



Editorial

Community Dental Health opens its archive of papers to all

Peter Robinson

Readers will have noticed the ways we have been modernising *Community Dental Health* this year.

In March we dispensed with hard copies of the journal, publishing it only online. This change was in line with our subscribers' reading behaviours and minimised our environmental impact by reducing the carbon footprints of printing, of using paper and of postage. Subscribers can now also access papers as soon as they are accepted, ahead of publication. Our newly commissioned reviews digest key topics in dental public health to help busy readers keep up with emerging knowledge. In addition, our move to prioritise systematic reviews, by accelerating peer review and fast-tracking publication ensures subscribers' confidence that they are reading the most up to date evidence in our discipline.

But our most recent move is by far the most exciting. The British Association for the Study of Community Dentistry (the journal's owners), the European Association for Dental Public Health, this is db (our publishers) and the Editorial Board have opened our archive of back papers! From now on, all papers published in the journal from 2006 until three years previously will be freely available to anybody from our website and via direct links from PubMed and other online databases.

This important step is designed to be in keeping with the principle of democratisation of research taking place across academic publishing. Free online access to research outputs greatly facilitates academics' use of evidence and is especially helpful for those in developing countries, whose libraries may not be able to afford numerous subscriptions. On top of that, opening the archive also supports Citizen Science (data collection and analysis by members of the public) and so from our perspective can even be seen as encouraging community participation as an enabling aspect of health promotion!

Opening the archive does not mean free, unrestricted access to all our papers. For the time being, those published before 2006 exist only in paper form, so we plan to create electronic versions to make them available too. We shall also have a moving wall, whereby papers from the previous three years will be available only to subscribers, unless they are published as Open Access (where authors have paid to make their work freely available). At the moment, up to 20% of our papers are Open Access published, making them openly available from our website as soon as they are accepted.

Community Dental Health has published hundreds of hugely important papers in its history. Those papers have contributed enormously to our understanding of population oral health, and many remain just as relevant today as when they were published. We are incredibly excited to be sharing this enormous resource with the world.

Obituary - Jean Jobes

The journal is saddened to announce the death of Ms Jean Jobes, who passed away peacefully on 24th July 2022, aged 95 years. Jean was an administrator for many years at Birmingham Dental School, working with Peter James when he was Dean before he became the first Editor of *Community Dental Health*. When the journal was founded, she naturally supported him, and developed a talent for all the editorial and administrative work that publishing a journal involves. She rapidly became indispensable in that role and stayed on as Editorial Assistant when Martin Downer became Editor.