AIMS AND SCOPE

Each issue of Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B is devoted to a specific area of the biological sciences. The aim of this journal is to advance rapidly, often bridging traditional disciplines. Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B is essential reading for scientists working across the biological sciences. In particular, the journal focuses on the following four cluster areas: neuroscience and cognition; organismal and evolutionary biology; cell and developmental biology; and health and disease. As well as theme issues, the journal publishes papers from the Royal Society biology discussion meetings. To suggest a theme issue, consult the journal's website at rstb.royalsocietypublishing.org.

Reviews. The journal also publishes reviews in the broad areas of research listed above. Review articles will often be commissioned, but the Editor is happy to consider suggestions/proposals for unsolicited review articles. Please submit an abstract and a covering letter to the Editorial Office for approval for consideration. Reviews should usually be between 1000 and 2000 words long, and not exceed 3000 words in length.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

In 2009 Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B (ISSN 0962-8436) will be published twice a month. Full details of subscriptions and single issue sales may be obtained either by contacting our Journals Sales and Marketing team at our London office: Tel: +44 (0)20 7451 2602; fax: +44 (0)20 7976 1837; sales@portland-services.com or by visiting our website at http://royalsocietypublishing.org/info/subscriptions.

For further information on the Society's activities, please contact the following departments on the extension listed by dialing +44 (0)20 7839 5361, or visit the Society's Web site at www.royalsociety.org.

Research Support (UK grants and fellowships)
Research appointments: 2547
Research grants: 2559
Conference grants: 2540
Science Advice
General enquiries: 2583
Science Communication
General enquiries: 2572
International Exchanges (for grants enabling research visits between the UK and most other countries (except the USA)
General enquiries: 2530
Library and Information Services
Library/archive enquiries: 2606

Cover image: In this figure, the region of the brainstem is highlighted in yellow (top left). The diagram on the right shows some of the brainstem nuclei and their connections to other areas in the central nervous system. Below are shown recordings (from above down) of respiratory phrenic nerve activity, blood pressure and heart rate, all of which are controlled by the brainstem. (Design by Professor Julian F. R. Paton, University of Bristol, UK.)