

# Editor's Preface

This is the fifth Acta in the sixth year of the Association of Anaesthesiologists in the small Mediterranean island of Malta. Made up of all the anaesthetists on the Island the twenty two members of our Association have registered their mark in the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists and the European Society of Paediatric Anaesthesia.

With the aim of improving standards in Anaesthesia our Association this year is organising a conference and a video session on "Intravenous Anaesthesia". The participation of Belgian, Czechoslovak and U.K. colleagues enhances the knowledge about this subject, enlivens the discussion and enables cross fertilisation of ideas so essential in an island based Association.

As a means of reaching out to the lay public the Association has launched an essay competition dividing it in two categories, the over and the under eighteen years of age and entitled "Encountering Anaesthesia". The winning essays will be published in the next Acta. The Association thanks the local Banks for offering, prizes and book tokens to the winners.

A proposal by the Association for a World Anaesthetic Day is to be discussed by the World Federation later this year. The Association proposes that during this day October 11 of each year (the day the dentist WTG Morton gave ether anaesthesia) an effort will be made by all Associations of Anaesthesiologists to meet the lay public in order to remove fears and misconception about modern anaesthetic techniques and also to attract bright young doctors to our demanding speciality.

September 1987  
St. Luke's Hospital  
Malta.

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