



CHAPLAINCY MESSENGER

For: All Hospital Chaplains, Assistants, LSP and Trust Board Members

Messenger Vol 11 # 1

4 February 2010

Hospital Chapels

Christchurch led the way in the provision of chapels in New Zealand hospitals. According to "The Story of NZ's Hospital Chapels" written in 1966 by Alexander Prentice, NZ's first hospital chapel was erected at Christchurch Hospital as a memorial to those of its Nursing sisters who made the supreme sacrifice when the troop ship "Marquette" was torpedoed in the gulf of Selonika on 23 October 1915. The chapel was dedicated in 1928 and 50 years after the sinking of the "Marquette" on Sunday 24 October 1965, 33 survivors attended a special service in the memorial chapel led by the Bishop of Christchurch. Sunnyside Hospital Chapel in 1960, Burwood Hospital in 1961 and Templeton Hospital in 1966 all followed.

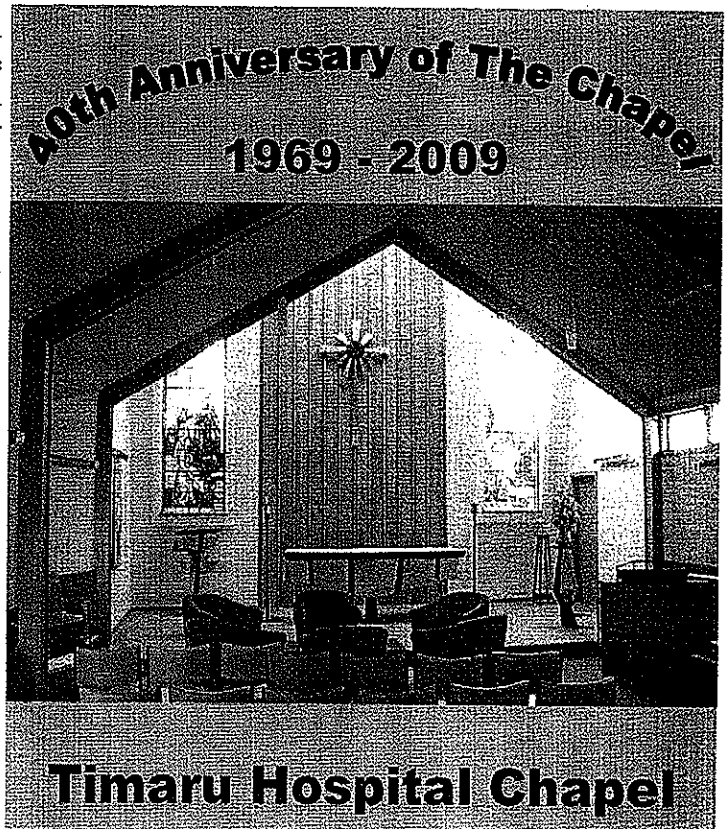
The value of Hospital Chapels, or Spiritual Centres, today as places for peoples of all faiths is not doubted. Again it was Christchurch in the 1990's that paved the way for this development in the new Christchurch Hospital with a new chapel to cater "for many faiths". As Yvonne Martin of the Christchurch Press wrote then "God is having to make room in the Country's Hospital chapels for Buddha and Allah".

Spiritual wellbeing is a fundamental right under the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. Meeting the spiritual needs of people in hospital is also a requirement in New Zealand under the Health and Disability Sector Standards and became mandatory from October 2004, pursuant to the Health and Disabilities (Safety) Act 2001.

Spirituality is much wider than church or religion. It includes those deep human needs for belonging, finding meaning in life, enjoying significant relationships and connectedness with others – and with God; feeling valued and appreciated as a unique person. It also includes opportunities to appreciate beauty, experience appropriate rituals, enjoy music, be creative, enjoy the natural world, create and savour memories, and much more. Spirituality also includes cultural experiences, as appropriate. While recognising the breadth of spiritual needs it is also true that Chapels and Spiritual centres with their candles, religious relics, symbols, quietness, can be an important place for patients and the families of patients, as they reconnect with their beliefs and faith at the time of a serious illness, accident or impending death.

The ICHC contract with the Ministry of Health for the provision of hospital chaplaincy services in the public health sector, provides for LSP's and Chaplains to work with DHB's to ensure chapel facilities are maintained in a functional and comfortable condition at all times. "ICHC is not responsible for any costs relating to the building or maintenance of chapels."

In recognition of "the chaplains as an integral part of the multi-disciplinary health care team" hospitals are increasingly ensuring that they site their chaplains' offices near to the chapel or spiritual centre. This again is something Christchurch Hospital led in the 1990's.



Timaru Hospital Chapel

This Chapel is dedicated to the glory of God
It is the gift of Past and Present Nursing Staff,
Grateful Patients and many other Benefactors
6 December 1969

Timaru Hospital celebrated the 40th anniversary of the dedication of their Chapel with a service of Thanksgiving on 4 December 2009. 70 people almost filled the Chapel including former Chaplains Winston Marshall, Ken Davy, Peter Gardner and Michael Kerr but the majority were nurses and staff from the 1960's and 70's.

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Chaplaincy Aotearoa New Zealand
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ICHC Database update

As it is time once again to check that we have the correct contact details for our LSP committee members enclosed for LSP's is list of the information we have for your committee. Staff will be contacting Denominational Church offices to update their details over the next few weeks.

Performance and Development Appraisals

In February we will be commencing this year's cycle of Performance and Development Appraisals for our Chaplains, if you receive a request for feedback it would be appreciated if this could be completed as soon as possible.

Office Staff Movements in February

National Executive Officer

- 11 Feb Interviews for position at Waikato Hospital advertised in December
- 16 & 17 Feb Attending Midland and Central Region chaplains training in Hastings
- 24 Feb Wellington regional chaplains' potluck dinner in Hutt Valley

dates to be confirmed:

- Interviews for position at Gisborne Hospital
- Meeting with management Counties Manukau DHB

National Administrator/Trainer

- 16 & 17 Feb Attending Midland and Central Region chaplains training in Hastings
- 24 Feb Wellington regional chaplains potluck dinner in Hutt Valley
- 25 & 26 Feb On leave



Ron Malpass
National Executive Officer

Staff Movements

Departures

- Rev Hausia Taufui**, Ecumenical Chaplain, Christchurch Hospital. Hausia will complete his service on 31 March.
- Rev Margaret Parsons**, Ecumenical Chaplain, Waikato Hospital. Margaret completed her service late last year.

Vacancies

- Full time Ecumenical Chaplain, Christchurch Hospital.**
Applications close on 26 February.
- Full time Ecumenical Chaplain, Waikato Hospital.**
Applications close on 26 February.

NZHCA Conference 2010



Care Of The Soul

16 – 20 August 2010
Monday 2pm – Friday Noon

*Kingsgate Hotel
Fenton Street
ROTORUA*

Keynote Speakers: Jenni and Gary Wegener
Some of the workshops offered will be:

- Care of the Aging Soul
- Care of the Indigenous Soul
- Care of the Team Soul
- Care of the Psychiatric Patient Soul

Registrations required by 31 March, forms are enclosed with this Chaplaincy Messenger

Thought for the month:

"Life is like a mirror, we get the best results when we smile at it."

Anon