

From the Executive Editor

'Cardiology in the Young' goes online

THIS ISSUE MARKS A MAJOR STEP FORWARD FOR the journal. You can now access *Cardiology in the Young* on the internet (Fig. 1). Not yet the full text of the journal, but abstracts for all the original papers and short reports, together with a full list of the contents of each issue. You will also find other information there, such as the instructions for authors, and details concerning contacts and subscriptions for the journal. You can find us at our publisher's site: www.greenwich-medical.co.uk (Fig. 2).

What will the internet site add to the journal? First and foremost, it gives you, our readers, an extra and readily tangible opportunity to contribute. At the site, you will find a discussion forum linked to the journal (Fig. 3). Please visit and join in the discussion. Here is a place for you to contribute your responses to articles that appear in the journal, or to raise issues that you think are important for the other readers of the journal. We are hoping that this forum for discussion of 'Cardiology in the Young' will become an interesting and stimulating read and, like the journal itself, will become essential reading. It will only achieve this if you, our readers, join the forum and contribute to it. On the editorial side, we undertake to assess the contributions to the website, and to publish in our printed pages within the journal any material which, in our opinion, will interest our wider readership.

To contribute to the forum, you must first register with the site. This is a relatively painless process, and will be familiar to all of you who regularly use the internet. It allows us to confirm that you have a professional interest in the care of children and young people with cardiac disease. All contributions will be screened before they are posted in the forum, ensuring in this way that they are relevant to both the journal and its readership.

So, over to you! The success of the forum will depend upon your interest and contribution. You can find the forum by clicking on the 'Forums' button on the left of the web site, and then

choosing 'Cardiology in the Young' from the list of forums in the drop down menu.

This is just the start. We plan to develop the *Cardiology in the Young* website, and we welcome all your comments about what you would like to see there. We have included on the website this month a 3D volume rendered magnetic resonance angiography of an 18-year-old female patient with a cervical aortic arch. To view this .mov file you can download the file from the website and access it with the Media Player supplied with all Windows™ software, or alternatively open the file within QuickTime software (Macintosh and PC). A link is provided on the website to download QuickTime if your computer does not have the necessary software to access the file. In the next issue of the Journal (Vol. 10 No. 4), we will publish the 'Images in Congenital Heart Disease' article to accompany this 3D volume rendered image and we plan to include images and data to support other articles in the printed version of the journal.

For those of you without access to the internet, or the inclination to use it, rest assured the printed version of the journal will remain as strong as ever. We seek to include a mix of articles that cover every aspect of cardiac disease in the young. This issue typifies the variety of articles you can expect to find. For instance, there is a major review of the natural history of congenital heart disease as presented by Milan Samanek in his Edgar Mannheimer lecture from last year's European Association for Paediatric Cardiology. There are two articles on the new Amplatzer™ duct occluder. Elsewhere in the issue, you will find a mixture of articles addressing surgical, psychological, embryological and morphological aspects of congenital cardiac disease. If any of these articles excite, or exasperate, you sufficiently, then please let us know. Write us a letter, or now, if you prefer, post your response in our discussion forum.

Edward J. Baker
Executive Editor

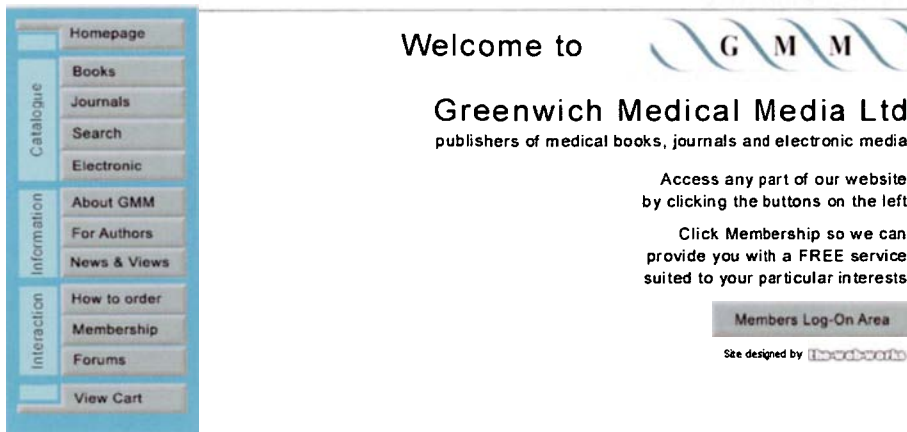


Figure 1.
The homepage of Greenwich Medical Media (www.greenwich-medical.co.uk). Click on 'Membership' to register with the site.



Figure 2.
The Journal page within the site. From this page the user can access Table of Contents, Abstracts, Instructions to Authors and full on-line ordering details.

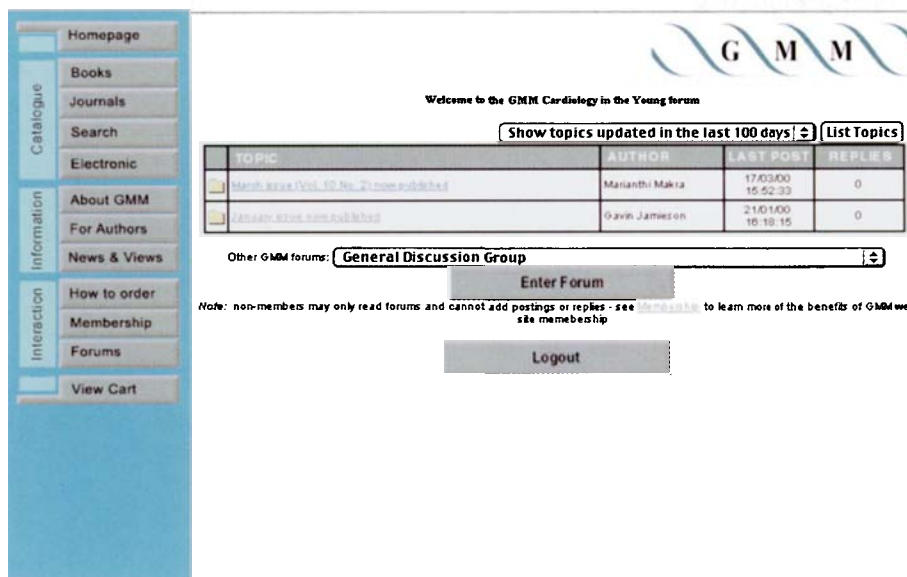


Figure 3.
The Cardiology in the Young forum page. Once registered as a member, the user can post relevant comments and messages within the forum section.