Aims and scope

Each issue of Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B is devoted to a specific area of the biological sciences. This area will define a research frontier that is advancing rapidly, often bridging systems, health and welfare usually a maximum length for reviews. Review articles will often be commissioned, but the Editor is happy to consider.

The journal also publishes reviews in the broad areas of research listed website at www.pubs.royalsoc.ac.uk/philtransb.

Selection criteria

The criteria for selection are scientific excellence, originality and interest across disciplines within biology. The Editors are responsible for all editorial decisions and they make these decisions based on the reports received from the referees and/or Editorial Board members. Many more good proposals and articles are submitted to us than we have space to print, and we give preference to those that are of broad interest and of high scientific quality.

Publishing format

Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B articles are published regularly online and in monthly print issues. Along with all Royal Society journals, we are committed to archiving and providing perpetual access. The journal also offers the facility for including Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM) to papers. Contents of the ESM might include details of methods, derivations of equations, large tables of data, DNA sequences and computer programs. However, the printed version must include enough detail to satisfy most non-specialist readers. Supplementary data up to 10Mb is placed on the Society's website free of charge. Larger datasets must be deposited in recognised public domain databases by the author.

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Articles must not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. The main findings of the article should not have been reported in the mass media. Like many journals, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B employs a strict embargo policy where the reporting of a scientific article by the media is embargoed until a specific time. The Executive Editor has final authority in all matters relating to publication.

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Cover image: Crystal structure of aromatic amine dehydrogenase—a paradigm system for studying by experiment and computation the role of tunnelling phenomena and dynamics in enzyme catalysis. (Image provided by Dr David Leys, University of Manchester.)