



# Editorial

This is my 20th occasion to bring 'Tidings of great joy' to readers of IPA publications, a very ancient message but forever fresh. I don't feel bashful about repeating it, indeed I am in good company; didn't Francis P Church write "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" in the New York Times in 1897. So once again and for the last time I join in the celebrations as Editor.

IPA Journal fulfils its mission because the Correspondents, who dedicate themselves to their work, always research and compile their copy with you the reader in mind. In addition we have freelance correspondents who submit work for inclusion knowing that they will have a worthy medium to display their art. Through the year we have regularly published contributions from America, South Africa, New Zealand and Germany, so we can boast of being truly international.

The quality of our magazine is assured because of the dedicated work of Cassidy Publications and of the excellent design provided by Emma Marshall who when we cannot provide illustrations from IPA resources always comes up trumps. IPA Journal has received hundreds of compliments in 2008 and only one expression of dissatisfaction.

The IPA Calendar 2009 is very impressive and for this we must pay tribute to Lance Connolly who expended all his patience and expertise to accomplish the task in a pressurised short period.

Our pocket diary is published by Dual Print this year and no doubt you will be impressed by the improved quality; for this we thank Mark O'Byrne.

*Beannachtaí na Féile oraibh; bígí réidh cun fáilte a chur roimh San Níoclás.*

Kind thoughts and sincere good wishes to all for Christmas 2008 and the New Year.

*Brandon K Colvert*

BRENDON K COLVERT