Foreword

Adrian Long, *President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 2003*

Adrian Long

Having spent a considerable time of my professional career dealing with various aspects of bridge engineering, I am very pleased that our Proceedings has been extended in scope during my year of office to include a new part dealing specifically with bridges. In parallel with this development, the Institution is also launching another new part of the Proceedings to deal specifically with sustainability. Whereas sustainability may be considered a new development, the Institution has a long tradition extending back over some 170 years in reporting on

the major bridge developments within the UK and further afield.

I fully endorse the objectives, which are to focus on innovation, design, construction, assessment and maintenance. As the major forum for publication of material on bridge engineering from around the world, the journal should rapidly become the authoritative source of information for practitioners and researchers throughout their career.

The journal has made real progress towards achieving its stated goals in this first issue. Two of the papers deal with various aspects of the design and construction of two UK bridges: the Gateshead Millennium Bridge which has already received widespread acclaim, and the shorter span Castle Bridge at Weston-Super-Mare which details an interesting structural solution to a challenging site location. Two other papers deal with significant bridges from overseas; one being the El Ferdan Bridge which was opened recently by President Mubarak of Egypt; the other dealing with sustainability, cultural and social development issues associated with the Jiangyin Yangtze River Bridge in the People's Republic of China. A further paper deals with use of low-maintenance weathering steel for bridge construction.

I also applaud the unusual but effective decision to include a reprint of a paper from the Proceedings in 1867 in this inaugural issue of Bridge Engineering. Isambard Kingdom Brunel was voted by the public in the UK as the second greatest Briton of the last Millennium when the papers were being assembled. This reprint provides a link with current developments in bridge building as will be reported in a future paper dealing with the dynamics of the Hungerford Millennium Footbridge scheduled for the June issue of the journal.

I would encourage all bridge engineers to support this new journal and make a plea to practitioners to contribute leading edge papers.