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### **JAN: Advancing the science and practice of nursing**

As part of the celebrations for the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife—sadly curtailed by the COVID-19 pandemic—the Fellows Committee of the Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom decided that it would be an appropriate time to showcase the work of the Fellows of the Royal College of Nursing over the years since the inception of the Fellows programme. The idea was to find Fellows who had published a seminal piece of research work and to ask them to write an article about what drove them to conduct the research, to describe the research and the subsequent impact the research had on nursing and healthcare. The result is a publication *Advancing the Science and Practice of Nursing* (Tierney, Watson, Benton, Kelly, Brown, and McCourt, 2020) which has been made available open access by the *Nursing Standard*. In addition, and also available open access at Nursing Standard is a related article 'An Enduring Legacy: The contributions of Royal College of Nursing Fellows to nursing science' (Benton, Tierney, Watson, and McCourt, 2020) which is a bibliometric analysis of all articles published by Fellows of the Royal College of Nursing. The background too and the details of these publications are available to read and, as one of the editors of both pieces, I strongly encourage you to do that.

My purpose here, as Editor in Chief of *JAN* is to point to the contribution that *JAN* has made to the legacy of the Fellows and to the science and practice of nursing. Of 22 articles in the publication, seven are in *JAN* ranging from 1976 – 2006 and *JAN* is the academic journal most represented. Of course, *JAN* has a long history—since 1976—being established by the late James P Smith OBE, FRCN and the first issue contained an article by a future Fellow June Clark DBE FRCN (1976) on the role of the health visitor. Another truly seminal article on the use of nursing research findings by Jennifer Hunt was published in 1981. Other than that, the articles cover death and dying (Kelly, Ross, Grey, and Smith, 2000); person-centred nursing (McCormack, and McCance, 2006); a bibliometric study of UK nursing research (Traynor, Lewison, and Rafferty, 2001); feeding difficulty in patients with dementia (Watson, 1994); and a very important retrospective on nursing models by Alison Tierney CBE FRCN (1998).

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