

Editorial

Liz Frost and Helen Lucey

At last a new edition of *The Journal of Psychosocial Studies*...

Even though it needs to be acknowledged that the interval between this and the last volume has been somewhat extended, this current edition can announce improvements in the position, structure and editorial personnel of the Journal, all of which should guarantee far more, and more regular, publication and a greater presence in the market. One of the most significant changes has been the formal adoption of the JPSS by the Association for Psychosocial Studies as *the Journal of the Association*. This seems a good move all round.

It is beneficial to the APS to have its own journal, for raising the profile and the status of the Association and its membership. It can be used for specifics, for example promoting APS events, and the annual conference and is part of a consistent drive towards increasing the visibility and the membership of the APS. We believe that the Association and the Journal will both benefit from seeing the Journal as integral to the APS (and vice versa), and of the process of sharing interests that follow from this. It is also useful for APS members generally, because it offers a space to publish, with expert reviewers' feed-back, and it is intended that the Journal Editorship will offer 'how to write for publication' sessions at annual conferences and any other appropriate events the APS devise. For the Journal, having a presence on the APS website provides consistency, and an appropriate and expected place for anyone interested in psychosocial studies to locate the Journal to search or browse its original psychosocial papers.

The second significant change for the journal is that Helen Lucey has stepped down from her role as co-editor after six years of hard work. This was a difficult decision for her to make, as the editorial partnership has been a great experience – intellectually stimulating, with much laughter and many glasses of wine. But Helen left her academic post in 2015 to concentrate on training as a homeopath and now that she's about to qualify, she wants to focus her energies on building a clinical practice. She hasn't left the journal altogether though – she'll continue to make a significant contribution as a board member. We warmly welcome David

Jones as new co-editor. At the same time, we have established an active and enthusiastic editorial board with 4 new members who we'd also like to welcome:

Prof Candy Yates, Bournemouth University

Dr Claudia Lapping, UCL Institute of Education

Dr Caroline Pelletier, UCL Institute of Education

Dr Ali Roy, UCLAN

With the APS's support we have the resources to generate policy and strategy from within this group, to 'grow' the journal and its importance to UK psychosocial studies scholarship and practice. Additionally, JPSS has been building significant connections with European and US psychosocial scholars and there are plans for the near future to produce special editions of the Journal on specific North American and European traditions and developments in the field. We are also working with Policy Press in Bristol, toward possible adoption of the JPSS by their company.

If you want to get involved with JPSS – and interest is always welcome - e-mail Liz:

Elizabeth.Frost@uwe.ac.uk. Do also remember to send your psychosocial papers or offers of editing special editions on themes that interest you. Ideas and new work are always needed.

All the board hope you enjoy this new edition. The papers are exciting, varied and multi-themed. We are delighted to have attracted such vibrant work. We hope these papers stimulate your ideas in the way they did ours. Feed-back is welcome.

Liz Frost (Co-Editor) and Helen Lucey