

EDITORIAL

The last time that a substantial part of *Regional Furniture* was dedicated to Scottish research was 1992. In that year five articles covered a range of subjects including Highland and Island furniture, Scottish cabinet timbers and goods made for an urban market by Edinburgh firms. It has been a lively decade for Scottish furniture studies in which much new information about significant regional traditions has been unearthed. Much more is now known about the furniture of Gaelic culture in the Outer Hebrides, and about vernacular work on other, lesser known islands; but important mainland areas such as Aberdeenshire, for example, are beginning to reveal their salient character. Defining the furniture of such a diverse country is a greater task than the novice scholar might imagine. It will be very clear to those involved in serious furniture research that the work is done with the most sensitivity and accuracy by those who have their feet on Scottish soil. This year's journal brings together a team of writers working in different parts of the country but the main emphasis is upon the city of Glasgow and its sphere of influence. In accordance with the Regional Furniture Society's original manifesto, the opportunity has been taken to re-print important source material that would not be of interest to the commercial publisher. *The Glasgow Cabinet Makers' Book of Prices*, 1806 contains a wealth of information that will not only stimulate the progress of research here, but which will be of capital interest to other furniture cultures in Scotland's orbit, such as the U.S., Canada and Australia. Great thanks must go to the staff of Glasgow University Library, Special Collections, who have made this reprint possible.

For 2003, the journal will make a complete change and be devoted to the subject of antique dealing in the twentieth century, in the form of a memoir by one of the profession's most influential and widely-respected members.

DAVID JONES