

EDITORIAL

This issue of the Bulletin is special once again. The mathematical articles contained in this volume form the Proceedings of the Groups in Galway 2005 Conference, held in May 2005 to mark the retirement of Martin Newell. Martin has been one of those who developed Group Theory at Galway to such a high standard; so it seemed only appropriate to dedicate this meeting to him. My thanks are due to Jim Cruickshank and Dane Flannery for carrying the hard part of getting these Proceedings ready: soliciting the papers by the speakers, chasing up the referees and providing me with (at least mathematically) final versions. The result gives a rather nice overview on a broad spectrum of Group Theory today.

A proceedings volume of a meeting can be a very valuable thing. But sometimes it is difficult to write down carefully the thoughts which were easy to express in an oral presentation. And even if they are adequately formulated, the audience that will be confronted with the written version is most likely a different, much wider one than in the talk. I believe a paper in conference proceedings should be able to stand by its own, without the reader possibly, but most unlikely being in a position to recall the lecture by the author. This may be a good thing to keep in mind.

—MM