



*The Order of St Luke the Physician
in New Zealand*

HEAL-LINK

July - August 2007

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



Greetings everyone from Warden Brian,

Thank you for your prayers and support while Alexis & I have been traveling overseas to the OSL International Conference in Swaneck, UK. We look forward to sharing our experiences with you in the coming months.

In the last **HEAL-LINK** I contributed a happening from my pastoral days called **TRY TEARS**. It was about a young policeman who came to me after experiencing the loss of his wife in a late-night train accident. I cried with him as he told me his story.

Sometimes in my movements around the district, I would see him. Often I would go with my children to the local school and see this widowed officer, a blond-haired child in each hand taking them into the pre-school next to the school. A couple of years went by. One day I was shopping in the local supermarket and I came near to a lady pushing a trolley. She was accompanied by two young children. I noticed the loving way she tended and talked to them. At one point she fussed a little over the girl's hair. Out of nowhere appeared an off-duty policeman. He walked briskly over to me and, with a smile, asked me to come over to the small group of three with the trolley. "Mr Hooper, I'd like you to meet my wife." And he briefly explained to her how he had visited me after he had lost his first wife.

Ecclesiastes contains some wise healing principles. You will recall Chapter 3 with its opposites: "A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted etc." There is a time to heal and, a time to build up (v3), a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance..." With that policeman it was a time to weep and mourn with him. And God did a healing work in him. Ecclesiastes 2:26 says: "To the person who pleases Him, God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy..." (Amplified)

Our role in life is to seek to please God, gain God's wisdom, knowledge and joy, and become healing vessels to needy people in this world. Blessings to you all,

Warden Brian

The Rev Dr Brian Hooper
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Paraparaumu Beach

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From Co-General Secretaries

Dear Friends,

and, with our having joined Telecom's "Talk it up Downunder" scheme giving us unlimited calling throughout New Zealand, we are making many new friends as we call Members of the Order throughout the country from Kaitaia to Invercargill and at the same time achieve greater efficiency in our looking after the affairs of the Order as well as being able to bring a more personal approach and share something of the difficulties that various members are experiencing.

Thank you to those Chapters who have already sent in their Annual Returns for 2007 and we look forward to receiving the remainder shortly.

Warden Brian and Alexis, together with a group of about 7 others from New Zealand have recently returned from the International Conference of OSL held in England about which Warden Brian has written, and we appreciate their sharing of their experiences with us. Our thoughts are now turning to the next meeting of our New Zealand Triennial Warden's Council and Conference from **midday 17 to midday 19 October, 2008** at El Rancho Christian Holiday Park at Waikanae, which is a well administered facility.

The New Zealand Warden's Council and Conference is a time of great fellowship, inspiration and rejuvenation and an opportunity for Members of Executive, Chapter Representatives and any other Members and Friends of OSL who are able to come to take part in the worship, studies, fellowship and business. This is an opportunity to be a part of the decision making process of the Order's life and outreach. Please give prayerful consideration to setting aside the dates to attend the Warden's Council and Conference 2008.

May God's grace go with you all.

Your servants in Christ

Brian and Shirley

Co-General Secretaries

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Report from Warden Brian on 3rd International OSL Conference

Greetings and Blessings to everyone;

As you know, I and a group of New Zealand members attended the International Conference in England. Alexis and I were truly blessed and challenged. I had the privilege of giving the closing address – my subject being “Jesus, the Servant King.” All the speakers during the week before me were the best one could hear anywhere. I have a set of DVD and CD recordings of the messages and will co-ordinate with our General Secretaries to arrange that they be available to Chapters.

When the Wardens met to discuss the next International Conference, two important decisions were made: Firstly, the next would be in Canada (2010), then New Zealand (2013) and Holland (2016). Secondly, they would be three years apart rather than five. All Wardens noted the special bonding that takes place in an international setting – and recognised the need to meet more frequently as we are a world-wide family.

If I were to give a few impressions of Conference I would say:

- (1) There is a tremendous desire to reach out to the disadvantaged spiritually and bodily. Prayer for people and counselling is increasingly used.
- (2) There are many effective ministries of healing being established by church and OSL people. One ‘clinic’ has a staff of 30 and is open day and night to passers-by. The clinic is in a shop within a commercial area.
- (3) Which leads me to observe that OSL people generally feel that OSL has a responsibility to establish healing ‘clinics’ and bring the healing ministry to the person ‘in the street’. While there is great value in the ‘retreat’ type homes that we know of and support in New Zealand, there are more of the ‘prayer and counselling centre’ types being established in the busy market-places. And healing for ‘spirit, soul and body’ is sought.

Food for thought!

Brian

News from Chapters

From **Tararua Area:**

The Tararua Chapter held a QUIET DAY at St. Mary’s Anglican Church, Whitby on Saturday, 16 June. Representatives from all the Chapters in the Area attended this gathering - about 25+. The theme for the day was "**Stepping Out in Faith, and the Healing Ministry - The OSL Vision**" Three speakers (all Chaplains - Margaret Andrews (Otaki); Jim Bentall (Kapiti) and Michael Bain, Wellington North) approached the message from different angles -- each one giving us much food for thought. After each speaker there was time for group discussion which proved very lively. We

also heard a very moving testimony given by a visitor who had had time in prison. Dennis Cassells-Minnoch (Wellington North and parishioner of St Mary’s) organised the music for us and Moya led us in prayer and praise.

We had the added blessing of sharing our lunch time with a working-bee team from Habitat for Humanity who were building a house on the site. There was enough food to feed the 5,000! We enjoyed much sharing; meeting those we knew and those we’d not met before.

It was great fellowship.

KAPITI CHAPTER/TARARUA AREA

Extract from sermon by Jim Cornish, Healing Service in April

(Received in June from Moya -- Eds)

"Vicar Bob suggested that I say something about my six-week experience in three hospitals, with five operations on my right calf in December and January. I found this same caring message - The nurses and doctors in our hospitals are truly devoted, selfless, concerned, caring and compassionate people living out Christ's command, whether they know it or not. Indeed we in NZ are most fortunate with our hospitals and medical services. I no longer regret having paid taxes for over 60 years!

But the most outstanding fact that I learned - which is the same message that Jesus is advocating in our Gospel -- that those of my fellow patients who purposely avoided thinking of themselves and kept thinking of others - - seemed to cope with pain and suffering far better than those who thought only of themselves.

One Christian doctor put it this way: "Pain is one of the mysteries in the universe - it is greatly aggravated by self-pity and self concern."

This is how Jesus handled the pain of the Cross so heroically. Jesus' sensitive soul was never ensnared by self-pity. A heart occupied with love for others may not be proof against pain, but the love seems to help in moderating it. It became clear to me that selfishness increases pain, while selflessness tends to dissipate it. Jesus was the most selfless person that ever lived. He suffered incredibly - but He never lapsed into self-pity. The strength of Christ's Spirit, His dedication to the task His Father had given Him and the sheer selflessness of His very being - enabled Him to rise above the barrier of pain. The message is clear... Self-pity and self-realisation are not part of Christ's teaching - we have to deny ourselves to follow Jesus. Pain and suffering and agony, if it has God behind it, can be turned into triumphant victory. Jesus went through ultimate agony and had the ultimate triumph"

News from Southern Area

(Received in May, after HEAL-LINK had 'gone to press' – Apology, Eds)

During March we were visited by our roving OSL Missioner, Derek Lightbourne.

After a successful weekend ministry at Halswell, (17-18 March), he arrived in Dunedin to hold a day seminar called 'Healing in the Book of Revelation'. This was well received and afterwards we admitted some ex-GSR members. The next day (22nd) we travelled to Gore, where we held another day seminar with the Theme 'Healing Ministry, then & now: its relevance for today.' This also was enjoyed by all and was also followed by a Healing Service, which included the admission of some ex-GSR members. Immediately following that we drove to Invercargill, where we had a very pleasant informal meeting with local OSL members, which led to a revived OSL chapter there, plus the admission of two ex-GSR members to OSL.

On the 25th Derek preached twice at Oamaru, followed by an afternoon seminar – 'Having a Healing ministry in Your Church.' This was hosted by St Mary's (Revd Sue McCafferty), and was well attended.

On the 31st Derek combined his skills with Gerald & Maureen Harley (missionaries) to lead a Day on 'Resolving Conflict – a Biblical Approach'. This day was very well attended by people from all over Central Otago. Many thanks to those who prepared for it!

On Sunday morning, 1 April, Derek preached at St Aidan's, Otago Peninsula, and then went to St Lukes, Taieri, for an afternoon seminar using the theme 'Living with Stress'. After another shared meal(!) we concluded with a Healing service, during which we admitted some new members.

This was a good time of teaching and ministry for Otago & Southland and I thank all those who helped to make it such a success.

Alison S. Latton, Southern Area Convenor.

Winter Weather!

Haven't we seen some extreme weather this July? In the south there's been snow, ice, sleet and very cold; in the north extreme winds and heavy rains; in the east unseasonable cold and more rain; in the west frightening tornadoes and even more rain. We are all affected in some way by winter weather and members were praying for one another as well as sufferers. Typical of peoples experiences was this response **Prayer-Link** received from Manna Healing Centre, Oakura, Taranaki:

"Dear Frank and Gwen,

We are fine here, with no damage at all to Manna. We praise God that no lives were lost and recognise it as a real miracle when we saw the extent of the damage. Some amazing stories are beginning to emerge. Our God is an awesome God!!!! Thank you for your love and prayers.

Ivan and Helen (Dunnett)."

Two Testimonies from Tararua

In January 2000, the Lord put it on our hearts to visit a Christian man who was in hospital after a heart attack. He had endured a number of these attacks, and this last one proved nearly fatal. He told us that he was in a very serious situation, because daily ECGs revealed that he could have another heart attack at any time and the doctors told him that there was nothing they could do to save him.

We laid our hands on him and prayed. Next day the doctor went to him with a perplexed look and told him that he couldn't understand it, but the ECG showed there was now nothing wrong with his heart. Now more than seven years later he is still alive and has not had another attack since then.

Praise the Lord.

Pat and Anne, Tararua Postal

Greetings to you all.

Thank you all for your prayers while I was in hospital during Jan, Feb and Apr 2007. I was in room 10 with four others when one was discharged. At five o'clock that night we were told we were to move to another room and I ended up in room 7 with one other. By daybreak the room was full. Two days later one guy picked up his guitar and went walk about. A few minutes later I decided to find out where he had gone to. The person opposite me missed my presence and decided to find out where I had gone to. Three of us were in the lounge when a lady came in (she was from the Cook Islands) and from room 12.

We started to SING AND PRAISE THE LORD. After a while we stopped and introduced ourselves then returned to our singing. When we started back to our beds, we found the Ward doors were locked!! The Bell was pushed and a nurse soon had us back inside. In the morning the person next to me asked, "Did you hear that music last night? It was beautiful!" So I told him the story and he said that if his wife had been here she would have joined us. We were four Christians in a room of 5 patients! During the day and night when a bag is getting empty, the timer makes a loud noise "bing, bing, bong". I commented on this and the nurse responded, "Just make up words to go with it." So we sang: "Jesus is Lord; Jesus loves me; Jesus heals me." EVERYONE LIKED TO WORK IN ROOM SEVEN.

Your prayers worked.

John Hayward, Chaplain Levin.

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,

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RESOURCES: New Study or Reading Material

For those who have used or read 'Channels of Healing' and 'Searching Questions', there is a new Resource recently become available in the same series: "In search of Wholeness – a Christian Perspective"

The studies begin with a focus on personal wholeness of body, mind and spirit. This is then extended to the influences of living in society, with what affects our life as a Christian. The author then considers our living in God's creation, and some of the current world issues such as availability of water, and of stewardship of creation. Dr Wellock brings a Biblical perspective and offers suggestions for prayer. This aspect of the book is towards fulfillment of OSL being 'dedicated to.....healing of situations, of nations, and of God's creation.' Throughout the Chapters there are insightful questions for personal reflection (or discussion). Then there is a Section on 'steps and strategies' for group discussion. Overall there are 12 Studies, but for the average Chapter Meeting it would likely be more helpful to consider sections as provided for in the 'Personal Reflection' questions. Peter Wellock is Warden-Elect of the Australian OSL and his ministry has included teaching, lecturing and pastoral ministry.

As with the other books of the series, the price will be \$10 plus postage. Please do not send money, an Invoice will be sent. Order from: Mrs Betty Meyers, the Resource Assistant, postal 34a Halswater Drive, Churton Park, Wellington 6037 or email ecmeyers@paradise.net.nz

A Collection of Poems by Doreen Gibson

Doreen (Northern Postal Member) has sent us a copy of her little booklet – it's the same size as HEAL-LINK but with 24 pages and over 100 poems -- which she wrote during the years 1972–2000. Her poems are clear, spiritual thoughts put into verse and could be used as prayers, meditations, reflection or relaxation –Ed. A brief sample:-

MEDITATION

I dwell in the heart of God – His love is mine.
I breathe in the breath of God – Spirit divine.
Upheld by the power of God – nothing can harm.
Poised in the Peace of God – and all is calm.

For more info or a copy, contact Mrs Doreen Gibson, Phone (09) 534 2027
1/28 Barrowdace Avenue, Botany Downs, Manukau 2010

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"

Directory 2006-07 Amendments:

- Page 3: **Whangarei Chapter:** meets on 3rd Tuesdays
- Page 4: **Putaruru Chapter:** now in recess
- Page 6: **Kapiti Chapter:** Secretary's new address: 23 Grantham Court
- Page 7: **Greymouth Chapter:** email derekccone@xtra.co.nz
Takaka Chapter Secretary Mr Richard N Papps ph 03 525 8043
193 A Commercial St, Takaka 7110 gbanglican@xtra.co.nz
Westport Chapter Secretary, new address, 49A Brougham St
- Page 10: **Titoki Healing Home:** email titokichc@xtra.co.nz



NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: We warmly welcome into the Order

- Hibiscus Coast Chapter:** Mrs Ngaire Pierce
- Midland Postal Chapter:** Mr Peter and Mrs Doreen Stickland
- Palmerston Nth Chapter:** Mrs Reima Casey, Mrs Jeannette Melton
- Blenheim Chapter:** Mrs Julie Harper
- Nelson Chapter:** Miss Gillian Partridge
- Westport Chapter:** Rev Jesse Holland
- Canterbury Postal Chapter:** Mrs Margaret Allan, Ms Angie McCormick
- Cheviot Chapter:** Mr Earl Edlin, Mrs Elizabeth Edlin
- Invercargill Chapter:** Mrs Grace Nuttall



NEW FULL MEMBERS: Congratulations and a warm welcome to:-

- Hamilton:** Dr Rachel Wood
- Blen/Tasman Postal:** Rev Alec Brown
- Southern Postal:** Mr Keith Gover, Mrs Aureen Schroder
- Invercargill Chapter:** Mr Sid Stratton



ROLL OF HONOUR: Members called to Higher Service

- Napier Chapter:** Mr Ralph Pearce
- Central Postal:** Mrs Isobel Wilkins
- Wanganui Chapter:** Mrs Doris Sanson, Mrs Zola Simpson
- Southern Postal:** Mrs Ida Smith

WARDEN ELECT: Please remember in prayer the nomination and election of the next Warden God is calling to serve the Order from St Luke's Day 2008.



GENERAL INFORMATION:- The OSLNZ Website is <http://www.oslnz.org> HEAL-LINK is now available and can be downloaded from the website.

Reminder: Next dead-line HEAL-LINK is 1st October 2007.

We look forward to receiving your stories, letters, testimonies, obituaries or any suitable contribution. Let us have any quotations that appeal to you; others may also enjoy it! Please send your copy to the Editors:-

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