

## EDITORIAL

This issue of 'Northern Studies', some members may feel, is heavily slanted towards archaeology. We make no apology for this, considering the importance of archaeological investigation, and the light that it constantly sheds on our understanding of the past. Perhaps more than any other aspect of the historian's work, it can solve questions which documentary research can often fail to answer. Chris Morris's excavations in Orkney are a prime example of this, and we are grateful to him for his painstaking reports in 'Northern Studies' over the years. Barbara Crawford's report on her Papa Stour dig is likewise welcome, and we look forward to further developments at this site.

Rudy Simek's A.G.M. paper, which was widely acclaimed at the time, is published here for the benefit of those members who were unable to attend. We are grateful to him for providing a coherent outline of ship types in our area of study. The article by Ian Keillar is an historical perspective of a Shetlander who could have achieved world fame, had he lived longer than his twenty years. Finally, the Index for the first twelve number of 'Northern Studies' gives some idea of the scope of our contributors since the inception of the journal. We hope to be able to expand future issues, to give more articles, reviews and reports, so that we can reflect the interests of our members more accurately and in greater detail.

We would therefore welcome your contributions, on any aspect of Scandinavian Studies. These should be sent to the Editorial Board, c/o The School of Scottish Studies, 27 George Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9LD.