

## Letter to the Editor

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Dear Sir,

Our Society certainly evokes much interest in the different aspects of the complicated problems of paraplegics, and has stimulated the foundation of several other societies in different parts of the world. This development we certainly welcome, but it is becoming a major problem for the various societies to keep in contact with each other.

In the early days in Stoke Mandeville Hospital doctors from all over the world assembled there, and in the early years the meetings of the Society took place in the gymnasium of the hospital under the direction of Dr, subsequently, Sir Ludwig Guttmann, and at the same time the International Stoke Mandeville games for paraplegics were held immediately outside in the open. There was thus a close association between the Games and the Society!

We think that involvement of the games and between the different societies should remain as close as possible.

Most members of the new societies have missed that period in Stoke Mandeville Hospital and at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Denver, U.S.A., in 1984 there were no Games to look at, something that will happen again in the future. To bridge the gap between old and new, the International Medical Society of Paraplegia and the other societies; the pioneers with their solid experience and the junior members, a more active involvement of both the junior and the senior members of similar societies is needed and is essential.

We feel privileged to have taken part in the development of the I.M.S.P. from the beginning, but also responsible for its future contacts, and would welcome opinions and suggestions of both the pioneers and the newer members on the future structure of the I.M.S.P. to remain in contact with each other and with the games.

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