Editorial

Peter Faulkner

It was a pleasure to me to be asked to edit this edition of The Journal in view of its happy occasion, the marriage of Nicholas Salmon to Bridget Williams. The coincidence of its being the Ruskin Centenary issue is also a pleasure to me, and I am glad to be able to offer a gathering of writings on various aspects of the life and work of that extraordinary man and provocative thinker, who is only now beginning to be approached, it seems to me, with the proper blend of admiration and scepticism. I hope these contributions will further the understanding of his varied and remarkable achievement. Three of them derive from the conference at Sheffield organised by Dawn Morris in July on behalf of the Society.

It is also a pleasure to be able to include the work of two young scholars on other aspects of Morris – Martin Delveaux relating News from Nowhere to a contemporary writer of Utopian fiction in the United States, and Katharine Haslam discussing the decorative work at Naworth Castle in the time of George Howard.

On the sadder side, the toll of distinguished Morrisians has continued with the recent deaths of Penelope Fitzgerald and Sanford Berger. The latter will be commemorated in our next issue, while we are glad to be able to offer in this one the personal tribute of our former President, Ray Watkinson, to the former. Both will be greatly missed.

I should also like to apologise here for the fact that in the obituary of Ted Hollamby in our last issue no mention was made of the fact that he was awarded the OBE for his services to architecture and to Docklands; we are grateful to Ted’s nephew, Peter Hollamby, for drawing this omission to our attention.