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SALLY OBERST
(e-mail: sally.oberst@geolsoc.org.uk)

Secretaries of Societies

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ANGUS MILLER
23 Summerfield Place
Edinburgh
EH6 8AZ

GLASGOW
DR I. ALLISON
Science Faculties Support Unit
University of Glasgow
Glasgow, G12 8QQ

Front cover illustration

The image on the front cover shows a hill-shaded digital surface model, built from NEXTMap Britain topographic data (collected by Intermap Technologies). It depicts an area of the NW Highlands 50 × 35 km in size, centred on Ullapool and the twin fjords of Loch Broom and Little Loch Broom. The Moine Thrust Zone runs roughly NNE–SSW through the middle of the image, separating areas of significantly different geology and landscape. To the east of the thrust zone are rolling hills underlain by psammites of the Moine Supergroup, culminating in the Beinn Dearg massif in the SE of the image. To the west of the thrust zone, castellated peaks of Torridon Group sandstone, such as An Teallach and Ben Mòr Coigach, rise as inselbergs

above the Lewisian Gneiss Complex basement. Evidence for glaciation is striking. Large-scale streamlined features in the lee of hills like Stac Pollaidh and Bheinn Ghobhlach show the broad sweep of the last ice sheet from east to west. Glacially sculpted bedrock is seen on many scales – from large flutings and kilometre-long megagrooves NE of Ullapool, to smaller-scale roche moutonnées and whalebacks further SW around Gruinard Bay. These features formed at the base of a mobile ice sheet and are primary evidence of the palaeo-ice stream which drained much of NW Scotland during the last glaciation. (Goodenough *et al.* 2009. Digital surface models and the landscape. *Scottish Journal of Geology*, **45**, 99–105)

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