

EDITORIAL

The launch of a new journal is an exciting venture and it is appropriate that the first edition of the Lancaster and Westmorland Medical Journal should appear in the first month of a new decade. This journal will complement and extend out local programme of postgraduate education. It will carry articles which are of special relevance to those who practise in this area. There is a great deal of important information concerning local medical practice, local organisation, local facilities, local research and local programmes of disease prevention which cannot be found in standard textbooks or national journals. This information is often presented in lectures at the Postgraduate Medical Centre, but only to a minority of local doctors. The journal will make the information available to all.

The title of the journal has been chosen to reflect the fact that the Lancaster and Kendal hospitals and the communities they serve have a closely integrated

medical service and a common postgraduate education programme. This has survived even though the area now straddles a regional boundary. Some aspects of medical organisation, however, are different in the two regions and this will be reflected in the published articles.

The success of any journal depends on a steady flow of well-written, interesting and informative articles. My experience as Postgraduate Tutor in this district over four years has convinced me that there is enough local talent to sustain the flow and I am confident of success. Those who are concerned about the information explosion in medicine will have to find something else to cut, the Lancaster and Westmorland Medical Journal will be essential reading.

J. A. MORRIS
Editor

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