

Editorial

It is a privilege to have been asked to edit the revived *Darlington Postgraduate Journal* – with a new inclusive name. The editorial board discussed the name at some length, but in the end opted for *The Darlington and County Durham Medical Journal*. We have deliberately chosen to reverse the order of the Trust's official name to reflect the historical debt we owe to *The Darlington Postgraduate Journal*. But we agreed to drop the word Postgraduate. We have many undergraduates in our hospitals now – medical, nursing and allied professions - and we hope that many of them will feel led to contribute to future editions of the Journal.

Privilege brings responsibility, and I am aware – as are all the editorial board – of the responsibility we have to produce an attractive and medically relevant journal. We do not pretend to be *Nature* or *The New England Journal of Medicine* but we do hope to be more than just an in-house magazine. The *Journal* should contain articles not just of interest locally, but also of real scientific value. I trust you will agree after reading the first edition that it does.

I feel that my own contribution to the *Journal* has been modest – others have done much. I have been ably supported by the editorial board in recent months as we have tried to make a reality of what at first seemed a rather pious idea, and I must thank them all. In addition I must thank Sheena Richardson and Phil Neely in the Medical Illustration Department in Darlington who have made a tremendous job of actually pulling everything together and producing the professional-looking finished article that you now hold in your hands.

Producing a first edition is one thing, but we hope that the Journal will be an important feature of medical life in the region in years to come. We anticipate publishing twice a year ... but this depends on you being aware of what others might like to read and sending it to us. The *Journal* is yours – use it and enjoy it.