

EDITORIAL

The more often I read Noel Brown's piece the more useful it seems to become to the further development of the journal. We would like to use this editorial as a call for submissions, an open invitation to all who want to write about their work in a new and fulfilling way.

As Noel points out there are many different ways to write an academic article. We are looking for research, conducted and carried out in the field of spiritual care, but we are also looking for descriptive items, sharing best practice, looking at problem solving in a given area or a situation which turns up unexpectedly. We are interested in audit and analysis, in innovative practice and the problems and benefits brought by change.

If that hasn't whetted your appetite we also accept educational articles, either about training you have run or to inform others, perhaps if you practise a minority faith or if you have something about spirituality or faith that you want to say. We are also looking for reflections on an issue or a series of incidents that have been concept forming, or have brought new ideas to your team which are worth sharing.

Please write. The board are here to help, not to hinder. If you write an article for us, either 3,000-4,000 words for a major piece of research or analysis, or 2,000 words for a smaller essay, then send it

in to the SACH email address and we will pick it up.

Once we have received a piece it is anonymised and sent for review. The reviewer will not know the identity of the author, nor the author the identity of the reviewer. This part of the process may take some time, so please be patient. It is at this stage that we decide whether an article is fit for publication. That may be with a recommendation of minor corrections, or with some revision, or it may be that the reviewer doesn't think it is ready yet, but all is not lost, some more work and a re-submission is a common practice.

The reviewer writes a report on a reviewer's form, and this form is returned to you for you to make any changes that you think are helpful. If you disagree strongly with a reviewer's comments get in touch with the editors to discuss the issues. Once those changes are made (and practically no-one changes nothing at this stage) then the piece is returned to the editors. It is then edited (minor typing errors, typeset) and a page proof will be returned to you for agreement that it is ready to go to print.

At this stage the editors are often tight for time and it is not unusual to be asked to turn around page proofs quickly, major changes are not really a good idea once the pages of the journal have been set. Page proofs agreed, it goes to the press. You will receive complimentary copies of your published article and can get to work on the next one!!