



CHAPLAINCY MESSENGER

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

Vol 10 #9

2 November 2009

Gathering of LSP Chairs and ICHC Trust Board members proves valuable

The gathering in Wellington on 7 October has again proved a very valuable time for those involved, particularly newly appointed chairpersons, according to the feed back received.

The address by DHB NZ chairperson Peter Glensor, helped unpack what the Minister of Health's mantra of "needing to provide more with less" is starting to mean for DHB's and hospitals in this time of constrained increases in funding for vote Health. In recent weeks the outcome of the review the Minister of Health, Tony Ryall had commissioned, to look at separating the ministry's policy responsibility from its funding arm which has been frequently talked about by the Minister, MoH and DHB staff, has started to appear.

The announcement in the past week by the Minister of the appointment of former Treasury secretary Murray Horn to chair the advisory board for the new "National Health Board" which will supervise the present \$9.7 billion that the 21 district health boards spend each year on hospital and primary health care, is a further step in making this separation. Some LSP's are finding the hospital members on their committees are unsettled by their management positions being disestablished, or the prospect of having to compete with their colleagues for a reduced number of positions in DHB's. We will all want to watch developments closely.

Charities Commission

A number of Committees will be filing their first *Annual Summary Return* with the Charities Commission shortly. Having completed an annual return already for another organisation Margaret has supplied a copy of the panels to be completed and this is attached with this Messenger so you will know what information you will need to collect to complete the return, along with some explanatory notes to assist. You can also make the officer / membership changes at the same time as submitting your return. The cost of filing your return electronically is less than by paper.

Refreshment Leave

Attached with this "Messenger" is a copy of the application form for those who may wish to apply for Refreshment Leave and a copy of the revised Section 3 of the Hospital Chaplaincy Personnel Policies Handbook which sets out the new policy and procedures along with other recent changes relating to leave.

Police Clearances

The turn around in Police check forms at present is 3-4 months. It is important that chaplains get applicants for Chaplaincy Assistant training courses to complete police check forms before the start of their training course or on the first night. That way there is a chance that their clearance will arrive around the time they complete their course and are ready to start visiting on the wards.

Snippets from the ICHC AGM - 8 October

- The Board reappointed Dr Bryan Bang as its chairperson.
- The Executive Committee for the coming year is Dr Bryan Bang, Chair, Rev Alex Czerwonka, Rev Nigel Hanscamp, Mr Peter Montague, Miss Prue Neild, Major Gay Roberts. (The Rev Max Reid will attend meetings when available pending the appointment of a new member).
- The Board noted that two partner churches ACTS Churches NZ and Christian Churches NZ are still to nominate replacements for vacancies in their trustees on the ICHC Trust Board. There is a need for all 9 partners to be represented and active to maintain the credibility and importance of the Hospital Chaplaincy Service nationally.
- The Board approved its new strategic plan.
- The Executive Committee was asked to continue to explore alternative options for the on-going training of chaplains as an alternative pathway to accreditation. This will be done in association with NZHCA.
- A copy of the ICHC Trust Board Annual Report for the year to 30 June 2009 is enclosed.

New Books

“Messages from the Heart an Odyssey in Palliative Care” by Dr James Carstens,

James is a Palliative Care Physician, who set up the Gisborne Palliative care service in 1980.

A number of us had the privilege to be present at the Midland regional Hospital Chaplaincy training day at Gisborne Hospital in February this year, when Dr Carstens gave us a moving presentation on walking the journey with the terminally ill. This book draws on his 29 years working in this field and his strong Christian faith. It addresses emotions as a vital part of our human make-up and the part they can play in the development of diseases like cancer. The good news he has, is we have a choice how we respond. The book is not about death and dying, but about life and living – about setting captives free from harmful emotions. It is written for everyone interested in the connection between emotional and physical well-being.

At 240 pages for \$10 (a price which is less than the cost of publication) **plus \$4.50 postage** I expect this will be worthwhile reading and a useful addition to each chaplaincy team’s library.

Copies are available from Dr James Carstens, 112 Balance St, Gisborne 4010 or Email jamesc@slingshot.co.nz.

“Hope is our Song” is the NZ Hymn Book Trust’s new book released at Labour Weekend.

This new book of New Zealand hymns and songs includes in published form our Hospital Chaplains hymn “In the name of Christ” written for ICHC’s first chaplaincy appeal week in 2006 by Prof .Colin Gibson of Dunedin. It is number 75 in this wonderful collection of new songs. The book has good indexes which the earlier publications in the series Alleluia Aotearoa & Faith Forever Singing didn’t have.

Office Staff Movements in November

National Executive Officer

- 5-11 Nov Attending Methodist Church Conference in Christchurch
18 -19 Nov Midland regional chaplains training in Hamilton
30 Nov ICHC Executive Committee meeting in Wellington

To be advised:

Interviews at Auckland City Hospital

National administrator/ Training facilitator

- 9-13 With Chaplains and LSP at Auckland City Hospital
18 -19 Nov Midland regional chaplains training in Hamilton
30 Nov ICHC Executive Committee meeting in Wellington

Ron Malpass
National Executive Officer

Staff Movements

Resignations

Mrs Fay Evans, Catholic Chaplain, will retire in mid December after 7 years at Hawke’s Bay Regional Hospital.

The Palmerston North Diocese is currently advertising the position.

Appeal Update

On 30 October the total for this year’s appeal had reached \$111,625.



National Office Team:

Left to Right Back Row Ron Malpass & Stu Mountjoy
Front Row: Margaret Poynton, Susan Davey & Doreen Hakeagaiki

Thought for the month:

If “A” is success in life, then A equals x plus y plus z. Work is x; play is y; and z is keeping your mouth shut.

Albert Einstein 1951