

EDITOR'S LETTER

I would like to start this editorial by thanking Mark Radford for the superb work he has done with the British Journal of Anaesthetic and Recovery Nursing. It is due to him that the journal looks so professional. It is now a journal which BARNA members can be proud of. It is a journal, which can aid anaesthetic and recovery nurses in moving forward into the 21st century. Mark was instrumental in putting the journal on the British Nursing Index. He is very IT literate [a skill I do not have!] and these skills are very obvious within the journal.

Mark remains a committee member and has supported me during the painful publication of the previous two issues. I know the committee members would like to join me in thanking Mark and appreciate his continuing contribution to BARNA.

So now the journal has a new editor. So I thought I would tell you a bit about myself. Currently I am a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences, Kingston University and St George's Hospital Medical School, [pew what a mouthful!]. I lecture primarily in anaesthetics, recovery and day surgery. I am responsible for the ENB 182 – Anaesthetic nursing, ENB A94 – Recovery nursing, ENB A21 – Day Surgery nursing and ENB176 Operating Department nursing courses run within the Faculty.

When I first came into post the only course I ran was the ENB 182. I knew from personal experience that the ENB 182 did not fulfil the needs of all nurses working within the theatre environment. There was a course for the scrub nurse there was a course for the nurse who wanted to work in the anaesthetic room but where was the course for the nurse who worked in recovery?

I approached the ENB to see about validating such a course and got a negative response. So I had no alternative but to set up a course. This took the form of five study days at the end of which the participants were awarded a certificate of attendance. The course ran four times a year and we were inundated with applications. Eventually after a lot of hard work I got the ENB A94 validated

and I am now running the third course. The other recovery course is still running but it has changed slightly. It is now four days still with a certificate of attendance and is popular with new staff joining the recovery area. [For more in-depth information about education in post anaesthesia nursing read my article in this issue]

My clinical background is mainly in Recovery and Anaesthetics and I love the subject with a passion. I think my students think I am a bit sad!

I am looking forward to editing the journal and have incorporated some of my ideas into the last issue. If you would like to air your views about anything in the journal I would like to start a letters page. If you would like some information we could print your letter and see whether other members could help you, or if you are just doing something in your workplace you are proud of write in and tell me.

There will be a spot for the link membership scheme in each issue where our new link person Tony Boreham will tell you about what is happening within the scheme.

If you have anything that you wish to see within the journal please write to me and tell me and I will do my best to accommodate your suggestions. Remember this is your journal. It is your forum to promote anaesthetic and recovery nursing.

If you would like to write something for the journal we always welcome articles. We particularly like articles on clinical subjects related to anaesthetics and recovery. My plan to get the journal more clinically focussed.

Finally remember that BARNA has two events this year for you to look forward to. First the study day in March, and then the conference in June. Both events will be fantastic and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

I anticipate a successful year for BARNA.
Best wishes

Melanie Oakley

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