Welcome to your new journal! We use the word ‘you’ very specifically – because this journal is all about you and your practice.

Making CONNECTions is the theme for this new European journal – an idea that has its origins in one of the founding principles of the European Federation of Critical Care Nursing Associations (EfCCNa) – collaboration. Since this journal is being published in association with EfCCNa, we (the editors) think it is a particularly suitable theme.

One of the key aims of CONNECT is communication and collaboration on critical care issues relevant to the European nursing community. We also want CONNECT to epitomise the sharing theme of EfCCNa: ‘Working Together – Achieving More’. Making CONNECTions encompasses all of these ideas – hence the journal’s title, CONNECT. Helping us achieve these aims is a multinational editorial board made up of colleagues from across Europe.

We want this journal to be friendly – encouraging dialogue and exchange – but we recognise the multilingual challenge of writing for an European audience. At least six languages are used by the majority of critical care nurses in Europe – English, French, German, Greek, Italian, and Spanish. Because English is the most widely understood, the journal will be published in English. But in the future, we hope the journal will be published in other languages, depending upon the interest of our sponsors.

If one of the aims of CONNECT is to be the voice of critical care nurses across Europe, then we need new ways of communicating. Thus, one of our principles is that no article sent to the journal for publication should be rejected on the basis of language and that all authors will be offered support from the editorial board.

This journal is also about advancement of critical care nursing practice. This can be achieved in many different ways – not just through research – but through sharing ideas and experiences about good practice. We want to encourage colleagues to start talking about critical care. There are many lessons we can learn from each other. After all, we have the whole of Europe to learn from! So, we want to hear about anything to do with critical care nursing, ranging from emergency care and coronary care to anaesthetic nursing and renal care nursing. By critical care, we really do mean the entire area of care nursing. There are many lessons we can learn from each other.

We hope you find this journal a valuable and useful resource for your practice. Remember, this is your journal, so let’s make it a success. Let us really prove the statement ‘Working Together – Achieving More’.

Paul Fulbrook and Lynne Harrison