

EDITORIAL

It is very satisfying to share such a wide range of articles representing our work as professional counsellors. The three articles from school situations address issues that have practical import for all school counsellors: parenting, school phobia and sudden death. They highlight, however, the need for continuing critical reflection on why we work the way that we do, and for continual updating.

At the other end of the scale, the article on retirement courses notes how little is being done systematically to address such a universal developmental challenge. The article on pet therapy highlights how something that many of us experience in our daily lives deserves to be used more often and creatively by counsellors.

The second and concluding instalment of the New Zealand counselling bibliography creates a most thorough resource for practitioners and researchers alike. We will all benefit from this.

The letter to the Editors represents a new theme of thoughtful comment in the Journal. We invite other readers to submit comments on what we can and should share among us.

Finally, it is important to note the publication of a local book but unusual to have two reviews. In the light of their different perspectives both have been published.

We strongly urge you to continue planning and submitting material on important counselling activities, but to recognise that description is not enough - there has to be thoughtful and critical reflection, and there has to be a grounding of what happens in theory and research. The result should be succinct but creative and thought-provoking articles, which are stimulating to read and mark the maturing of our profession.

The Editors.