Post-Mining2008@IMWA.info](mailto:Post-Mining2008@IMWA.info); the deadline for receipt of abstracts (maximum 1 page) is 1st October 2007.

*June 1st–5th 2008, Carlsbad, Czech Republic*

**10th IMWA Congress:** For more information, go to: [www.IMWA.info](http://www.IMWA.info); or [imwa2008@IMWA.info](mailto:imwa2008@IMWA.info)

*June 22nd– 26th 2009, Sweden*

**ICARD 2009:** For more information, go to: <http://www.securing.skelleftea.se>

*September 2011, Aachen, Germany*

**11th IMWA Congress:** For more information, go to: [www.IMWA.info](http://www.IMWA.info); or [imwa2011@IMWA.info](mailto:imwa2011@IMWA.info)