

Thanks and farewell to Christine Bishop

During the past 20 years our Publisher and Managing Editor Christine Bishop has been at the forefront of neonatal journal publishing but now, sadly, she has decided the time has come for a well-earned retirement.



Christine was instrumental in the formation and establishment of the *Journal of Neonatal Nursing* (JNN) on behalf of the Neonatal Nurses Association back in 1994, working closely with the Nursing Editor and neonatal nursing luminary Barbara Weller. She applied her previous experience in adult intensive care publishing and also as editor of *You and Your Baby* magazine to great effect, and

quickly devised a winning formula for the JNN with a variety of articles, the innovative 'Step by Step' guides and the essential 'Grapevine' with diary dates and career opportunities.

When JNN moved to another publisher in 2004, Christine identified the need for a multidisciplinary journal covering the whole of the first year of life, and created the highly popular *Infant* journal that you are reading today. Under her guidance *Infant* has built up a loyal subscriber base, and continues to innovate in bringing features and articles of real practical relevance to neonatal healthcare professionals around the UK and throughout the world.

There have been many developments in neonatology during these two decades, but Christine points particularly to the establishment, and later decline, of neonatal networks; the continuing move from mechanical to non-invasive ventilation; the rise of developmental care and of family-centred care.

Over the years, Christine has worked closely with all of our Nursing and Medical Editors: Barbara Weller, Claire Greig, Anne Greenough, Anthony Emmerson and, more recently, Michele Upton and Nicholas Embleton; the *Infant* Editorial Board; and the many authors who have taken the time to write for the journal. Their hard work and support have produced the high-calibre articles that *Infant* is known for today. Christine says she feels privileged to have had the opportunity to work with neonatal staff whom she describes as: "A very friendly group of professionals who work hard and care deeply for the infants in their charge".

Many readers will know Christine from her regular attendance at major neonatal conferences around the UK including: REaSoN,



Christine (far right) with the Stansted News *You and Your Baby* team in 1994.



Christine (left) at the Innovating for Life Awards ceremony in 2012.

Christine and current *Infant* Editor Lisa.



What Next?, Trouble-up-North and the Scottish Neonatal Nurses Group (SNNG) meeting. Her

tireless networking has helped forge close ties with authors, readers and important neonatal organisations. Through Christine, the journal has built up close working relationships with BAPM, the European Society of Paediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care, the Paediatric Intensive Care Society, SNNG and BLISS, the premature baby charity. In addition, Christine has liaised with the companies working in this area to produce new product features, 'Advances in Practice' guides and supplements and the Innovating for Life Awards, a joint initiative between *Infant* journal and the *British Journal of Midwifery*, sponsored by Cow & Gate.

Rest assured, Christine has laid solid foundations for the future of *Infant*, having guided Lisa Leonard through the role of Assistant Editor for the past two years and now handing over the Editor's reins to her.

It has been a pleasure to work with such a hardworking and committed individual as Christine. As well as her professional input, the whole *Infant* team will greatly miss her cheery presence around the office – we wish her every happiness in what I'm certain will be an active and enjoyable retirement away from the treadmill of publishing deadlines!

David Wright
Publishing Director, *Infant*



Christine in discussion with HRH The Duchess of Gloucester at the third International Conference of Neonatal Nurses, Harrogate, in 1999.