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FOREWORD

Very long-standing readers of the *Bulletin* may recall that the early issues always began with an editorial written by the founding editors, Nicholas de Lange and Judith Humphrey, in which we commented on the contents of the issue and on recent developments in the subject. We were feeling our way in a venture that still seemed experimental. From No. 6 (Summer 1990) we must have felt more confident, or perhaps there was too much happening for us to be able to comment on it coherently, because the opening editorial disappeared. The present editors have broken with the newer tradition in the present issue to mark a special occasion: the 15th birthday of the *Bulletin of Judaeo-Greek Studies*.

As we launch issue no. 30 it seems little short of miraculous that we have been able to maintain a regular rhythm of bi-annual publication over 15 years through what has seemed an uninterrupted series of crises, both financial and personal.

The most dramatic personal crisis was the sudden death in 1996 of Judith Humphrey, who had made her name synonymous with that of the *Bulletin*, and who seemed to spend most of her waking hours on it. It could certainly not have got off the ground or become such a success without her. The present Editors are enormously grateful to Mrs Bobbie Coe, who stepped into the huge gap left by Judith Humphrey's abrupt and tragic departure, and to those members of Judith's family who helped us over the material problems of that difficult moment. More generally, we are grateful to those who continue to help with financial contributions, as the subscription price is deliberately kept at a rate which will place the *Bulletin* – we hope – within the reach of all workers in this field, regardless of where they live or what their resources.

While it remains true that the *Bulletin* is a journal written by its readers, still someone has to collate the material and get it ready for the printer, not to mention maintaining the list of subscribers and dealing with numerous enquiries from around the world. We are grateful to Bobbie for dealing with these tasks so