From the Future Editor-in-Chief

The new Millennium has seen the Journal go from strength to strength, and I’d like to pay tribute to Fran Reader, who has worked so hard to bring it where it is today. It has changed its name, from the British Journal of Family Planning, to the Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care, in order to reflect a wider scope and readership. It is included on MEDLINE and has a circulation in excess of 11,000 a year. Fran has developed an editorial team, moved the Journal to a commercial publisher and into electronic publication.

There are several areas that I see as being important for the further evolution of the Journal. My major task in the long term is to acquire a citation index for the Journal. Journals with a high ‘impact factor’ (e.g. New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet) are those to which researchers choose to send their best papers. I want our Journal to be up there.

However, I am also conscious that there is a continual conflict between academia and the ‘real world’. I hope that we can publish papers and articles that, while academically excellent, will still be relevant to the everyday clinic setting.

I would like to encourage a greater exchange of ideas internationally. The growth of our ‘electronic’ Journal will facilitate a wider readership and I hope will result in more submissions from outside the UK. I am also interested in the views of our clients and allied health professionals. I hope we can provide a forum for discussion that will allow us to gain insights into each other’s views and experiences, and enhance safe and effective contraceptive and reproductive health practices.

Anne Szarewski, PhD, MFFP
Future Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care

Faces behind the Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care

Anne Szarewski, MBBS, DRCOG, PhD, MFFP (Editor-in-Chief, August 2003 onwards)

Anne Szarewski has two concurrent posts: Clinical Consultant in the Department of Epidemiology, Mathematics and Statistics at Cancer Research UK, London and Senior Clinical Medical Officer in Family Planning at the Margaret Pyke Centre, London. She has worked in family planning and reproductive health care for 17 years, with special interests in hormonal contraception and cervical screening/colposcopy.

Prior to taking up the editorship, she has been a Member Representative on the Council of the Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care and a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal. She has a long-standing interest in education (both of health professionals and the lay public), has been Convenor of the Critical Reading Question for the MFFP, and a peer reviewer for several journals. Anne has numerous publications, both scientific and more general, including books on contraception and cervical smears aimed primarily at the lay reader. Her research publications include studies of cytology screening techniques, the effects of smoking cessation on cervical lesions and a number of studies assessing aspects of HPV testing.

Kate Weaver, MB ChB, BSc (Trainee Editor, January–July 2003)

Kate Weaver is a Staff Grade Doctor in Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care at Dean Terrace Family Planning and Well Woman Clinic in Edinburgh. She has special interests in colposcopy and in contraceptive implants and is widely involved in research, education and publishing. She has recently completed the FFPRHC’s Career Grade Training and passed her MFFP examinations.

P S Arunakumari, MD, MRCOG (Trainee Editor, August 2003 onwards)

P S Arunakumari is a specialist registrar in obstetrics and gynaecology. Her field of special interest is reproductive health care and, in particular, contraception. She holds postgraduate degrees from India (MD) and the UK (MRCOG). Her MD dissertation was on a cervical screening programme in rural India. She is currently in the final stages of completing her MFFP.