



“ . . . *in the Agora*”

We are accustomed to use the words ‘talking shop’ to describe work-related conversations between members of the same profession: sometimes it is mere gossip—however useful—and sometimes a complicated discussion of ideas, work practices and beliefs.

For the Greeks the *Agora* was not only the market place—it was also the haunt of the Sophists and the philosophers with their crowds of friends and followers eagerly discussing the issues of the day.

It seemed appropriate then to title this new section “. . . *in the Agora*” because we wanted it to be not only a place where we could ‘talk shop’ but also a place where issues could be raised and hopefully discussed. We hope that you will *use* this section. Obviously we can’t promise to publish ‘sight unseen’ but if you do have something about which you feel strongly, or an issue which you would like to see aired—David would like to hear from you. Rumbling quietly to yourself achieves nothing. This is your society and your journal—let’s hear from you. Averil/editor.