

# " The old order changeth, yielding place to new"

Tennyson 1809-1892

**A**s this will be the final edition of the Journal that I will edit, I would like to thank the few stalwarts who supported me while at the helm. These are the regular referees who were acknowledged in the Journal, members of the Editorial Board, especially Sheena Irwin-Carruthers and Sielie Eales, who later took on the task of Scientific Editor, and Lo-An Roux, who patiently typed the Journal with improved visual impact over the years. I have enjoyed the six years that I spent with the Journal but did not achieve all the goals that were set in 1992. One of these was a desire for a two-way communication with members of the SASP but over the years I only received three letters addressed to the Journal. The first was a blast from a young academic who slated the Journal as being unscientific and the second was a response to this letter supporting the publication from across our border. The third letter is published in this edition and I am grateful to Dr Hannah Reeve Saunders who has always been a champion of Physiotherapy. Although we have made many changes and, I believe, improvements to the Journal, none of these were recognised by my peers.

## POTTED HISTORY

*" Be not the first by whom the new are tried - Nor yet the last to lay the old aside "* Pope 1688-1744

Our Journal was first published in June 1929 due to the efforts of Anne Hodges. She was followed by G Schermbruck and J MacFarlane

who changed the name of the publication to *Physiotherapy* in 1948 and in 1954 it became the *SA Journal of Physiotherapy*. While Lois Dyer was at the helm a letter was published by Jean Blair in 1955 stressing that ways had to be found to stimulate interest and enthusiasm among readers to share ideas and knowledge. What has changed since then? The next Editor was Elizabeth Botting who ran the Journal for 17 years before handing over to Narina Gilder and later Lyn Davids. Through Medical Distributors, Lyn established a research prize in the hope of stimulating research and encouraging writing for the Journal. The award was not made in 1993 due to lack of worthy research articles but in 1995 Sielie Eales and Magda Senekal were awarded the prize for their article titled " Optimal Physiotherapy in Stab Wounds of the Chest" which was published in May 1994.

A sub-committee was formed in 1995 to investigate ways of soliciting articles and improving the standard of the Journal. Until the recommendations from the sub-committee were finalised, no meetings of the Editorial Board were held. It will be up to the new editorial Board, to be convened by the new Editor, to choose the best research articles for 1995 and 1996.

## INTERNATIONAL PHYSIOTHERAPY CONGRESS

Congratulations to the Western Cape for organising a very interesting and informative congress programme. The 400 delegates repre-

senting 22 countries were impressed by the excellence of the plenary sessions, the variety of the workshops to cater for all interests, the clockwise precision of the proceedings and the fine social fare. Well done Pat Bowerbank, Sheena Irwin-Carruthers and all the working committees. Hopefully the Journal will be able to publish some of the papers given by local and overseas speakers. However the proceedings were printed and made available during the last day of Congress, for which the organisers are to be congratulated. The profession has gone far since the first Physiotherapy Conference was held in 1924 and it is comforting to realise that the work of the early pioneers is being carried on with enthusiasm and dedication by the new volunteers who will take us into the next millennium. Many changes have been made in our profession, in our Society and in our Journal and I was glad to be part of this growth. I lay down the reins with some sadness but wish my successor well and I am sure our Journal will go from strength to strength with the assistance from all our members.

JO BEENHAKKER

*" Leaving the old, both worlds  
at once they view that stand  
upon the threshold of the new "*

Waller 1606-1687