



*The Order of St Luke the Physician
in New Zealand*
HEAL-LINK
October - November 2008

***Dedicated to healing the whole person, spirit, soul and body,
and to the healing of situations, of nations, and of God's creation.***



Greetings from Warden Lionel

Dear Friends,

I am writing this looking forward to Conference at Waikanae. You will read this looking back at Conference. The theme of my address for conference is "The Faithfulness of God." The more I think about the life of the Church, the life of the Order of St Luke and my own personal Christian life I can but give thanks and praise to God for his faithfulness over the years. It is this knowledge of His faithfulness in the past that gives me confidence as we go into the future.

The Order of St Luke in New Zealand has undergone many changes over the past few years. Many of us can remember when Chapters were generally a lot bigger and when our membership was over 1000. Now Chapters are often smaller, some are going into recess and our membership is around 700. But in the midst of all this I also see signs of hope:

- **New chapters are still being formed**
- **People are still joining the Order**
- **There is a growing interest in Christian healing**
- **Requests come from Churches to learn more about this ministry**
- **Groups of people are meeting together to learn more about, and practise, Christian Healing**
- **There is a deepening understanding of what healing entails.**

Surely these are encouraging signs, as well as reminding us that God is faithful and calls us to respond to his faithfulness. As members of the Order of St Luke and as Chapters we need to really grasp this truth of God's faithfulness not just as an intellectual fact but as something deep in our being that will cause us to move forward with boldness trusting the Holy Spirit to guide and empower us.

How we do this will vary from place to place:

- **It may be a regular healing service where God's faithfulness is shown as people are healed;**
- **More often it will be as individual OSL members come alongside someone in need to support and pray for them;**

- **It may be as we visit people in hospital and bring encouragement;**
- **Possibly regular visits to a retirement village to be alongside those who are lonely;**
- **It could be a letter, or a phone call, to someone assuring them of our support and prayers.**

Often it will be something quite small - sharing that God cares and that he is faithful when we trust him. As Paul reminded the Christians at Corinth - I remind you that "God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

I look forward to meeting you over the next three years.

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

Yours in his service,

Warden Lionel

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Greetings from Past Warden Brian

WHEN IT'S FINISHED, WHAT'S AHEAD?

Have you ever thought, have you ever wondered, when something has come to an end – what lies ahead? Of course you have. You leave high school. What lies ahead? She (or he) breaks off the engagement. What lies ahead? You bury a loved one. What lies ahead? Some of these transition times are major – some are minor. But God knows.

As I end my time as Warden and see Lionel commissioned Habakkuk 2:3 comes to mind as applying to both of us. "The vision has its appointed time. It hastens towards its goal. It will not be neutralised. Though it may seem delayed, keep waiting. It will come at the right time." On this basis both Lionel and I thank God for the past and eagerly await whatever is in the future. Thank you, dear OSL family, for your support of me and of Alexis. The specific vision of OSL New Zealand is now to be led by Lionel. I wish God's richest favour upon Lionel and Rachelle as they give themselves to the task.

God's blessing on you all.

Brian

Past Warden

“JESUS IS PRESENT TO HEAL!”

So might have run the headlines around AD 26-30. It's good to report that nothing's changed and He's still here doing it!

Jesus has been working his healing in countless lives all over the world during all the years since then, so I was delighted to be present at an OSL Café Brunch held in his honour. More than 50 people, including members from Dargaville and Whangarei Chapters and Mangawhai OSL Healing Group as well as representatives from the surrounding countryside and different churches, gathered in the country village of Paparoa (Northland, New Zealand) one Saturday morning in September 2008.

“**Celebrating the Healing Ministry of Jesus**”, read the invitation from the Northern Area Chaplain of the OSL, Rev John McClean and his wife, Enid. The idea sprang from something Enid had read in the North America OSL International **Sharing** Journal and which would not be ignored.



The celebration (as all great events should!) included food, music and stories. And what stories! One man's account started at age 30 and covered many events in his life for the 50 years since – including heart surgery, and also his wife's 'out of body' experience.

Other healings ranged from a finger jammed in a car door; a kidney due to be removed, but not; a child impaled through the chest by a steel reinforcing rod after a fall and being completely healed prior to surgery; to an extensive brain tumour where the patient was told by the surgeon he would likely die on the table. Obviously, he hadn't, as he was the storyteller, and the Lord then also answered his prayer for a wife!

The morning ended with participants praying for one another over the empty coffee cups and Jesus' presence was still manifest. One of the participants found later that he could hear better without his hearing aid than with it. Praise God!

An interesting postscript was part of a prayer at a church service the following morning (led by someone who hadn't been at the celebration) and which makes a good finishing touch here:-

“Our hearts are filled with awe and praise!

We thank you for the stories of your people throughout all time, that show us your way, that remind us how much you love us, even when things get out of focus and we forget you.”

Anonymous Contribution

Thank you “Sharing Journal” for the inspiration for this event. Ed

An Unexpected Fruit

Among the other rest homes I visit during the week is one for elderly people with mental weaknesses of one kind or another. One needs to explain what is going on in the Communion for the sake of those not brought up to it. Once or twice a Maori or Pacific Islander on the staff has joined in but for the most part they keep in the background and get on with their duties. A Hindu woman staff member used to listen carefully to what was going on, and one day came up to me afterwards and told me of her belief in one God who is revealed in various ways. When I asked about idols in the temples she replied that she sees them as representing people who once were sent among us in the name of God.

The next time I came she told me about her grandson who has some illness which doctors are treating and which interferes with his mobility and wanted me to come and pray for him. I got the impression that he was a teenager and went prepared to talk to him, but found him a little boy of about six with miniature crutches alongside his table.

I anointed little Eshan and have asked others to pray for him with me, and trust that this grandmother who had the courage to step out from her own religious background to ask for the healing of her son will have her prayer answered as the Canaanite woman did. **Rev Jim Hunt, of Henderson**

Whangarei Chapter News

Our members are planning to host an “At Home Day” on Tuesday 18 November. Invitations have been sent to members of Chapters in the north of the Northern Area – Dargaville and Kaitaia, to the OSL Healing Groups at Mangawai and Warkworth and to Northern Postal Members. We will meet in the lounge of All Saints Anglican Church in Whangarei, where our Chapter's regular monthly meetings are held.

We have a programme planned to begin at 10:30am, with the morning given over to Rev Brian Flower, Co-General Secretary, who will give teaching on the Healing Ministry and report on some highlights of the October Warden's Council and Conference held in Waikanae. Then there will be a time for lunch (supplied), fellowship and mixing before the afternoon time of sharing what is happening in our Chapters, of personal experiences and testimony, concluding with time for prayer ministry, ending about 2.30pm.

Any members or friends likely to be in Whangarei on **November 18** are welcome to join us, you will be most WELCOME. Please phone our Acting Secretary, **09 436 1115, Marcelle Chambers.**

From Co-General Secretaries:

News from Executive and Warden's Council Meetings

Dear Friends,

The October Executive meeting and Triennial Warden's Council and Conference have now been held with 86 members and visitors attending, representing 569 members in 23 chapters and 4 postal chapters. With a total membership in New Zealand of 675, that meant that most members were personally represented there.

The Warden's Council bestowed **Honorary Life Membership** on the Rev Derek Lightbourne acknowledging the extensive service given by him to the Order during his 22 years of membership ranging from Chapter Chaplain to Warden and Missioner. Derek has now retired from the Executive although he will continue to serve on the Literature Task Force. Well done and congratulations, Derek.

The new **Missioner Team** appointed by Warden Lionel and ratified by the Warden's Council are:

Northern and Midland Areas Rev Frank Rigg OSL
and Mrs Gwen Rigg OSL

Central and Tararua Areas Rev Dr Brian W Hooper
South Island Areas Rev Kevin Gwynne



The revised **constitution** has been ratified and will now be forwarded to the Charities Commission for their final approval.

Over the last twelve months remits were lodged by both the Executive and Kapiti Chapter for presentation to Warden's Council seeking an increase of the **subscription rate**. The financial situation of the Order was presented by the General Treasurer, Mr Michael Bain, explaining that the General Administration of OSL NZ is funded from subscriptions.

The subscription rate has been held at \$12 pa since 2003, and over the period 2003-2008, the general administration has just broken even, but for the last year 2007/08 showed a deficit of just under \$1300. Membership of OSL has been showing a decrease of about 30 pa, and should this trend continue, at the present subscription rate, the general account will be in deficit by about \$2,000 pa.

At the 2002 Warden's Council, it was proposed to increase the subscription rate to \$20. In the event, the sub was held at \$12 and we have managed to hold our own at that level, but the time has come with increasing costs and lower membership levels, to increase the subscription level. About \$20 would be appropriate for the next 3 years.

The Executive has considered a budget for the administration of the Order for the next three years and has settled on a two level subscription rate of \$20 for individuals or \$30 for couples (effectively \$15 each), coming into effect from **1 July 2009**.

This level will enable the general administration of the Order to be properly funded from subscriptions without running into deficit. In the meantime, however, we are conscious of the current deficit of \$1297 and that this will be increased by the expected shortfall of subscriptions against expenditure in this financial year. This can be addressed by members in a position to do so to send donations to the General Treasurer clearly marked as being **donations for the General Fund** otherwise they will be placed in the Kathleen Cole Mission Fund. These will be receipted and able to be used to claim a tax rebate.

During the reports from areas special mention was made by the Central Area Chaplain of the services rendered to the Order by the late **Rev Amos and Mrs Bess Burrough** over a number of years both of whom served on the Executive, Amos as Warden as well as Area Chaplain and Bess Area Convenor as well as hosting Executive meetings in their home over a number of years. They both passed on to glory during the last three years.

A total of 64 members passed on to Higher Service, including **Mrs Grace Mulcock**, Honorary Life Member, wife of the founder of Wholeness, during the last three years.

In conclusion we would like to thank the members who have now stepped down from serving on the **Executive** – Mr Bill Eason, Mrs Moya Lethbridge, Deacon Valmarie Yates and Rev Sue McCafferty. They have all served faithfully and will be missed.

We welcome Mr John Merriman, Mrs Alexis Hooper and Rev Bill Sim and look forward to working with them as they bring a fresh approach and their own gifts and talents.

Revs Lionel Brown and Brian Hooper have changed their designations from Canterbury Area Chaplain and Warden respectively to Warden and Tararua Area Chaplain coupled with Missioner for Central and Tararua Areas as well as being Immediate Past Warden for one year.

Wishing you all every blessing

Your servants in Christ

Brian and Shirley

Co-General Secretaries

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email: gensec@oslnz.org

website: <http://www.oslnz.org>

Reflections on Conference 2008

This year's Warden's Conference at El Rancho, Waikanae came with a real difference from previous conferences I've attended. We were treated to an exciting and wonderful witness to the breadth, depth and vitality of the healing ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ today. This fact was well demonstrated by all the invited speakers giving their own testimonies to their ministries and we were privileged to hear speakers from a wide background of Christian denominations.



Giving us a powerful start was well-known international evangelist **Bill Subritzky** who based his teaching on the theme *"The Power of God Moving Through Us"*. During his message he generously gave everyone more than a dozen teaching pamphlets covering a wide range of subjects broadly based on the Healing Ministry and copies of two of his books. Some questions we faced: "Do we pray in our own strength, or in the power of the Holy Spirit? God's power can use anything He likes, but do we limit God's power too often" [Acts 19:11-12]. God is not limited in any way, He is Sovereign Lord. Therefore He can choose to heal through us or objects, such as water, clay dust, oils or cloths. In a very confined programme time was also given to offer healing ministry.

Our first evening was given over to two speakers: **Pastor Don McFarlane** of Centre Church, Kapiti Coast who spoke about God's Promises, and based his message on Hebrews 4:12 "For the word that God speaks is alive and full of power" and an Anglican Priest, **Rev Dr Peter Wellock**, who is the National Chaplain of OSL Australia. Peter spoke of his long career of missionary work in education and pastoral ministries around the Pacific, PNG and SE Asia during which he highlighted his experiences towards the needs of individuals in healing ministries. Peter's recent book is listed as one of our study resources and his teachings come directly from his hands on ministry. His belief is that "no one can be fully healthy in a sick society". Therefore our healing ministries must not be limited to individuals but include society and environment. Peter is quietly spoken, a modest man, but a challenging speaker.

Our keynote speakers for the second day were a husband and wife team, **Dr Neil Whitehead** (Genetic Scientist) with **Briar Whitehead** (Counsellor and Publisher). They gave us very revealing insights into many mental health disorders showing these often find their cause in people *"Craving for Love"*, (the title of Briar's book) and never being satisfied with their relationships. Such disorders as depression, alcohol dependency, panic

disorder, bi-polar disorder, OCD, deliberate self harm, schizophrenia and SSA can all be helped or healed with prayer ministry. One truth shown from their scientific research in *"Sexual Orientation"* is that homosexuality is a symptom, not the cause of a life style. Neil's and Briar's talks were a wonderful illustration of how science and religion can complement one another in a prayerful ministry of healing.

The final day of Conference was, of course, our new Warden's Day – his induction, along with the new Executive, the Warden's Charge and our sharing of the Lord's Supper. Our special guest speaker for the last day was **Weston Carryer** who came with his wife Ruth from Tauranga. They believe in the power of God's Word and that when taught and proclaimed without compromise it will be confirmed by God with signs, wonders and healings. After listening to Weston's testimony, we too can testify to this truth! Weston spoke about his life as an ambitious and successful Taranaki dairy farmer; then embarking on his "OE" and meeting Ruth in London where he was converted and born again. They returned to Taranaki where Weston and Ruth heard God's emphatic call to begin his evangelistic ministry. Many healings and miracles were described – and hundreds more are available in nine little books – witnessing to the faithfulness of God in His promises and the power of God's Word.

Conference was closed with a Thanksgiving and Healing Service led by the worship group "Jacobs Ladder" from Paraparaumu Family Church.

Weston Carryer's message in this session was that God uses ordinary people to carry out healings, complete healings, and miracles.

Does Jesus heal today? An emphatic "Yes, yes, yes" came the answer!

He spoke of the place of sin, unforgiveness and the activities of Satan as barriers to healing; "keep your Healing" by prayerful resistance to Satan's attacks; "hang on to your Victory"! Pray and praise the Lord in tongues. He encouraged all believers to pray in tongues, and helped many to do so. Through words of knowledge Weston began prayer for individuals who came forward for prayer and many healings were manifest.



The Conference ended on this high note of enthusiasm demonstrating that OSL in New Zealand is in good hands with Warden Lionel, the new Executive and a membership keen to carry out our calling to the Ministry of Healing. Our special thanks and sincere appreciation go to Past Warden Brian who did a great job in putting together the programme and inviting such a wonderful team of Guest Speakers.

Revd Neville Cooper, Editor

Testimony to Wholeness

Here is a wonderful testimony to God's Healing Power through the prayer, Surgeon, Nurses, Radiologist, and Chemist.

Four years ago after an operation my doctor informed me that though he could see nothing wrong the tests showed cancer and he suggested I could have radiation treatment. Another surgeon did another operation and he advised chemotherapy and radiation.

My church family and members/friends of the OSL and other local church members all continued to hold me in prayer, especially before the seven weeks of treatment in Auckland.

I felt in my soul that loving hands placed a cloak over my shoulders. The cloak is still there. It's as though God put a special protection there. I'm under his wings, secure safe. God placed this upon me and I felt secure and safe from that day until now. Three years after treatment I am healthy and well and I am able with Gods help to continue in His service at 82 years. Thanks be to God.

Rev Phyllis Tailby

Hibiscus Coast Chapter

Our Chaplain, Revd Frank Rigg, organised a Public Healing Service at one of our local churches about every three months to give the community a chance to share in Christ's healing through OSL. In September we joined the Red Beach Gateway Church in their regular Sunday evening service along with guest speaker, the Revd Mark Farmer, Mahurangi (Warkworth) Presbyterian Minister. Typical of Mark's witness to Christ's Healing is his testimony to spiritual healing and his dynamic presentation, with words of knowledge and subsequent healings. He asked: "Does anyone here feel abandoned, now or at any time?" Good question, as you think about it! One or two brave souls courageously stepped forward to be healed. Healing came also to several others who chose to examine their deep inner experiences secretly, and reflecting on Mark's teaching, with the laying on of hands, these folk went home with their wellbeing restored and their hearts made whole. During the prayer ministry we witnessed the power of speaking in tongues, to which an immediate interpretation was given by another person -- the power of the Spirit witnessing indeed!

The evening began with the Chapter giving witness of OSL ministry at work to the large local congregation. Two Associate Members were admitted and welcomed into Full Membership and our newly appointed Chaplain was inducted by the Area Chaplain, using the services in our Handbook. All agreed that this public commissioning of Members and Chaplain was very well worthwhile, and the people who came agreed.

Revd Neville Cooper, (new) Chaplain

At Conference – Display of New Study and Reading Material

We send a Big Thank You to Betty Meyers for the time and effort Betty gave into setting up the display of books, pamphlets and studies during Conference. It was great to see the range and quality of the materials now available to Members as we follow our calling to Christ's healing ministry.

On display was the latest book in the series of studies from Australia: **'In Search of Wholeness - a Christian Perspective'** by Peter Wellock, National Chaplain (Warden) of Australia, who was at Conference. This is a companion book to Owen Dowling's: **'Searching Questions'** and **'Channels of Healing'**. These books cost \$12 ea plus postage. The new edition of **'Sent to Heal'** (Harold Taylor's "Handbook" for OSL members) costs \$38 + postage – an essential book for your Chapter library!

Also on display: the full range of 17 **'Prayer and Meditation'** cards at 60c each, printed and laminated on 160gm coloured card, are well presented and last well. The whole series of cards can be purchased at \$10 a set.

Please do not send money when ordering OSL resources. Your invoice, including the cost of postage of the resources, will be enclosed with your parcel.

**Order from: Mrs Betty Meyers, our Resource Assistant,
34a Halswater Drive, Churton Park, Wellington 6037
or email ecmeyers@xtra.co.nz (Note! This is a new email address)**

Fund Raising: Tararua Area

Last April, members of Tararua Area in association with CITY JAZZ and supporting L'ARCHE held a **Dixieland and Swing Jazz Concert** at St Paul's Anglican Church in Paraparaumu. The concert was very well attended with approximately 80 people attending and raising \$618.00 for L'ARCHE KAPITI, to fund young intellectually disabled youth to attend the World Youth Conference in Sydney which Pope Benedict attended in July.

The Wellington North Chapter has supported CITY JAZZ concerts in the past to raise funds for the Porirua and Kenepuru Hospital Chaplains and Chapel. This was very successful, raising approximately \$1200.00

CITY JAZZ is a great eight piece Dixieland and Swing Jazz band, formed in 2000, their repertoire includes standard Dixieland, Swing from the 1900's, a selection from Count Basie, a selection of ballads and vocals. Our General Treasurer, Michael Bain, is their clarinet/saxophone star and through Michael's enthusiasm the Band has supported OSL fundraising for community projects such as these. Praise God for healing in the community!

Dennis Cassells-Minnoch (Abridged-Ed)

FINANCIAL

The Order of St Luke the Physician in NZ is a Registered Charitable Trust. Donations can always be sent to the General Treasurer who will send you an official receipt for Tax rebate purposes. Please make use of these opportunities to support the Healing Ministry in New Zealand.

General Treasurer, Michael Bain,
12 Albert Street, Island Bay, WELLINGTON
Phone: (04) 934 2271 Email: mgbain@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE REMEMBER OSL IN YOUR WILL
Help to further Christ's Healing Ministry in NZ by making a
Bequest to "The Order of St. Luke the Physician in NZ"
Further information about making bequests is available from General Treasurer

Conference Photos and Notes:



Warden Lionel delivering his Charge to Conference at the Communion Service

Warden Lionel's charge and photos from Conference can be found on the website on the past events page.

If you were at Conference and took photos could you please forward copies to Co-General Secretaries for inclusion on the website and in the records.

DVDs and CDs of speakers will be available shortly. Price will be confirmed before being produced. Please advise Brian and Shirley if you are interested in obtaining copies of any addresses and whether DVD or CD.

Those who ordered at Conference will be contacted shortly.

Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

Rev 19:6



NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Whangarei: Mrs Cynthia Myatt, Mr Martin Porter
Takaka: Mr Robert Kennedy

NEW FULL MEMBERS:

Hibiscus Coast: Mrs Dawn Manson, Mrs Ngaire Pierce
Tararua Postal: Mrs Judith Major, Mr Peter Major,
Miss Fay Mangin, Rev Cheri Pinner
Mrs Christina Woodbridge
Blenheim: Mrs Jovita Cross
Canterbury Postal: Mrs Margaret Allan



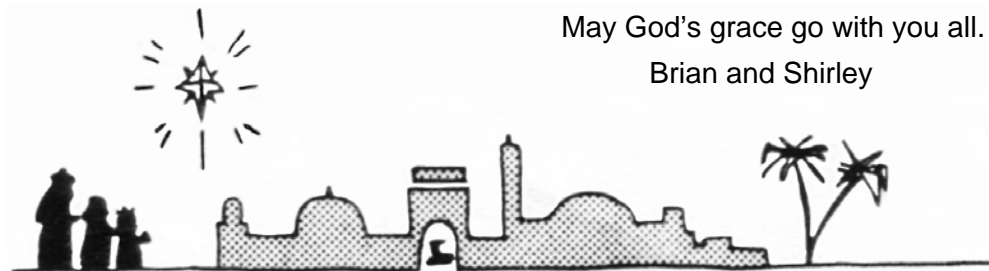
ROLL OF HONOUR: Members Called to Higher Service
Northern Postal: Mrs Daphne Neckelson
Central Postal: Rev Ken Meachem, Mrs Joy Simons



It is early yet, but as this is the last HEAL-LINK to be published before **Christmas**, we would like, on behalf of Warden Lionel, all the members of Executive and Editor Neville to take the opportunity to wish all members a blessed and holy Christmas. We have enjoyed our fellowship with you all via HEAL-LINK, telephone, post and email throughout the year.

May God's grace go with you all.

Brian and Shirley



GENERAL INFORMATION:-

The OSLNZ Website is <http://www.oslnz.org> Log on to this website and you will find links to other OSL websites around the world. Our website is managed and operated for OSL by Brian & Shirley Flower. **HEAL-LINK** can be downloaded and reproduced from the website.

Reminder: Dead-line for next HEAL-LINK is 1 February 2009.

It is the turn of the **Central Area** to send in contributions but **all members** are invited to contribute to **HEAL-LINK**; it is your newsletter! We look forward to receiving your stories, letters, testimonies, or any suitable contribution.

Please send to the Editor:-
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