

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 2016 issue of *The Wellsian: The Journal of the H. G. Wells Society*. This is my first editorial in the capacity of Editor-in-Chief, which I have taken over from Simon J. James. Therefore, I would like to use this opportunity to give him a big hand for all the editorial work he has accomplished in the course of nearly a decade. I mean not only the excellent quality of the materials he selected and saw through the publication process, but also the creation and maintenance of a digital archive wherein back issues of the journal will be stored and become available on a specially designated platform, increasing the international visibility of our Society. My thanks also go to Patrick Parrinder, who shared his valuable advice and Wells-related bibliographies. The cover image for this issue was designed by my friend, Natallia Lameka of the Belarusian State University.

Most recently, *The Wellsian* has received positive re-evaluation as an integral part of the European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH) in line with the newest requirements for the review, presentation and availability of academic outputs. Such a level of recognition means that our journal meets the high standards for an international peer-reviewed periodical.

This current issue features four articles, two of which stem from the 2015 conference on war in Wells's fiction and thought. Matthew Wraith and Bernard Loing explore the distinct meanings of war circumscribed by anticipations and warnings, on the one hand, and inner experience, on the other; war as an imaginative exercise in destruction and subsequent re-organisation of society, and war as private loss, dilemma and struggle. In her article on Wells's *New Women*, Brenda Tyrrell brings to our attention the hereto under-studied character of Miss Elphinstone from *The War of the Worlds*, considering her as a very close resemblance to Jessie Milton from *The Wheels of Chance* and a prefiguration of Ann Veronica. Jan B. Gordon's article reads several fictions by Wells alongside Henri Bergson's theory of duration, attempting to clarify how these works transcend the genre of *Bildungsroman* by making the bodies of their characters less solid and therefore transparent. Apart from the articles, this issue includes long-standing rubrics: book reviews, and a bibliography of books and articles on Wells.

This year has been a very special one for Wellsians across the world, and particularly for the H. G. Wells Society, which has organised a series of prominent events, including the *Anticipations* conference, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Wells's birth. To follow up on some of the absorbing discussions that took place at the July conference in Woking, *The Wellsian* keenly welcomes article submissions to its next issue, which will explore the subject in further detail. Depending on the number of submissions related to *Anticipations*, the journal will be likely to have a special section edited by Andrew Butler, the co-organiser of the *Anticipations* conference. The deadline for submissions is 1 April 2017.

Article submissions on any aspect of Wells's life and work, as well as book reviews, are welcome, too, as always. Our style guide, alongside further information about the journal, can be found at: <http://hgwellssociety.com/wellsian/>

I hope that you will find this issue of *The Wellsian* stimulating and enlightening, be it for your general interest or academic research.

Maxim Shadurski