

Foreword

The Cult of Anniversaries

I noticed that there has been a special interest in the anniversaries of philosophers' births, deaths, and their publications. This year, there has been the third centenary of the birth of Kant, celebrated by world-wide events, and it is still going on. There was special attention to the work of Gilbert Simondon that coincided with the centenary of his birth. Next year it will be Gil Deleuze's centenary with no doubt a lot of lectures and conferences. A friend in Holland told me that Deleuze is a great hit there, at the moment. His book *What is Philosophy?* was celebrated at Melbourne School of Continental Philosophy a few years ago when it was 30 years old. Adorno and Horkheimer's book *Dialectic of Enlightenment* will be 80 next year, and already a series of seminars on it have been organised by Essex University. And the list goes on. Perhaps these anniversaries give philosophers the opportunity to appreciate the work of others and by doing so appreciate their own work.

I thought of taking advantage of this trend by referring to the seventh anniversary of *The Wednesday* that we celebrated back in July of 2024, which was announced to the readership by a press release. I was grateful for friends who sent messages of support. There is no space for printing them all, but here is one from Professor Chris Norris:

'I was moved and impressed by your message this morning and just want to say what a wonderful achievement it is to have kept the magazine going all through these last seven highly eventful, demanding and at times turbulent years. To produce it monthly without a single skipped issue and to such an incredibly high standard in editorial and graphics-related terms must itself have been a well-nigh impossible challenge at times. To have done it, as you did, on a weekly basis for so many years can only be described as a Herculean task.

For myself, I am very proud to have been associated with this unique project and also, of course, with the Wednesday Group whose online sessions have been a large part of my life...'

Adrian Rance-McGregor wrote: 'What you have achieved with *The Wednesday* is so good and I am so grateful to you'.

Virginia Khuri added: 'Many congratulations! That is a truly great accomplishment. *The Wednesday* is such a needed addition to our continuing education. We are always grateful',

Faris Nori summed up the feeling of so many readers: 'I am very proud of what you have accomplished and privileged to be receiving a wonderful and well thought and written magazine'.

I am grateful for all these messages of encouragement and support. They give me the incentive to carry on with this project. To my editorial board, writers and readers, I say thank you very much.

Finally, we were saddened last summer by the death of our beloved poet and philosopher Erica Warburton. I am dedicating this volume to her memory.

The Editor