

## THE WELLSIAN

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### Editorial

This year I have received an unprecedented number of excellent papers on various aspects of H.G. Wells's work, far more, in fact, than can be incorporated in this edition of the *Wellsian* – and I thought that last year's issue was unprecedentedly large, since it included several articles from the *Time Machine* Symposium.

Patrick Parrinder's "The View from Bun Hill: H.G. Wells, Kent and the Male Romance" and my paper, questioning whether Well can be regarded as a feminist, were originally delivered at the 1996 Weekend Conference at Bromley. Although they appear at first glance to have nothing in common, each provided a particular slant on that year's theme - "Reappraising Wells" – and in a sense, all of the papers in this issue relate to this idea in one way or another. David Smith's article gives a fascinating view of Wells as a very new author, and Fernando Porta's textual analysis of *The Time Machine*, together with Part II of Alan Mayne's "Virtual Time Machine" (which provides a theoretical backing for Part I, which appeared in the last *Wellsian*) also provide perspectives on Wells's first full-length fiction. John Partington's paper centres on *Kipps*, another early work, and points to the way its political message is reappraised – to the point of attenuation - in Carol Reed's 1941 film adaptation of the novel.

Next year the Weekend Conference will commemorate the centenary of *The War of the Worlds*, and I hope that the *Wellsian* will have a science fiction theme.

### Notes on Contributors

**Sylvia Hardy** is Editor of the *Wellsian*, and is currently engaged in researching the films made of Wells's work.

**Alan Mayne** has been interested in the life, work and whole range of ideas of H.G. Wells, ever since he was a teenager. His latest book is the new edition of H.G. Wells *World Brain* (1995), which he edited, and he is now writing *Politics in the 21st Century* for the Adamantine Press.