

THE LONG GOODBYE

In an editorial written for my first issue as editor (*Amphora* 143), I promised no more editorials. Forgive me for closing out my tenure with a second.

To celebrate *Amphora* 150, the entire issue is being dedicated to a graphic history of the work of Vancouver's first commercial ("job") printer, Robert Mathison. The collection of ephemera reproduced in the issue comes from two collections, both assembled over the past three decades. This is the first time it has been published, along with Mathison's story. Celebrating the work of the first commercial printer in the Alcuin Society's hometown seemed a worthy way to mark the journal's latest milestone. To make it more so, we have removed all of the periodic material from the periodical and present that instead in this supplement.

Amphora No. 1 was issued in 1967. Complete sets of the journal, when assembled, command a hefty price. Looking at a list of contributors from four decades of publishing to date, one quickly appreciates the national and international sphere the journal has encompassed. The journal's creation, and many of the first 150 issues, were shepherded along by one of the Society's founders, Geoff Spencer. Other editors have joined for shorter tours, and my own ends with this issue. I will always appreciate the free hand that the Society's board allowed me in planning and assembling the issues I have worked on. *Amphora* gave me a wonderful field on which to play, and an excuse to call up anyone I wanted to talk to about what they were doing; these people always responded with enthusiasm, I can only assume because of the reputation of the journal established by my predecessors. I have also enjoyed the companionship, help and guidance of a large number of people in getting the journal published, and I indulge myself in thanking some of them here.

Jim Rainer, who led the gang when I was shanghaied; Howard Greaves, who helped whenever asked (but otherwise left me alone); RRR, for guidance and boundless enthusiasm; David, who has talent & endless patience; Yasmine, who has her dad's patience (and talent); Naomi, who is that only reason because the issues don't read like this here; all of the contributing editors who signed on

and have added breadth and depth to our content; Jacqui, who picks up all the pieces; Mark & Michael, for international relations; Kara, for her excellent insert; Barbara, for work & play; Ann, who read—and commented on—every issue; Phyllis, for reviews and support; Will R, for lending his name; Peter and Jason, for picking up the load; Bill and Brownie, because; and finally, L1 and L2—one less project keeping me at my desk!

ROLLIN MILROY

UPCOMING

The next issue of *Amphora* will be the debut for a new editorial and design team. PETER MITHAM is a freelance writer who has spent 15 years writing primarily for newspapers and magazines on real estate and agriculture. A staff writer with *Business in Vancouver* for four years, he resumed full-time freelancing in 2004. Since then he's written two books about real estate and served as the books editor for *Amphora*. He's played at chapbook publishing and excelled at pulling together a collection of books he enjoys and which he hopes the silverfish that infest his apartment won't. He published a bibliography of Robert W. Service in 2000. Peter's first issue as editor heading up production of *Amphora* will be published in March 2009.

JASON DEWINETZ'S name will be recognized by *Amphora* readers as the Alcuin Book Design Award-winning publisher and designer of Greenboathouse Books, which published a series of pamphlets by contemporary Canadian authors starting in 1999. A graduate of the University of Alberta (where his master's research position resulted in a bibliography of Black Sparrow Press), Jason currently resides in Vernon, B. C., where, in addition to doing freelance design work, he teaches publication design at Okanagan College. He is also in the midst of establishing Greenboathouse Press, which will continue where Greenboathouse Books left off but with a focus on letterpress printing and longer texts. Jason will lend his distinctive layout and design talents to *Amphora*.