# INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

#### Introduction

As Secretary of the International Organization of Physical Therapists in Women's Health (IOPTWH), I continue to deal with a range of correspondence from members and non-members alike.

## Friends of IOPTWH

I recently met a UK physiotherapist who works in Singapore and was able to put her in contact with another women's health clinician who is also employed there. I hope to meet up with them both at the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) World Physical Therapy Congress in Singapore in 2015.

The number of physiotherapists in India who have contacted me continues to increase. I am hopeful that they will continue to network with each other and can develop a more formal national group in the future.

Most recently, I have been contacted by a physiotherapist in Iran, and have been able to put her in touch with an IOPTWH member who has agreed to offer her support by e-mail.

If you know of any women's health physiotherapists in non-IOPTWH-member countries, then do ask them to contact me if they are interested in Friend status (e-mail: gill.brook@lineone.net).

#### Website

#### Mobile platform

The Organization's web pages have now been configured so that you can view these from your mobile device. Enter "ioptwh.com" (without quotes) into your phone browser to navigate the website.

#### Website coordinator - could this be you?

The Executive Committee is still looking to appoint a website coordinator from within our membership to take the lead in monitoring,

managing and developing the Organization's website. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please e-mail me (see the address above). I will be happy to discuss it further with you, as well as offer you support if you decide to take the position. Think how good this would look on your CV! You would also be supporting the work of the IOPTWH and women's health physiotherapists world-wide.

We anticipate that the average time commitment would be about one hour per week, and the role would be suitable for two people, if you would like to job-share.

#### Website sponsors

The Executive Committee is also seeking sponsors and advertisers for the website. Can you suggest any companies that we might approach? We have submitted some names to the website managers, but others would be appreciated and can be e-mailed to me (see above). With a world-wide audience of specialist physiotherapists, this should be an attractive prospect for appropriate companies.

### **Newsletter**

The IOPTWH produces a newsletter twice a year, and both the current edition and past issues are freely accessible on the website (IOPTWH 2012). The focus of the current edition is the role of physical therapy in sexual health, and it includes an interview with Israeli IOPTWH delegate Talli Rosenbaum. Talli is a sex therapist and internationally recognized expert on the role of combined physical therapy and sex therapy in the treatment of sexual pain disorders. There are also contributions from clinicians from a range of other countries. The *IOPTWH Newsletter* is always well worth a read.

# **IOPTWH Conference in Boston in 2013**

The next IOPTWH Conference will take place in Boston, MA, USA, on the weekend of 26–28

April 2013. Registration is now open for this joint meeting with the International Organization of Physical Therapists working with Older People (IOPTOP), another official subgroup of the WCPT. See the advert elsewhere in this edition of the *Journal* (pp. 65–66) and the Organization's website (http://www.ioptwh.org) for further details.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you would like further information about

the IOPTWH, or have any comments or suggestions.

Gill Brook

IOPTWH Secretary

#### Reference

International Organization of Physical Therapists in Women's Health (IOPTWH) (2012) *Member Newsletter*. [WWW document.] URL http://www.ioptwh.org/publications/newsletters/index.cfm