Editor's Choice – March 2020

This first issue of the new decade marks several major changes at Leprosy Review, with the launch of a new website, which we hope will be easy to use, even on a mobile device. At the same time, we have appointed a number of Associate Editors who will manage the peer review process in their fields of expertise.

The current issue begins with further photographs in the series 'New Face of Leprosy' being developed by Diana Lockwood and colleagues. It is an important challenge for us to look at people who have, or have had, leprosy in a new light.

There are interesting papers on epidemiology and program management, but I would like to highlight the two papers on the eye in leprosy. Firstly, from Brazil, there is a description of the eye complications of leprosy that are still seen commonly, even though eyesight is rarely threatened nowadays. The second paper, from Egypt, is groundbreaking, as it shows that corneal grafts can be used effectively in leprosy cases – a treatment that has normally been ruled out because of the fear of complications. This suggests that significant numbers of people with leprosy-related blindness could benefit from this restorative surgery.

Expertise in leprosy is under discussion and a paper from Nigeria shows that medical students and interns often have very little knowledge of the topic. Clinical demonstrations during training are associated with better knowledge, so there is an opportunity for more operational research to develop this approach further.

Paul Saunderson
Editor