the opinions of author and publisher as well. I regard myself as a bookman, content to take any part in the compilation and production of books, and hoping for continued opportunities to do so. The indexer I regard as a partner in the task of producing seemly and useful books. The indexer’s place is not going to be usurped by the most elaborate of electronic hardware or software, so long as authors and publishers recognize the value of human judgement in partnership at work on the text and its apparatus. If there is any tendency for this partnership to become redundant, I hope I shall not be there to see.

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**Indexers recognized**

We are delighted to note that two members of The Society of Indexers have this year been awarded the Wheatley Medal, as reported on pages 79-80. Congratulations to Annette Surrey and Ken Bakewell!

Mrs Surrey holds the distinction of being the first graduate of the Rapid Results College’s correspondence course on indexing to receive this award. She is a Registered Indexer, and Clerk to the Society’s Board of Assessors.

Mr Bakewell, a Principal Lecturer in the Department of Library and Information Studies, Liverpool Polytechnic, is also a Registered Indexer, former Chairman of The Society, and now Vice Chairman. He has compiled many indexes and written several books and articles on indexing. He has probably achieved another ‘first’ in being included, as indexer to the volume, in the ‘Notes on Contributors’ to *College administration: a handbook* (National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, 1980).

Congratulations also to the winner of the H. W. Wilson Award, Linda I. Solow, for her index to *Beyond Orpheus: studies in musical structure* by David Epstein (Cambridge, Mass: MIT, 1979).

We are especially pleased too that Professor Pearson was presented with a festschrift in May this year, to celebrate his contribution to Middle Eastern studies and bibliographical scholarship, in particular for his editorship of *Index Islamicus*. (*Middle East studies and libraries: a felicitation volume for Professor J. D. Pearson*; ed. by B. C. Bloomfield; London: Mansell, 1980.)

**Obituary**

**Miss R. D. Coole, MBE**

Sally Coole had already completed a distinguished career with the British Council when she became one of the foundation members of our Society. A very well-informed woman of wit and discernment, she brought much commonsense and innovation to our councils. She was to be counted upon to be present at the remotest meetings and the dullest of Agenda. Sally Coole loved everything about books, and was profoundly interested in printing and publishing. She saw the necessity for improving the very low standard of indexing which the public seemed to be willing to accept after the war, and she fought too for higher fees for indexers. The Society was fortunate in its pioneer members, for they all brought some special gift to its deliberations, and Sally Coole’s flair for judging the right time and the right occasion for the Society’s efforts to achieve international recognition was especially appreciated. On a lighter note, Sally Coole had a weakness for hats; she was one of the few who could carry off a milliner’s inspired creation, and to see Sally Coole walk down Portland Place in her latest confection delighted us all. She was a very worthy Vice-President.

Robert Collison

All who know Elizabeth Wallis, the Registrar of The Society of Indexers, will join in extending to her our deepest sympathy at the premature loss of her husband, who died recently after a sudden, relatively brief, but wholly incurable illness.

**Articles of interest**


An article of interest to our readers on ‘Citation slips and computer chips’ by Adam J. Aitken, editor of the *Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue* and of *The Computer and Literary Studies*, appears in *Logophile: The Cambridge Journal of Words and Language*, 3 (2) 1980. It describes how the introduction of modern technology into the gentle art of dictionary compiling is threatening to culminate in a major battle between hardware and software.

**The Indexer** Vol. 12 No. 2 October 1980