A nd so we come to the end of another year. It’s been a very busy one behind the front door at the Journal. As you may have read earlier in the year, the Journal’s parent company, the Australasian Medical Publishing Company, bought a building in the Sydney CBD, into which we moved in April. We now have a permanent home that is central and easily accessible, and have even had a few authors visit us — it is always a pleasure to put faces to people we otherwise know best by their email address! The move, along with some unexpected alterations in staffing and workload, have kept the pressure high, but our dedicated staff have, as always, responded above and beyond the call of duty. (Thanks everyone!)

Not all moved to our new home. Sadly, we farewelled Senior Assistant Editor Helen Randall to a well-earned retirement. Helen worked for the Journal for 20 years, a tireless warrior against poor language and inadequate science. Her wealth of experience and knowledge, superior editing skills and calm, practical approach to the daily difficulties of a busy publishing house have been sorely missed.

MJA Editor of 13 years, Dr Martin Van Der Weyden, was honoured by the Australian Medical Association this year with the President’s Award “in recognition of his services to The Medical Journal of Australia, to the medical profession, and the AMA”. He also attended the International Committee of Journal Editors’ meeting at the home of the Annals of Internal Medicine in Philadelphia, where these guardians of medical publishing further honed requirements for reporting randomised trials and investigated a more systematic approach to assessing conflict of interest.

Our Indigenous Health (May) and General Practice (July) theme issues are now “part of the furniture”, published at the same time each year. Authors with interests in these areas should mark their diaries now, realising that submission deadlines are about 4 to 5 months beforehand to allow for peer review, revision and preparation for publication. Also continuing are the $5000 Dr Ross Ingram Memorial Prize for the best essay about Indigenous health (this year to Barry Fewquandie, see our 19 May issue) and the $10000 MJA/ Wyeth Prize for the best research article (to Karen Manley and her coauthors, see our 7 July issue).

Although we have freely welcomed all visitors to our virtual home for many years, this year we asked online readers to knock and identify themselves (register) before they could enter. This does not seem to have deterred our guests: about a quarter of a million “unique visitors” access the eMJA each month. Preparations are now being made to follow the more economically viable model of most of the other large biomedical journals: to allow free access to research articles and other material of urgent public health importance only, with other Journal content being available by subscription or individual payments. We will give you further details about changes to the eMJA as soon as they are finalised early next year. Our online bookshop, with almost 2000 items for sale (including brass name plates and anatomical charts), remains popular and will continue to welcome all comers.

A very big thank you to those (listed below) who have reviewed manuscripts for us this year, especially the “super-reviewers” of the Content Review Committee. Your efforts in maintaining the high quality of the science published in the Journal are invaluable. We also greatly appreciate those reviewers who, when too many commitments preclude participation, take time to recommend a suitably qualified colleague instead — this speeds up the reviewing process and enables us to constantly increase our pool of reviewers.

Finally, we thank contributors for entrusting us with your original contributions and, often vigorous, feedback. We hope you have a good summer break, and return to reinvigorate the pages of the Journal in 2009.

Bronwyn Gaut
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Content Review Committee
Craig S Anderson
Leon A Bach
Flavia M Cicuttini
Jennifer J Conn
Gavin Andrews
Jane Young
Jeffrey D Zajac

Reviewers (reviews submitted 01/11/2007 – 31/10/2008)
1202
James A Angus
Zahid Ansari
Bruce K Armstrong
Jennifer A Armstrong
Kylie Armstrong
Carolyn A Arnold
Peter C Arnold
Leonard F Arnolda
Lisa Askie
John J Atherton
John R Attia
Mark S Awerbuch
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Michael A Adena
Karen Adams
Michael A Adena
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Gavin J Becker
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Derrick A Bennett
Jill Bensson
Alan Bensoussan
David I Ben-Tovim
Norbert Berend
Bronwyne Gault
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Manuscripts received 2007–2008

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
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<td>691/1569 (44%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
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<td>Cases</td>
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