

I am pleased to be able to write a few paragraphs on Alan Bundy as part of a Liber Amicorum. My first meeting with Alan Bundy was in Sydney in 1980. I drove up to Canberra to meet him for a few hours in advance of my moving to Edinburgh to work as a postdoc for Alan.

Alan surprised me by saying that he wanted to be like Margaret Thatcher. Not to emulate her political viewpoint, but rather her work ethic. Alan claimed she got by on only a few hours of sleep per night, and Alan wished to do the same. The reason was that Alan had so many research ideas that he wanted to follow.

Alan created a positive research environment in Hope Park Square, of which I was very happy to be part. Alan interacted closely with students and postdocs, something which is increasingly rare in the research community. I remember many meals in the refectory. Hope that the food has improved by now.

In summary, I have a lot to thank Alan for. He gave me a job. He introduced me to Prolog, which had a significant impact on my life. The environment and experience that Alan engendered in Edinburgh have shaped the research groups which I have directed over the past 20 years.

Leon Sterling