

The New Birth

It is with some trepidation that I give this issue's editorial such a title - since SBG's view of this very important topic and mine, spiritually speaking, would be somewhat divergent! However it seems an apt illustration of the emerging into life of a new society.

There was certainly a period of gestation before the happy event, not to mention some labour pains. The 'confinement' was attended with much tender loving care and encouragement. The announcement was made in several journals. The new baby was welcomed and congratulations received from far and wide, from old friends and new, from near relations and 'long lost cousins'. Several most kind and generous gifts have been received. Hope for the future seems well founded.

Now there lies to hand the various practical adjustments and experiments that need to be made to ensure the nurture and growth of this little life. To apply the analogy - nurture requires the contributions of the family, the Society's members. These have been excellent so far, but they need to keep coming; they are welcome at any time, not just when the next 'deadline' arrives. Growth means two things: growth in scope, so that the Society's appeal isn't limited to the bibliophile or the local historian or the antiquarian, but covers a wide range of interest and activity; and growth in enlarging the family - discovering those who are already interested in SBG and recruiting them into active membership, and also gaining the interest of others with whom we may have influence.

As we say in another context, membership means commitment;

the measure we give will be the measure we get. So keep those articles, photocopies, letters, sales and wants lists, comments - and new members - coming in.

DPRS.