

Guest editorial: Happy news and sad news

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Founding Editor-in-Chief, *Laser Therapy*

It is an honour and a pleasure to be writing this Guest Editorial for our journal, *Laser Therapy*, after 3 years of enforced silence because of what my colleague and friend Glen Calderhead calls “Covidiocy”. We were forced to shut down the Tokyo Editorial Office when Japan went into lockdown in 2019, and suspend publication of the journal, so my Glad News is that *Laser Therapy* has once again risen like the Phoenix, but this time it’s as an “e-Phoenix” and an e-Journal!

I am sure I am speaking for all *Laser Therapy* readers when I express my sincere gratitude to Professor Leonardo Longo of Florence, Italy, Secretary-General of the World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine and Surgery (WFSLMS), who has been instrumental in securing a publisher for the re-emergence of the journal in an electronic digital format. Faithful readers will remember from my Editorials in the previous iteration of the journal that we were examining the possibility of moving over from a print version to a digital version, and now thanks to Prof Longo, that goal has been realised.

I was honoured to be the Founding Editor-in-Chief of the journal with John Wiley and Sons of Chichester, UK, as the publishers in 1988, and apart from a brief hiatus at the turn of the New Millennium, I am proud to say that the journal had been published continuously until our Covid-related forced suspension in 2019. Now that the journal has survived Covid and it reappears, reenergized, to ensure that it can be published in a smooth and timely fashion, I encourage you to start submitting your papers once again for consideration by our International Editorial Board for publication in the journal. Please refer to the Notes for Contributors to see details of the required format and style, and how/where to send your papers.

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Sad news

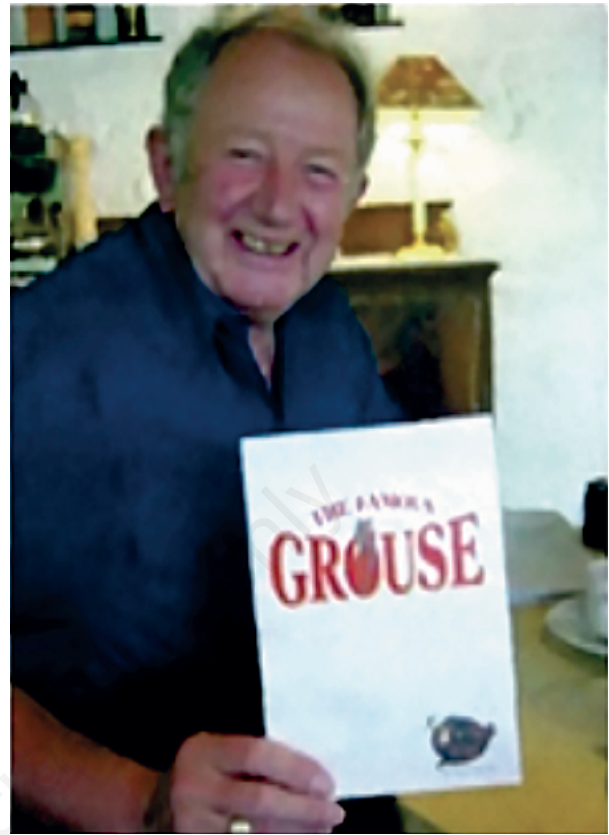
I am sorry to balance my Happy News with two pieces of Sad News. The first of these is that my dear friend and colleague of many years, Dr. Kevin C. Moore, died most unexpectedly in July of 2020 at the age of 79. He was taken ill on July 11th and despite the best efforts of ER staff, quietly slipped away on July 12th surrounded by his wife Jill, daughter Alison and son-in-law John. Kevin was a Founding Member and mainstay of the International *Laser Therapy* Association (ILTA, 1988 - 2004), and the subsequent World Association of *Laser Therapy* (WALT, now known as



Dr. Kevin C. Moore: 25th January 1941 – 12th July 2020.



Dr. Kevin C. Moore and his wife Jill.



Kevin "Grouse hunting" in Scotland.

the World Association for Biomodulation Therapy), acting as Treasurer from 1992 – 1994 (ILTA) and 1994 – 2004 (WALT). He also underpinned the publication of *Laser Therapy* from 1995 till 2000. Kevin was a staunch and serious supporter of Low Level Light Therapy (LLLT), and until his retirement in 2010, 830 nm diode laser LLLT was constantly in use in his pain clinic at the Oldham Royal Infirmary using the OhLase-3D1 830 nm diode laser system he first trialed in 1988! He had a deliciously wicked sense of humour, and he will be sadly missed.

The second bit of Sad News is more recent, and it is with great regret and deep sadness that I have to report that our dear Mother of the International Laser Family, Masha Kaplan (née Weingarten), passed away peacefully surrounded by her children and grandchild-



Masha Kaplan; July 15th 1925 – September 30th, 2022.



Masha and Isaac together: note the ISLSM badge proudly displayed on Isaac's lapel.

dren on September 30th, 2022 at the age of 97. Masha had a very full and exciting life, entering the field of nursing early on and during the Israeli War of Independence, when she looked after wounded soldiers, even going to Jordan as a prisoner-of-war to continue looking after those in her care. It was as a nurse that she met our laser surgery Godfather, Isaac Kaplan: they married in 1956 and started one of the real-life love stories, remaining together through thick and thin until Isaac's death in 2012, 10 years ago. Masha was a fixture at all our Laser Family meetings, supporting Isaac faithfully in every way and acting as a translator when required, as she spoke nine languages. Faithful readers will recall we ran "Kaplan's Korner" in earlier issues of the journal featuring Isaac's poetry. Here's a charming ode from Isaac to Masha.

An Ode to Masha
by Isaac Kaplan

Isaac! Pick up your pants 'cause your sweeping the floor,
And when you go to the bathroom, don't lock the door.
Because if you happen to slip and fall on your head,
I must be able to get in and make sure you're not dead.
Now, if that ever happens to you,
There will be nobody left to tell what to do!»
So, if at this stage,
I don't look my age
And look rather well
and not like hell,
And can function more or less,
It is thanks to Masha, I must confess.
And I hope that she'll continue this way
Until the time comes for me to pass away.

So, after 10 years apart from her beloved Isaac, Masha and Isaac are now together for eternity (Masha was interred in Jerusalem next to Isaac). She leaves an enormous hole in the heart of the International Laser Family.

End notes

And so I come to the end of my Guest Editorial. We are approaching the year's end, so it only remains for me, on behalf of my extended family, to wish you all the Compliments of the Season. As we slowly recover from the ravages of the Covid epidemic, may 2023, the Year of the Rabbit in the Chinese Zodiac, bring us all wealth, health and happiness. However, given the horrendous state of affairs in the Ukraine and elsewhere, since the Rabbit symbolises patience and luck, may the Year of the Rabbit bring us the Peace and Success that have been sadly denied us in 2022, the outgoing Year of the Tiger.

Tokyo, Japan: November 2022

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