



Editorial

This is a rather unusual issue of *The Journal of William Morris Studies*, at least insofar as not one of the five lead articles is principally concerned with Morris. Instead, each contributor meticulously traces some aspect of the life and work of a person, or persons, who figured in Morris's political or artistic networks, with differing degrees of prominence. It is also an issue in which I am pleased to be able to announce a new addition to the editorial board: David Mabb, who is a long-standing member of the Society, and whose artistic mediations of Morris's work will already be known to many readers, will bring valuable insight and critical acumen. It is my pleasure to welcome him to the board.

In the lead article for this issue, Sheila Rowbotham recounts Morris's visit to Bristol during March 1885, where he delivered his lecture on 'Art and Labour', and she deftly weaves this episode into an account of subsequent peregrinations in the entangled lives of four radical activists: Miriam Daniell, Helena Born, William Bailie and Helen Tufts. Her narrative moves from Bristol to Manchester, and on to Boston and a communal ranch in California.

Lieske Tibbe discusses Camille Pissarro's brief residence in London during the Franco-Prussian war, and the more extended stay of his sons Lucien and Georges, with reference to a fascinating detail in his *Still Life with a Coffeepot* (1900). This painting reveals a surprising debt to Morris, for whose work Pissarro seems otherwise to have harboured a certain measure of disapprobation.

Peter Faulkner offers a detailed study of Henry Halliday Sparling, focusing on the complicated nature of his relationship with and short-lived marriage to May Morris, and on the contribution made by Sparling's 1924 book *The Kelmscott Press and William Morris Master-Craftsman*.

Fiona Rose's careful research into the life of Warrington (not Warrington) Taylor revises our understanding of the background of a man whose efforts as business manager of Morris, Marshall, Faulkner and Co. did much to ensure the future success of the Firm. Rose also makes clear that Taylor's was a life marked by much suffering.

Last but not least, Stephen Williams's article on Annie Taylor recovers a wealth of detail about a little-known Socialist League activist who played an especially prominent role in the Bloody Sunday demonstration of 13 November 1887.

Sadly, 2018 saw the loss of two much-valued members of the Society. Peter Faulkner's obituary of Sonia Crutchlow follows this editorial. And as I was working on the proofs for the present issue, I received the distressing news that John Purkis had passed away. John was a very knowledgeable and supportive member of the editorial board, and his input will be

greatly missed. A full obituary will follow in the next issue.

Owen Holland
Editor