

## Editorial - the Final Word

### Revd Dr Paul Beasley-Murray

After 72 issues, this is my final editorial of *Ministry Today*. As I write these words, I feel sad – yet at the same time proud. It is not just that we have been the only British cross-denominational journal devoted to the practice of ministry, but the articles themselves have been amazingly wide-ranging and stimulating.

So, a huge thank-you to all who have written for the journal over the years, and a massive thank-you to all who have subscribed to the journal. I am also grateful to the publishers who sent countless books for review, and for the many kind words of appreciation I have received since the announcement of the closure of MTUK.

As part of ‘ending well’, we are producing a ‘legacy’ set of all the 520+ articles published over the last 24 years. Although the early-bird offer is over, the eight hard-backed volumes of *Ministry Today UK 1994-2018* are still available at £60 for the set (plus £10 postage for UK residents) - this still represents good value for money.

I am delighted that the College of Baptist Ministers has agreed to host the electronic copies of the past issues of the journal together with the search facility. This means that there is continued access to what is probably the most comprehensive online resource for pastoral wisdom and experience: see [www.collegeofbaptistminsters.com](http://www.collegeofbaptistminsters.com)

For those who want to continue to reflect on the practice of ministry, there is one further option, namely my blog, *Church Matters*. The title reflects my conviction that church *does* matter: it is not just an unfortunate adjunct to Christian faith! Rather, it is of the essence of Christian living. These ‘posts’ are available on my web-site ([www.paulbeasleymurray.com](http://www.paulbeasleymurray.com)), where there is a facility to sign up to receive by email new blog-posts as they are published every Thursday. In recognition of the fact that many people from all over the world have become ‘followers’, publishers have agreed to continue supplying books for review under the *Church Matters* label. As a result, every other month the blog will feature ‘Books for Today’ – a further reason to sign up to *Church Matters*!