Editing the Australian Journal of Primary Health from its inception in 1995 has been a most engaging and enjoyable experience. As this is “my” last issue as editor, I would like to move beyond the academic constraints and formality of editing to recognise some of this experience.

It is difficult to place a priority on any one of these, but certainly in chronological terms, the exciting and sometimes excitable meetings between the representatives of the Victorian Community Health Association (VCHA) and the (now) School of Public Health, La Trobe University, were something that is perhaps impossible to recreate. They were good fun and the ideas and enthusiasm bore fruit. We are now in our eighth year.

The different sections of the Journal have remained as something unique. It is notoriously difficult to combine in one journal, research articles and papers about innovative programs, professional practice, and practical interventions, in our case in primary health care. I believe that we have succeeded very well and this issue is no exception. Others might disagree. All articles are reviewed and we have maintained this approach from inception.

I forget who it was who said “and the money kept rolling in”, but it was probably in Evita. Unfortunately, subscriptions are always a difficult area for journals and we always need more to maintain quality. If you wish to continue to receive and publish in the Journal, please subscribe now.

Perhaps unlike subscriptions, the papers for the Journal have gone from strength to strength. I have enjoyed so much too my relationship with the authors and reviewers. What would we do without them? There would be no Journal. I am always amazed at the forbearance, goodwill, and willingness of authors to respond to all our demands under very tight schedules, theirs and ours.

I shall miss very much all of this friendly interaction. I have too been very fortunate in all the people who have worked on the Journal from its inception until today, including administrative and editorial assistants, typesetters, and printers. They have been and are loyal, hardworking, and insightful.

Thank you to you all and go well into the future.

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