

Editorial

It is with a tinge of sadness that we write this final column as co-editors of the *Journal of Pelvic, Obstetric and Gynaecological Physiotherapy (JPOGP)*, formerly the *Journal of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Women's Health*. When our journey started in September 2012, editing was a completely unknown quantity to us both, so we approached it with some trepidation, but plenty of enthusiasm.

It was a baptism of fire for us: we realized that we had to secure promises of articles from all those who were presenting at the Annual Conference, and we spent all our free time chasing after the speakers! Amanda subsequently took this on as part of her role, and now has an excellent system in place whereby she contacts speakers before Conference and backs this up in person on the day. We hope that this approach will be easily picked up and continued by the next editor.

As our roles developed, Wendy began to oversee the peer review process. This involves sending submitted articles to reviewers, and liaising with the authors until the articles are accepted for publication. We have both had a steep learning curve where editing articles is concerned, and a lot of our time has been spent working on submissions, particularly the references, to make these suitable for publication.

Throughout the whole process, we have been guided and assisted by our managing editor, Andrew Wilson, who has been an absolute rock for us. Andrew has a wealth of knowledge about editing and journalism, and he always has a solution for our problems and queries. We will be eternally grateful to him for his expertise and patience.

Looking back at the contents of the journals that we have edited, the diversity of research being done by our members is astounding. Please keep sending in your work because this is what makes *JPOGP* stand out so much from its peers.

Also during our editorship, we have seen the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Women's Health become Pelvic, Obstetric and Gynaecological Physiotherapy, which we believe

is a much more descriptive title for the variety of areas we now cover in our practice.

With regard to the Journal Subcommittee (JSC) itself, our website presence has evolved with the addition of the extended online content (EOC), which we regard as a more accurate description of this material. Here, the membership can catch up with what it has not been possible to include in the journal, but is nonetheless worthy of publication. We have reinstated book and product reviews in the journal, and created the position of reviews editor to coordinate this section.

It has been very fulfilling to be part of the JSC. The committee members are all conscientious and dedicated individuals who have been extremely supportive and hard working. Meetings have been friendly and productive, and we have all striven to continue the development of the journal and the EOC.

Our only disappointment is that we have been unable to recruit an assistant editor to work with the team. We hope that this editorial has given a flavour of what working on the JSC involves and how rewarding it can be, and we appeal to any of you who may be inspired to try your hand at editing to get in touch. We will all be at Conference in September, so please make yourselves known to one of us if you are there, or alternatively, write to us (e-mail: wrarity@hotmail.co.uk, amandasavagephysiotherapy@gmail.com and shirley.bustard@nhs.net). You will be given first-rate support and guidance along the way. To paraphrase Lord Kitchener, "Your journal needs you"!

To our successor, Shirley Bustard, we extend our best wishes. We are sure that she will gain a valuable new set of skills as editor, and she can rest assured in the knowledge that she has an excellent committee working with her.

And so it only remains to say that we look forward with interest to following the continuing development of *JPOGP*, and thank the members of the JSC for all their support and hard work, and wish them all well for the future.

Amanda Savage & Wendy Rarity

Copy deadlines

Copy for the Spring and Autumn 2016 editions of the journal (Nos 118 and 119) must be submitted to the editor by **10 September 2015** and **18 March 2016**, respectively. Please note that academic and clinical articles must be received well before the deadline since time must be allowed so that these can be peer-reviewed. Manuscripts should be presented **double-spaced** with a wide margin, and adhere to the author's guidelines found on pp. 64–66 and on the POGP website (<http://pogp.csp.org.uk/documents/acpwh-journal-writing-guidelines>). Articles for consideration should be sent to Ms Shirley Bustard, Physiotherapy Department, University Hospital of North Durham, North Road, Durham DH1 5TW, UK.