

## EDITORIAL

In the second half of the journal, we have one article on the seventeenth century and two on Quakers of the twentieth century. All three focus on particular individuals who have made notable contributions to Quakerism but who may have been overlooked by the academy in the past. Farnworth, the subject of Richard Hoare's article, was one of the Yorkshire Seekers who provided affirmation and support for George Fox as he travelled north. Many of these Seekers had already had convincement-like experiences but were still waiting for leadership and inspiration. Farnworth was to accompany Fox on his travels westward in 1652 (although he declined to go up Pendle Hill with him, meeting him on the other side) and was to become a leading Friend of the 1650s and 1660s. Farnworth is credited with authoring the *Testimony to the Brethren* of 1666, which was so significant in the settling of the movement. In the paper printed here, Richard Hoare analyses the Balby group in detail and suggests that Farnworth played a key role in their support of Fox. In an Appendix, Richard suggests an alternative chronology for Farnworth's life.

Alessandro Falcetta's doctoral thesis on Rendel Harris remains one of the rare scholastic attempts to get to grips with the thinking of this key Liberal Friend. Harris was the first Director of Studies at Woodbrooke, but before that had been a part of the Manchester Conference and the Summer School movement which followed it. Importantly, it was Rendel Harris who was with Rufus Jones on holiday in Switzerland in 1897. Harris knew both Jones and J.W. Rowntree and this allowed the two to meet, resulting in the friendship which was to be so powerful and influential within Liberal Quakerism. This article outlines in brief his scholastic and public life, charting his main achievements and his continual sense of adventure. Harris is an enigmatic and engaging figure – recent doctoral work by Carole Spencer at Birmingham has suggested he had a holiness theology even whilst being a key part of the Liberal project. This separated him from the likes of Wilfred Littleboy and H.G. Wood and gave his time at Woodbrooke a unique flavour.

We are moving to revised style sheet for the journal (you can find it on [www.qsra.org](http://www.qsra.org)), using endnotes instead of footnotes and avoiding the repetition of references but we have kept the bibliography at the end of Alessandro Falcetta's articles as it provides such a useful resource for further research.

Maria Dowling focuses on the life of Antonie or 'Tomy' Kleinerová, a Czech Friend who resisted in turn the Nazi and Communist regimes which ran

Czechoslovakia and who was imprisoned by both. In the latter case, Kleinerová was a co-defendant of the first major show trial of the Communist government and was given a life sentence of which she served ten years. This fascinating article tells the story of a courageous life. It also gives valuable insights into the story of Friends in Czechoslovakia after Quakerism was introduced there in the 1920s, as well as reflecting on how religious groups maintain or negotiate their integrity in the face of totalitarian regimes.

We are pleased to be able to include at the end of this issue a rich selection of book reviews, a clear sign that the study of Quakerism is healthy and vibrant.

'BEN' PINK DANDELION  
EDITOR