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# Editorial

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@DocTweets

Welcome to the September 2018 (Vol 17, No 3) issue of the Scottish Journal of Residential Child Care (SJRCC). It was in September 2002 that Professor Andy Kendrick launched *SJRCC* as a hard copy, bi-annual publication. Sixteen years later, we are still going, now in digital form and with four issues this year. Andy retired from the University of Strathclyde at the end of June, but will have continuing connections, one of which will be to remain a member of the editorial board with the title of Editor Emeritus. We send Andy our very best wishes for a long, happy and action-packed retirement.

This year marks another anniversary: 50 years since the enactment of the [Social Work Scotland Act 1968](#). This Act was significant, in the sense that its very title acknowledged social work's development as a profession, one practical manifestation of which was the statutory requirement to appoint a director of social work (later to be amended to chief social work officer) in each local authority area. The Act included provisions for the general social welfare services of local authorities, and for a system of children's hearings, that is still the fundamental basis of child and youth justice and welfare in Scotland. One interesting provision in the Act, particularly in these more austere times, is the inclusion of a section giving the state and local authorities legal authority (and therefore encouragement) to conduct research. Given that provision, it is highly appropriate that [Social Work Scotland](#), the organisation representing social work leaders in Scotland, should have commissioned a research project led by Professor Brigid Daniel of Queen Margaret University to mark the anniversary. Professor Daniel's research will be published in due course and will be featured in a future issue of SJRCC. Meanwhile our readers can listen to her [address](#) at a recent Social Work Scotland conference on the Vimeo Channel.

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Turning now to the present issue, we present our usual mix of peer-reviewed papers, commentaries and a book review. In the first of three full-length original research articles, Kerry Audin, Jolanta Burke and Itai Ivztan report on compassion fatigue, compassion satisfaction and work engagement in residential child care. Their study surveyed 100 residential workers and managers in independent sectors organisations in England, Scotland and Wales. They conclude that burnout and secondary traumatic stress constitute a significant concern for residential child care staff. Mogens Jensen's article, written from a Danish context, argues for 'a need for a concept of social pedagogical treatment as part of the professional terminology of social pedagogy'. Brodie Paterson reports a small-scale study of women's experience of participation in training in restraint in the residential context, concluding that 'a "male" model of aggression may permeate some training programmes and negatively influence women's experience'.

Olivia Khan, a student and herself care-experienced, has contributed the first of five shorter commentaries. In a very powerful account of her experience of foster care, Olivia writes about how a private diary she was encouraged to keep as a personal therapeutic tool became the reason for the placement breaking down, precipitating another move. Nina Vaswani discusses the importance of ambiguous loss and disenfranchised grief in residential child care and the implications for practice. She concludes that the focus should be on 'building tolerance and resilience to the ambiguity'. Deborah Nolan and Joe Gibb have contributed a paper framing learning from their 2016 research on responses to offending in residential child care. Among the points made is that organisational culture and ethos are important: 'children should be provided with a caring, safe, calm, nurturing, loving and therapeutic environment to achieve their potential, where police contact is the option of last resort and corporate parenting duties fulfilled'. Carole Wilkinson's article, appropriately given our earlier reference to the anniversary of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, is a reflection on her 20 years working in social care in Scotland, most recently as chair of the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration. Our final commentary is unusual because it began life as a Twitter feed. Helen Johnson, care experienced and a social work student, tweeted with a view to opening up a conversation about the impact of

love within the care system. Such a conversation, which we hope that readers of the SJRCC will engage in, has global relevance; in Scotland it has particular significance because of the current [Independent Care Review](#).

In this issue, we introduce our new Book Review Editor, Dr Leanne McIver. Leanne has written a call for readers to suggest books for review in future issues. Meanwhile, in this issue Linda Brewster reviews 'That's So Gay: Challenging Homophobic Bullying'.

SJRCC will be back in December, with a special issue on disability.