


## POSTSCRIPT

### End(ing) words

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As this is my last issue of *Psychotherapy and Politics International* as the editor (2012–2021) and as a co-editor (2022), David and Karen have suggested that I write a few words.

Firstly, I would like to thank Nick Totton, my predecessor as editor (2003–2011), and Andrew Samuels, consulting editor, for their faith in me being able to take up the editorial task. Although there have been times over the past 11 years when I have cursed them for inviting me to take on the role—and myself for having agreed!—mostly, I have enjoyed it, though I have felt both its privilege and responsibility. Secondly, I would also like to thank my university, Auckland University of Technology (AUT), and especially the School of Public Health & Psychosocial Studies, which, between 2012 and 2019, supported me specifically in having some editorial assistance, to wit, I want to acknowledge and thank Karen Begg, Leah Royden, Dr Shoba Nayar, and Angie Strachan for their fine editing skills, patience with and facilitation of colleagues submitting and reviewing articles—and, of course, with and of me! Finally, I would like to thank my partner, Louise Embleton Tudor, for her unwavering support of me and the journal, which has included stepping in and undertaking reviews, sometimes at the eleventh hour—tēnā koe e hoa rangatira, thank you, my friend, comrade, partner, and wife.

In my time as editor, I have edited and/or overseen the production of 34 issues of the journal. I introduced special, themed issues, of which, there have been 12—issues 10(2), 11(1), 12(1), 12(3), 14(1), 14(2), 15(3), 16(2), 17(3), 18(2), 18(3), and 19(3)—five of which I co-edited with colleagues (David Pavón Cuéllar, Teresa von Sommaruga Howard, Jonathan Fay, Brian Rogers, and Bill Cornell), and three of which were edited by trusted colleagues (Nick Totton, Deborah Lee, and David Pavón Cuéllar), to all of whom I am most grateful. In addition to the usual peer-reviewed articles, the journal has always published a number of other types of articles such as book reviews, and “Notes From the Front Line”, which under my editorship, has been ably curated first by Deborah Lee and, more recently, by Karen Minikin. I have encouraged this diversity firstly, by expanding Reviews to include reviews of art, film, and theatre, and, secondly, by introducing sections on Art & Poetry (currently curated by

Gottfried Heuer), Controversial Discussions (currently curated by David Pavón Cuéllar), and Talks, i.e., previously unpublished talks given by colleagues in the field. I have also encouraged diversity by expanding the Editorial Board to include more people from different countries (other than the UK and the USA), and cultures, an expansion that is also reflected in the more diverse identities of the contributors in the past 11 years, something I know that both Nick and Andrew were keen for me to initiate and foster.

With regard to the standing of the journal, we had a big breakthrough in 2016 when we heard that, after some years of lobbying, *PPI* had been accepted for inclusion in Scopus. Scopus is a bibliographic database containing abstracts and citations for academic journal articles, which covers nearly 22,000 titles from over 5,000 publishers. The journal was evaluated for inclusion in Scopus by an independent Content Selection & Advisory Board, comments from which included the following:

The editor and editorial board are internationally diverse and of good standing in this rather limited field. Although the field of study represents a somewhat narrow niche and, in spite of the fact that the journal publishes a limited number of articles per year, this publication is well cited in the literature. Thus, it must be providing an important outlet for studies on psychotherapy and politics.... We wish the publisher and editors continued success.

Despite being a relatively small, bespoke journal, representing a narrow—but nonetheless, important—niche in the field and discipline of psychotherapy, and (in my case), being mostly edited in and from a garage in West Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, the journal, to use a boxing metaphor, punches above its weight—and I am proud of that.

I am also pleased to have seen the journal through to its 20th anniversary, with regard to which, I am working with a colleague on a document analysis of all the contributions to *PPI* over the past 20 years, an article which we plan to submit to the journal next year. I am also working with Nick Totton on an edited book—or books—comprising key articles from the past 20 years of the journal.

Notwithstanding all the work, the milestones, and these successes, I regret not having engaged more with the Editorial Advisory Board I inherited, some of whom have been engaged and supportive, and with others of whom I have had little or no contact; and with the Associate Editors as a group, though, by and large and individually, they have been supportive and active.

I had always intended to step down as editor at the end of 2021. However, at the end of 2020, the journal received notice from Wiley that it would cease publishing the journal as of 31st December 2021, and so, after consulting with Andrew and Nick, I agreed to stay on for another year. So, in addition to ensuring the production of the journal, 2021 was a busy year of negotiations involving Wiley; other publishers; Psychotherapists & Counsellors for Social Responsibility (which had originally supported *PPI* as its society journal); the Black, African and Asian Therapy Network (BAATN) (<https://www.baatn.org.uk/>); and Tuwhera Open Access Publishing (<https://tuwhera.aut.ac.nz>). In the end, I was—and am—delighted:

1. That BAATN agreed to take over the formal ownership of the journal and responsibility to employ the Editorial Assistant (Angie) on an annual, renewable basis. In this, I was—and am—particularly grateful to Eugene Ellis, Founder and Director of the BAATN, and Rotimi Akinsete, a member of its Leadership and Advisory Team, for their involvement in this process.

2. That Karen Minikin and David Pavón Cuéllar agreed to step up from being Associate Editors to join me as Co-Editors of the journal for this year—and, for them, beyond this year.
3. That Tuwhera Open Access Publishing at AUT agreed to add *PPI* to the publications it hosts (see <https://tuwhera.aut.ac.nz/publications>). In this, I am grateful to Luqman Hayes and Donna Coventry for their ongoing facilitation of this—and, as ever, to Angie Strachan for working with these colleagues.
4. That other Associate Editors (Neil Altman, Gottfried Heuer, Deborah Lee, and Augustine Nwoye) agreed to join the Editorial Board, and that other colleagues (Rotimi Akinsete, Gávi Ansara, Divine Charura, and Eugene Ellis) agreed to join a new, streamlined Editorial Board.

Tēnā koutou katoa—thanks to all.

Finally, I have agreed—with David, Karen, and BAATN—to take up from Andrew and Nick, the lighter role of Consulting Editor. In this capacity, I look forward to contributing what I can to the journal, and especially to supporting the new Editorial Team, though, from now on, more occasionally. As I step down from my roles with *PPI*, initially as a member of the Editorial Board (2003–2009), then as an Associate Editor (2010–2011), and more recently as Editor (2012–2021) and Co-Editor (2022), I wish all associated with the journal—and, of course, the journal itself, *tante buone cose*—all good things. *Nunc dimittis*.



A view of the Manukau Harbour from Ruatuna/Laingholm, Auckland (Photo: Keith Tudor).