Members of the editorial panel assist the Editor in deciding which papers to publish in the AJoN mainly through assisting in the peer review process. However other roles can be taking on the job of seeking potential advertisers; identifying new books or articles published in other journals or current research projects in progress that may be of interest to members; and identifying guest editorial contributors.

The Journal of Advanced Nursing (1998) lists the attributes of an ideal referee as:

- Knowledge of the topic of the paper
- Understanding of research method/s
- Considered, objective, thoughtful critique of papers
- Willingness to provide feedback/advice to authors
- Punctuality in keeping to deadlines
- Altruism in relation to wanting to contribute to the dissemination of knowledge

In the instance of the Australasian Journal of Neuroscience, support will be provided to assist interested persons to develop the above attributes.

There may be parts of the above list that you feel less sure about. However, in choosing panel members to look at a paper, one member may be selected for knowledge of the area and another for the research method.

The submitted paper and a feedback form are sent to two people for assessment following an initial check by the Editor. The manuscripts are sent electronically and the review can be returned in the same way. The track change setting is used to enable you to directly comment onto the paper. You will be provided with criteria and asked to complete and return the review within 3 weeks. This is so timely and constructive feedback can be supplied to the authors and any recommendations required be addressed by them.

The structured feedback form is returned to the Editor by the panel members as well as any comments on the paper. The advice from all parties is then collated by the Editor who then contacts the author/s.

After you have signified your interest and decided to participate as a panel member a package of supporting articles and documents that you will find useful in the role will be emailed to you.

Thanking you,
Cheers

Linda

Linda Nichols
Editor, Australasian Journal of Neuroscience