

From the Editor-in-Chief

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL, WE INDUCT Lucio Parenzan into our “Paediatric Cardiology Hall of Fame”. As I indicate in my encomium to Lucio, he has been involved with our Journal since its inception, and I thought it might be of interest if I gave a brief account of the short history of *Cardiology in the Young*. The proposal to create a new journal dealing with congenital cardiac malformations, and with cardiac disease afflicting infants and children, was put to me by Bill Henry early in 1988.¹ After discussions in London and Tokyo, the first of many organising meetings took place at the First World Congress of Paediatric Cardiac Surgery, itself organised by Lucio and held in Bergamo in June, 1988. The congress provided a great opportunity to discuss Bill’s proposal more widely, so whilst in Bergamo, Bill and I met with a small group, including Giancarlo Crupi, Hiromi Kurosawa, Fernando Lucchese, and Anton Becker, to consider their views on the need for a new Journal. All of those present supported the concept, and so we decided to prepare *Cardiology in the Young* for publication, whilst at the same time creating a “World Forum for Paediatric Cardiology”. So as to enlist more general views of World Paediatric Cardiology, we also discussed the issues with Tim Garson and Edgardo Ortiz, and they, too, were encouraging with their response. A further meeting was then held at London’s venerable Athenaeum Club, hosted by Michael Tynan, when the importance of proper peer review was emphasised.¹

The Journal itself first appeared in January of 1991, and was published from Bill Henry’s back kitchen! Bill had scoured the streets of Hong Kong so as to find publishers who would accept the copy prepared by himself, and publish it to highest standards, including free colour illustrations. In preparing the material for publication, Bill was ably assisted by Jose Ferreiro, and attested to the importance of his contribution in his own “last word”.¹ During our initial years, manuscripts were submitted to Giancarlo Crupi in Bergamo, and he was responsible for the editorial decisions, also coordinating papers submitted via Hiromi Kurosawa in Tokyo. Once a paper was accepted, it was sent on to me for editorial changes, and then transmitted to

Bill for preparation for publication. The costs incurred in producing the first volumes of the Journal could not have been met without the generous financial support raised by Lucio and Giancarlo in Bergamo. As the Journal became increasingly successful in terms of manuscripts submitted, it became clear that, first, we could not continue to publish manuscripts in timely fashion when issuing only four fascicles each year, and second that Bill could not continue to meet the demands of preparing a high quality journal in his back kitchen.

Thus, in 1996, we reached agreement with Greenwich Medical Media to edit, prepare, and publish the Journal from London. Since then, we have hosted the Editorial office, while the task of preparing the manuscripts for publication has been in the able hands of Gavin Jamieson. Geoff Nuttall has assumed financial responsibility for the Journal, which is printed to high quality, and with colour illustrations provided free. None of this would have been possible without the initial enthusiasm and support of Lucio Parenzan and Giancarlo Crupi. In addition to this, I owe a further personal debt to Lucio, since as I explain in the “Hall of Fame” article, Lucio made it possible for Giancarlo to spend time with me in London as my first fellow, and still one of the very best fellows I have had the privilege to host. The World Forum itself, after an initial surge of enthusiasm with symposiums organised in Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Manila, has been dormant of late. Another of Lucio’s great successes, however, namely the International Heart School, sprang from a suggestion made to him by the World Forum. All in all, therefore, we owe a great debt to Lucio Parenzan. Those wishing to learn still more about his considerable achievements should turn to pages 551–555, where an account is given of his overall career.

Robert H. Anderson
Editor-in-Chief

Reference

1. Henry GW. From the Founder. *Cardiology in the Young* (Volume 6) – the last word. *Cardiol Young* 1996; 6: 354.