

# Editorial

Linda Dowdney's 6-year term as an Editor of *Child Psychology & Psychiatry Review* has come to an end, and she is stepping down. As her co-editor, I would like to pay tribute to her unstinting work. Linda became co-editor by joining Jonathan Hill at the end of 1992, taking over from Barbara Maughan. At that time the old *ACPP Review & Newsletter* appeared six times a year. However, it soon became obvious that it was worthwhile re-styling and upgrading the *ACPP Review & Newsletter* to a peer-reviewed journal, so Linda and Jonathan planned this together with the Council of the ACPP. Progress was slow, but finally in 1995 all was agreed. Jonathan Hill withdrew in 1995 and I took his place.

At this time most of the work of planning the new-style *Review* had been done, and I was grateful to be able to concentrate on how to get on with the editing task. In this, Linda has been a splendid teacher. She has a very wide knowledge of child and adolescent mental health, having worked for many years in front-line general clinics. However, over and above this, she brings a rigorous methodological eye to all papers. This eye is not overly dismissive or critical, for Linda has written many high-quality data-based papers herself. These range from devising incredibly sophisticated direct observation systems that code the interaction between young children and their parents, to broad-brush works on service delivery. In between these extremes she has researched and written about such diverse areas as bereavement and

statistical methodology. Despite all this disciplined creative energy to publish, and busy clinical jobs, Linda always found time to bring on junior authors. I have known her spend hours and hours helping to clarify the message of a novice author writing a first paper, thereby turning a fledging effort into a really useful piece of work. Although Linda stopped editing new submissions in August 1999, papers she has worked on will appear over the next year.

Linda has indeed earned a rest from the editing task, but I suspect that in her current post as Director of the Clinical Psychology doctoral course at the University of Surrey, she will not have much spare time. All of us at ACPP will miss her terrific professionalism and contribution to the *Review*.

I would now like to welcome Orlee Udwin from August 1999 as my new co-editor. Orlee runs a busy clinical psychology service for children and adolescents in Lambeth, South London. Despite this demanding job, she has published several important papers, and has a particular interest in behavioural phenotypes. She has recently co-founded the London and SE Branch of the ACPP. We look forward to the sharpness of intellect and wide clinical and managerial experience she will bring to her new editorial role.

*Stephen Scott*