

A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.

Proverbs 15:30

Chairpersons Report

Last year I believe we had a very successful year which has positioned us well for the future, we were able to attract over forty registered nurses to a four day conference. For many this was an opportunity to explore the opportunities of combining faith and profession in a meaningful way. God graced the committee with great speakers and enthusiastic attendees surrounded by great scenery and food. What more could we have asked for?

This year the committee seeks to undertake a visioning exercise to cement the longevity of Faith Community Nursing not only into the mind set of Faith Communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand but also to the nursing Profession.

The issues facing the success of Faith Community Nursing within the country seem to revolve around:

- Continuing to introduce this value added concept to those involved in ministry.
- Supporting those who are currently practicing Parish Nursing, through ongoing education, regional mentoring/listening ear/ongoing advice.
- National support through policy development, networking both nationally and internationally, advertising and general "how to" advice.
- To network within the profession of nursing for the growth of the awareness and acknowledgement of Parish Nursing as a relevant section of Primary Health Care.

All of this takes commitment and funding, but more importantly knowledge that what we are involved with, indeed passionate about, is that this is God's work and his heart's desire. With what skills and energy we have, we proclaim his Gospel, Matthew 25. 40 "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

While our challenges appear to be many and the workers sometimes appear few, we must stay focused that with God's help we can and will make a difference.

Wendy Scott

CONTACTS:

Chairperson:

Wendy Scott

E-mail: munford@inspire.net.nz

Secretary/Treasurer:

Diane Webster

P.O. Box 64Kaiapoi

Tel: 03 310 7222

Fax: 03 310 7223

E-mail: cgwebster@xtra.co.nz

Editor:

Kris Telfer

E-mail: krist@adhb.govt.nz

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Website: www.faithnursing.co.nz

Day Retreat

SPIRITUAL BALM FOR NURSES

A day of Reflection & Refreshment
for Christian Nurses

Date: Saturday 10th June

Time: 10am - 3.30pm

Place: Spirituality Centre

105 The Drive, Epsom

Cost: \$20.00 Lunch Provided

Presenter:

Sister Sharon Fitzgerald RGS



This is a time for those who care, to be nourished, to experience harmony within themselves and within the universe.

It is a time to STOP, to REFLECT, and to take TIME.

It is necessary to enrol for the day.

Phone (09) 6386238 for bookings.



He is risen!

REGIONAL REPORTS

Auckland:

Angela Anderson has done a presentation to an Anglican parish in Whangaparaoa which is considering the FCN model.

Margaret is very busy at the moment as her Minister is away for 3 months, so she is the main support for parishioners who are unwell and first point of call for pastoral care. Please pray for her during this time. Margaret has also organized a day retreat for Parish Nurses, with a friend of hers. See info on left.

Anne is in need of prayer as she is supporting her colleagues at her centre with their work and employment conditions.

Tauranga/Bay of Plenty:

Dorothy Finlay has been setting up a clinic at Elim Tauranga Church, with Jan Catchpole. Initially they are planning a "Wellness Clinic" for a group of 40 -50 homeless people who receive a free hot meal at the church twice a month. They are very excited about this program.

Anne Davidson is still busy working at her nursing role within her church.

Hawkes Bay:

Anne Simonsen along with the health committee from St Mary's Catholic Church conducted a health education survey in February. She was overwhelmed by the response. The survey also identified those willing to volunteer and assist Anne and the parishioners so she now has a number of people willing to help and to support her.

Anne receives referrals from the hospital Chaplain, community support services and other parishioners.

Canterbury/West Coast:

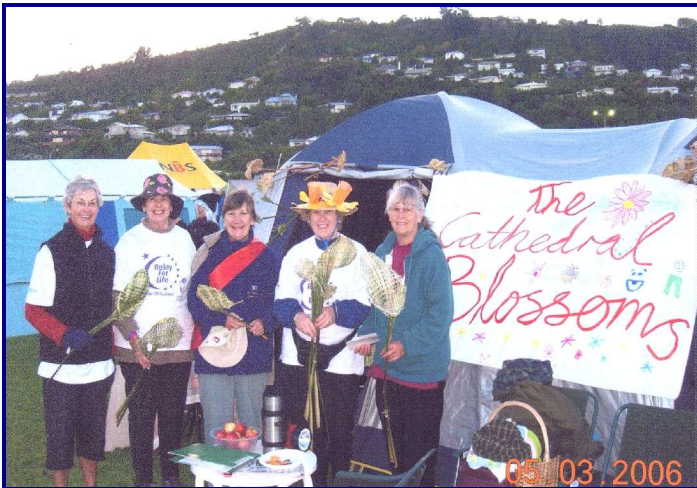
Lesley Askin has sent a small number of information packs out since the conference last year. She has recently visited Marjorie Newcombe in Greymouth and has seen first hand the excellent service that she provides in her role. Marjorie will be overseas for 3 months from June. Her son is getting married in Dublin. Her stand in will be Corraleigh Dodd, who will keep up her monthly clinics and check BP's. Hopefully Corraleigh will stay on as an assistant as Marjorie has the addition of the Cobden/Runanga Parish to her workload.

One extraordinary story from Canterbury is that of Noreen Wright, FCN at Avonhead Baptist Church. She started a foot clinic a couple of years ago. This clinic provides assessment, massage, podiatry referral and social contact for around 110 people. Many of these are from outside the faith community. Noreen has also been instrumental in encouraging the establishment of two other clinics in neighbouring churches. She will be sharing the story with the upcoming regional support group gathering.

Nelson:

Valerie Sirett and the Parish Nurse Team from Nelson Cathedral recently participated in the Cancer Society Relay for Life. Their team, the Cathedral Blossoms, was one of 140 teams involved. She writes

“The atmosphere had to be experienced, everyone there friendly and supportive. There was continuous entertainment on the stage encouraging walkers during the early evening, then the candlelit ceremony at 10pm. The 600metre track was surrounded by candle bags about 6 inches apart, each bag in remembrance of a cancer sufferer. The candles were lit at 9.30pm and were still burning at dawn! The teams at the closing ceremony at 8am were only a little subdued, some of our ‘Blossoms’ were feeling a little wilted however had huge smiles as we circled the track on the final lap and heard a voice from the crowd ‘The Cathedral Rocks!’.”



From the Editor

Hi everyone, I hope you all had a good Easter break and a chance to stop and reflect on Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection.

It is very exciting reading about what Faith Community Nurses are doing throughout New Zealand. Please continue to pray for one another and for the new ministries starting up.

If there is anything you would like included in this newsletter please email me at krist@adhb.govt.nz, Thank you.

May God bless you.

Kris Telfer

Therefore as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:12 & 3:17

IPRNC eNotes :

Recently, 60 nurses went through a Parish Nurse Basic Preparation Course in the Dioceses of Witbank and Durban in South Africa They are bringing healing and hope through congregational health ministries to a new part of the world.

Please pray for these nurses and their ministry.

For more international information visit the International Parish Resource Center at www.parnurses.org.

Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

Proverbs 16:3

NZFCNA SEMINAR

This year's seminar will be held in Christchurch, On either the 21st or 28th of October.

Date after next board meeting this month.

NEXT BOARD MEETING is on the 27th of April.
