



Roger Butler

My involvement with Shap began when a friend, Clive Erricker, whom I had first met when we attended the same evangelical church in Hove (now Brighton and Hove), invited me to a meeting. I cannot remember precisely when or where this meeting took place but my guess would be between 1974 and 1976.

Between 1972 and 1974 I had been a teacher representative on the Inner London Education Authority's Agreed Syllabus Conference and shortly after that ILEA's new syllabus was published. Clive, and his colleague Alan Brine, invited Karl D'Cruz (another teacher representative on the ASC) and me to go to a teacher training college in Winchester, where they both worked, to talk to student teachers about ILEA's new syllabus.

I cannot remember where exactly my first Shap meeting was held but I do remember it as being in a rather sparse and quite cold building, I think somewhere in London. I was certainly over-awed by the company I was now keeping. It seemed that all the text books I was using at school had been written by someone around the table I was sitting at. I also remember a degree of puzzlement as it was not clear to me why I was attending the meeting although I was very happy to be there.

It was only when I received minutes of the meeting that it dawned on me that I was now a member of this illustrious working party, to which I was able to make various minor contributions over the ensuing forty plus years.

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