

## Important notice for members from your executive committee

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### Current financial climate

You will, undoubtedly, be aware of the credit crunch that is affecting all aspects of the economy. Unfortunately, ACPWH is not exempt and there are ongoing implications for the running costs of our organization. In order to pre-empt financial difficulties for the Association in the future, prudent housekeeping is essential. It is necessary for us to curtail our activities, and to that end, we are exploring ways of cutting costs or generating income with regard to our leaflets, the *Journal*, workshops and administration (via Fitwise). We will report back any developments or solutions as these arise.

### How might this affect you as a member?

There are two factors to be considered:

- (1) As discussed at the 2008 Annual General Meeting, there was a 4% increase in annual subscriptions, in line with rising costs, as of February 2009. We anticipate that the imminent introduction of the Direct Debit (DD) system may cause temporary financial disruption.
- (2) You will also be receiving much more information by e-mail and through the ACPWH website, with some information that is normally found in the *Journal* now being posted regularly online.

### How can you help us?

There are three things that you can do:

- (1) The DD method of collecting subscriptions has been shown to be a more efficient and cost-effective process. You should have received, or soon will receive, information from Rapidata Services, and we hope that you will follow the instructions. Please also remember to cancel your standing order! Signing up to the DD method is vitally important and each reminder costs us money. If you have any queries or want to pay by another method, then please contact the ACPWH treasurer ([doreen.mcclurg@gcal.ac.uk](mailto:doreen.mcclurg@gcal.ac.uk)).
- (2) You will also see that this *Journal* is a slimmer edition than usual. Some of the information that is normally included in each issue has been posted on the website and we have focused on the clinical content. Please note the inclusion of a questionnaire asking for your opinion about the future format of *JACPWH* (p. 43). Please, *do respond to this* – we want to make the right decision for you, the members.
- (3) We will be using the website increasingly to correspond with and provide information to members ([www.acpwh.org.uk](http://www.acpwh.org.uk)). Therefore, it is important that we have an up-to-date e-mail address for you and that all of you access the website frequently.

**Executive committee**