

# CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

**I** find myself in the unique position as Chairman of your organisation and the Editor of your journal, a task that I look forward too, knowing the great wealth of experience and enthusiasm that makes up the committee. From a practical point the Editorial and Chairman's letter will change format slightly to include more guest editorials and comment articles from the world of anaesthesia and recovery. This is an important cross roads for the journal that has continued to embrace a process of change to be challenging and informative, but also be recognised as leading the development of the speciality of anaesthetic and recovery nursing. This will be made much easier with the help of our new President, Professor David Rowbotham who shares the same passions and commitment to developing the organisation and I know that he has already been a great asset to BARNA. Professor David Rowbotham took over from Dr. David Wilkinson who helped stabilise BARNA and give it direction and focus during the last three years and certainly helped foster the credibility of the organisation on a National and International level.

The next three years will see much industry and work in developing the speciality of anaesthetic and recovery nursing, a great deal has already been done and there is much left to do. It appears that the time is right for such development as the 'New' NHS Plan landed on my desk recently. A quick review of the document revealed a unique insight into the NHS as an organisation, the staff who work within it and the patients it cares for.

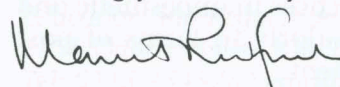
The usual mixture of pioneering developments and the time honoured vote catchers are highlighted within it. Although political comment has been sceptical as to the true altruistic nature of this new investment, it has

been followed by cautious welcome by the staff of the NHS, perhaps this really is the new start the NHS has been waiting for. What particularly caught my eye is the clear message regarding the role of the nurse in this new framework and a large educational fund has been created to facilitate this.

It appears that an opportunity to truly develop the role of future practitioners has arrived, and BARNA will be at the forefront of developments to clarify and support the future of anaesthetic and recovery nursing. BARNA will work with other organisations and agencies to ensure that the speciality of peri-anaesthetic nursing is prominently represented at national level.

I hope that you as a member will be actively involved with the organisation and present your views to the committee so that we may work with you in promoting your speciality.

Wishing you the very best for the coming year.



Mark Radford

Chairman and Editor

