



*The Order of St Luke the Physician*  
*Aotearoa New Zealand*  
**HEAL-LINK**

*February -- March 2011 Issue 301*

**Committed to Jesus' healing of people,  
 situations, nations, and creation.**

*Greetings from National Chaplain Lionel*



Dear Friends,

New Years greetings to you all! The last few months have been rather challenging in many ways. For those of us living in Canterbury the earthquake of September 4 and the subsequent aftershocks are presenting both challenges and opportunities. There are a good number of people who are still very stressed out. Some are still sleeping under a table. Fear is very real and there are many who need to hear and take to heart the words of Jesus to the disciples in the storm:

*"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."* [Mark 6 : 50]

Christians have an opportunity here to say a word in season.

In recent weeks the floods in Australia have caught our attention. We have had floods in parts of NZ too but not on the scale of those in Australia. Please continue to pray for those who are facing all sorts of trauma including the death of loved ones. Remember too our OSL brothers and sisters in the midst of all this.

The Pike River Mine tragedy is still very much in the news. Rachelle and I arrived in Greymouth on the day of the second explosion. We had a meeting with the OSL Healing Group that evening. Our OSL chaplain in Greymouth, Derek Cone, is the chaplain to the police and to a number of firms who had men down the mine. As you can imagine he is very involved in the whole situation and continues to value our prayers. Please continue to pray for all involved in making difficult, far reaching decisions and for the leaders of the churches in Greymouth.

On the wider scene, we received an email from the Rev Asaha Udom, Warden for OSL in Nigeria. This email contained disturbing news about

the persecution of Christians in Nigeria. One sentence from his email stands out:

*"My Conference Secretary, his wife and 3 of their 5 children were burnt alive inside their house, with all the Conference reports. Please keep us in your prayers."*

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in this horrendous situation. We have a special link with OSL Nigeria as it was our NZ OSL that helped them to get started.



All of these situations have a common thread flowing through them: uncertainty.

- Here in Canterbury there is uncertainty as to when the aftershocks will cease, uncertainty when the next one will come, and for many people, uncertainty when their damaged homes will be restored or rebuilt.
- In Australia there is uncertainty when the flooding will cease and when people will be able to return to their homes.
- In Greymouth there is uncertainty about future employment, uncertainty about whether the mine will ever open and uncertainty as to whether loved ones' remains will ever be retrieved.
- In Nigeria there is uncertainty for Christians as to where persecution will occur next.

Into this world of uncertainty comes the promise of God to his people in exile: *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for your harm, to give you a future with hope."*

**[Jeremiah 29:11]**

and Jesus' parting words to his disciples:

*"Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

**[Matthew 28:20]**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Yours in his service,

National Chaplain, Revd Lionel Brown.

*Lionel*

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**Conference 2011**

Our **50 year Celebration** began with **HEAL-LINK Issue 300**



This year we continue our Celebrations giving thanks and glory to God, testifying to the many miracles of healings and gifts over the years and into the future.

***"Glory to God in the highest for the great things he has done in OSL"***

## Appointment of new General Secretary:

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Mary Christian as General Secretary which will take effect from the close of the executive meeting on 5 May. Mary has been a member of the Order since 2002 and is currently secretary of the Mt Pleasant/Pegasus chapter of which Rachelle and I are also members. She is well qualified for the task to which we welcome her.

*Lionel* National Chaplain

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## From Co-General Secretaries:

Dear Friends,

Greetings to all for this new year of 2011. We start the year feeling the burdens of the many disasters of 2010 and the grief and the heartache and the despair of those who have been affected by those disasters. We know that through all this God is still with us and that he shares the burdens with us. We have a God who cares for his creation.

We are just starting the preparation for the **executive meeting** to be held 3 to 5 May at Waikanae. If any chapters have **remits** they wish to submit to executive for consideration, including any that will need to go on to the Triennial conference and council later this year then would you please let us have these by **20 March** so that we can incorporate them in the agenda papers. Any remits must be proposed and seconded by chapter members and agreed to by the chapter and include explanatory notes.

We were delighted to receive **Mary Christian's** application for the **position of General Secretary** and join Lionel in welcoming her to the position. We look forward to working with her and having her as part of the executive.

Our **conference** this year (see details on the next page) is our opportunity to celebrate **50 years** of fellowship, ministry, and encouragement of the churches to practice the healing ministry of Jesus Christ in their worship. Let us together:

- ❖ pray for the conference and the organisers
- ❖ check who your council representatives are
- ❖ ascertain whether they are likely to be able to attend
- ❖ encourage other members to attend
- ❖ start raising money to assist your chapter members to attend

Plan now to be there and put the dates on your calendar.

Every blessing, **Brian and Shirley** *email:gensec@oslnz.org*

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**See website events page for Frank & Gwen Riggs' mission tour itinerary.**

## Triennial Council and Conference 2011

The conference will this year be held at Totara Springs Christian Camp at Matamata in the Midland area of the North Island from Monday 17 to Thursday 20 October. This will incorporate a celebration of 50 years of the Order in New Zealand and some of the founding members will be present. The theme for the conference will be "Jesus' Healing Ministry in Action" and the keynote speaker the Rev Murray Talbot, Senior Pastor of the Hornby Presbyterian Community Church in Christchurch. Registration forms and more details will be distributed in due course.

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## Blenheim-Tasman News

As the Hospital Chaplain I was asked by a nurse to visit an elderly male patient in his late 80's whom she was concerned about. He was restless and anxious and kept telling her he just wanted to die, despite there being no medical diagnoses or reason for this to occur. In fact, he was due to be discharged later in the week. I visited him as requested, and we spent a long time chatting. The man reiterated to me his desire to die, saying he was in pain, and had nothing to live for. In our discussion he told me his sad life history. He divorced after only 2 years of marriage while in his late 20's, and never ever married again. They never had any children – hence he never had grandchildren either, which saddened him. In fact he had no living relatives, and he said, no real friends. His words to me, through his tears were: 'I have no-one who loves me, or cares about me.' He went on to tell me that he had never trained in any job, or had qualifications, and considered himself one of life's failures. We continued our conversation, then I told him that God cared about him, and asked him if he had any faith or belief in God. To which he replied he went to Sunday School as a young boy, but had never had anything to do with the church since then, although he thought there was "a God up there somewhere." As we spoke I asked him again about his wish to die. He replied that's all he wanted, so I asked him if he thought he'd go to heaven when he died – he wasn't sure. This pastoral conversation led to an invitation to know and accept Jesus as his personal Saviour. Then I asked him what else he'd like prayer for, I received the same response, he wanted to die. The gentleman took my hand as I prayed – along the lines that he would be in God's hands, and that the Lord would take him home, if that was His will. He died peacefully in his sleep that evening – knowing the Lord Jesus Christ loved him. The nurses next day, told me they couldn't believe how calm he was following my visit, nor that he had passed away, medically unexpectedly. I told them why! What a privilege to minister in such a situation.

**Kevin Gwynne, Wairau Hospital Chaplain – Blenheim.**

## **A Prayer for Every Morning**

Use this daily prayer for putting on the whole armour of God, or use as a meditation leading to deeper receiving of Christ's saving grace in our lives:

### **THE ARMOUR OF GOD**

The Helmet of Salvation:

I have the mind of Christ. Whatsoever is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, admirable, I shall think about these things.

The Breastplate of Righteousness:

Through faith I am acceptable to God, Christ is my righteousness.

The Belt of Truth:

Sanctify me by your truth. Your word is truth.

The Shoes of the Gospel of peace:

I am reconciled to God, and I take the gospel of reconciliation with me where ever I go.

The Shield of Faith

With which I can quench all the darts of the evil one.

The Sword of the Spirit,

which is the Word of God. Thus says the Lord.

The Garment of Praise, for the Spirit of heaviness

Before me the Cross of Christ,

The banner under which I fight,

I am crucified with Christ.

It is no longer I that live, but Christ who lives in me.

And the life I now live in the flesh,

I live by faith in the Son of God

Who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Anne Wesley (Area Convenor)**

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### **HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?**

Have you ever wondered, just what it was really like

The night the sky was lit, by the moving star so bright?

How all the shepherds fell silent, as the angel voices sang?

Their glorious Hosannas, as across the fields it rang.

Have you ever tried to feel, what others felt that morn?

When the God child, a human baby, was finally born?

Have you ever wondered, as you saw the Babe in the hay?

Would it have changed your life forever, that first Christmas Day?

Then travelling from afar, the Three Wise Men did come,

And gazed in awesome wonder, at God's only Son.

Have you ever wondered, did they know how His life would be?

That all the love He brought with Him, He'd bestow on you and me.

And if He called – 'Follow Me.' and gently touched your hand

Would you have up and gone with Him, as He walked a distant land?

Have You Ever Wondered.....?

**Marie Higgs (Picton Chapter) ©2010**

**From Central Area Convenor** [comes this testimony of ministry to prisoners, for which Chapters might pray. Our Auckland Area Chaplain has passed to me letters from a prisoner in Auckland Prison, which I have now passed on to the Prison Chaplain. Without realising the significance of his prayer requests, this man is seeking **healing**, not of his physical body but of his whole body, soul and spirit; "**wholeness**". See day 27 on our Monthly Prayer Calendar; and please do pray for people in prison, on probation, prison guards & enforcement officers – **Ed**]

Recently I was with our prison ministry group and we were worshipping, praying and talking with the prisoners who came to the prison chapel.

During the discussion time I was with a prisoner who (by his own admission) had committed murder. His family example was not good in that he had siblings and at least one parent who had also committed murder.

However God had started to reach out to him in that place and his first steps in response were to come to the chapel. Here he had questions and more questions and we were hard put to keep up with his desire to know more. The final question almost stumped us and it was, "What does God look like?" I was a bit thrown by this and made a quick prayer "What can I tell him Lord?" and God gave this answer for him, "Look in your mirror – you are made in God's image."

This previously violent man has now started an ongoing journey with God and has begun, with God's help, to heal the wounds to his self image that will allow him to break his cycle of violent offending. God's healing power at work in our prisons!

**John Merriman**

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### **Editor's Apology**

When Janice & I returned home after two weeks away during January, exploring the East Coast and visiting friends and sites all the way, we arrived home to find over 100 emails in our Outlook folders. Trying to sort through all this email correspondence and stuff I blundered into losing much of it!

Therefore, I apologise to all those members who sent me contributions to HEAL-LINK before 2/02/2011 and which have not appeared in this issue. Please resend your email and we look forward to reading your testimony in the next HEAL-LINK.

By the way, Janice and I spent five days at New Wine 2011 at Totara Springs, Matamata from 10<sup>th</sup> January. We thoroughly enjoyed Mike Pilavachi, the Keynote speaker and leader of Soul Survivor Church in UK, Bishop Richard Ellena of Nelson and others. Prayer ministry for healing, faith and receiving the Holy Spirit is always an integral part of the New Wine holiday experience for families and friends. We always meet several OSL members at New Wine gatherings.

If you would like more information, email; [admin@newwine.org.nz](mailto:admin@newwine.org.nz)

**Neville Cooper, Editor**



## Healings at New Wine 2011

This is my experience of God using me for healing at New Wine in Waikanae in January.

After the keynote address the speaker said, "we are going to wait on the Lord; not start praying immediately, just wait on the Lord".

I was sitting in the front row, doing nothing – and that's hard for me to sit doing nothing. I could not see what was going on behind me. I felt my hands getting hot, so I opened them out in front of me. I could feel my arms but my hands felt like they were someone else's. The speaker then said that some were feeling healing in their hands to be used for healing, and then my lips began to get dry and hot.

The minister then said that some were getting dry lips; he said that those people were getting the gift of the word from God. I was then getting this intense pressure inside me. During the ministry time prayer ministry team were praying for me and afterwards the Lord gave me words for others.

*[Looking back at it now I felt as though I was a clay model being worked into any shape. But if you have old or weathered clay it needs water and shaping with the hands for some time and a lot of work to bring it back into a usable piece of clay.]*

The Lord gave me four words for different people for healing: someone with a right forearm; another who had head pain for 15 years; and I can't remember the others. After praying with them and watching what the Lord was doing I said to them have you noted any change. All four were healed. After the prayer meeting was over, I asked two of the prayer ministry team to pray for me. They laid hands on my shoulder and prayed. As they prayed I could feel another hand in the middle of my back and the heat was intense. I felt the hand was pushing upwards and I thought I was getting a word of knowledge saying, "It is my hand on you."

Afterwards I asked them if anyone had laid a hand on my back. No! They had only laid a hand on my shoulder.

**David Growcott, Auckland**

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## Sharing Magazine

Subscriptions are about to be renewed for this inspirational publication from OSL International which is issued 9 times a year. At current rates the cost would be \$40 each per year but this could change by the time we have orders in. Please contact us urgently if you wish to start a new subscription. Please do not send any money until you receive an invoice.

**Brian and Shirley Flower**

## NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Whangarei: Mrs Anne Wilson  
Johnsonville: Mr David Eyles  
Otaki: Mrs Catherine Watson



## NEW FULL MEMBERS:

Whangarei: Mr Graeme Prestidge

## ROLL OF HONOUR: Members called to Higher Service

Hibiscus Coast: Mrs Noeleen Butcher  
Wanganui: Miss Dorothy Camp



## DIRECTORY AMENDMENTS:

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## GENERAL INFORMATION:-

The Order of St Luke the Physician in NZ is a Registered Charitable Trust. Donations can 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.

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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.

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## Reminder: Dead-line for **HEAL-LINK Issue 302** is 1 April 2011

This issue is the turn of **Canterbury Area** to lead with contributions; **All members** are invited to contribute to **HEAL-LINK**; it is your newsletter! Please send your copy to the Editor:-

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*Whatever you ask the Father in My name, I will do -- that the Son may bring glory to the Father. And if you ask Me anything in My name, I will grant it.*

*John 14: 13-14*