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# EDITORIAL

The idea of a Journal of the Association is not a new one. In a newsletter going back ten years there is mention of the possibility and of the advisability of such a publication. That it has finally come into form is an occasion for us to mark and indeed, to celebrate.

We should mark this for a number of reasons.

– The Association is now of a size that can sustain a publication, and in fact needs such a forum. Our original philosophy to do with association, that members be visible with their practice of psychotherapy to each other and that this be done at conferences, can no longer be adequately realised. We are too many for this now. We need other ways of fulfilling the spirit of this philosophy. This publication is a logical and professional means of providing one of these ways.

– There are no comparable outlets for creative professional output in New Zealand. Those writing have had to go to journals and newsletters overseas in order to be published. This will still continue. But with the choice now available to publish locally, there is the possibility to begin to observe more closely the development of a New Zealand expression of psychotherapy, one that has the potential to increasingly reflect the conscious and unconscious processes of weaving the threads of our culture.

– There is a wealth of writing being done within the Association. The vein of creativity has not been difficult to tap, now that there is a place for it to be published. It deserves to have its expression.

The articles in this, the first volume, reflect something of the spirit of the development of psychotherapy in New Zealand, which has been somewhat singular in the world for its inclusive nature in a field of professional endeavour more noted for its tendency to fragment. So these articles cover a range of topics and interests. For an inaugural volume it may be said there are some interesting absences. Not all our cultural strands are by any means represented here. Yet this is the first volume, and needs to be celebrated for its inception and the possibilities it thereby opens up for the future.

And finally, it is being called the Forum of the Association, an opportunity to put forward views, to discuss and to debate. I trust then, that it will be responded to, as well as read.

**Peter Hubbard**  
Editor

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