

From the Editor



Harry Burkill
1925–2007.

It is sad when one loses a valued friend. This happened to *Mathematical Spectrum* in 2007 on the death of Harry Burkill. Harry was one of the founding fathers of *Mathematical Spectrum* way back in 1968, and served on the editorial committee until his death, and between 1974 and 1979 as editor. He gave his time generously to the magazine, editing many contributions with the care for which he was renowned and writing biographical articles on H. J. E. Littlewood, G. H. Hardy, N. H. Abel, and G. F. B. Riemann, which well illustrate his skill as a writer – see the references. His choice of subjects for biographies demonstrated his primary mathematical interest in classical analysis.

A refugee from the Nazi regime, Harry was a student at Trinity College, Cambridge. Throughout his professional life he taught at the University of Sheffield, generations of students benefited from his precise teaching, clear thinking and understanding. He served with distinction for a period as Head of the Department of Pure Mathematics.

All who knew him and worked with him, whether in *Mathematical Spectrum* or in the wider mathematical community, will miss him and remember him with gratitude.

References

- 1 H. Burkill, H. J. E. Littlewood (1885–1977), *Math. Spectrum* **11** (1978/1979), pp. 1–10.
- 2 H. Burkill, G. H. Hardy (1877–1947), *Math. Spectrum* **28** (1995/1996), pp. 25–31.
- 3 H. Burkill, Neils Henrik Abel: 1802–1829, *Math. Spectrum* **33** (2000/2001), pp. 1–5.
- 4 H. Burkill, Georg Friedrich Bernhard Riemann: 1826–1866, *Math. Spectrum* **34** (2001/2002), pp. 29–35.