



Dear Friends

Christmas is rapidly approaching and **the Board would like to wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year.**

CONFERENCE 2014

We invite you to join us for our annual conference in Wellington at St Paul's Cathedral. See the website at www.faithnursing.co.nz for further details but mark 13/14 September in your diary. We will be addressing '**Sustainability of Practice**' from a range of angles and have included a retreat at your request.

Diane has been travelling the country in her new role as **National Outreach Coordinator** and her findings have been shared at a recent Board meeting. We acknowledge that many nurses work in isolation or with little support and this new role is proving valuable to evaluate past ministry and inspire new ideas. Please email her if you feel that you would benefit from her input at admin.faithnursing@xtra.co.nz Recent visits have included Julie Kane in Oamaru and Janet Hogan in Greymouth¹, both at the beginning of their FCN ministries. We acknowledge the wonderful work done by Sarah Walker in Leeston, who has had to relinquish her position due to lack of sufficient funding.

Financial issues continue to mar the progress of other parish nurses too and as an Association, our national funding is being withdrawn and our recent efforts to access new grants have to-date failed. We ask your prayer for wisdom in addressing these practical needs.



We commend Carol Renouf for her second published article supporting the ministry of faith community nursing. You can read her account in the October 2013 edition of the journal of the College of Primary Care Nurses. If you are an NZNO member then you can request a copy of the article from the NZNO library. The reference is Renouf, C. (2013) '**The Gift We Call Prayer: Faith Nursing**'. L.O.G.I.C. Vol. 2(No 3), pp 18-19.



We are thrilled that Helen Vaughan, who has joined the Board again after her return from Australia, has accepted our invitation to be our webmaster – any suggestions and contributions to our website will be directed to her.

Dot Finlay, our newest appointed Senior Member has agreed to research how NZFCNA could address the needs of other Christian nurses and health professionals and prepare a discussion paper for the Board. Please support her if she asks for your input.

A thought for Christmas...

Today we started to decorate the ward for Christmas. The 'angel' was placed on the top of the donated spruce tree in the lounge. She has a long red velvet dress and a wan expression. I chose a star for the smaller tree in the corridor. It reminds me of the light that led the wise men to the Christ child, the Light of the World. *In him was life, and the life was the light of men.* (John 1:4) May our lives be a light to those we serve and love. Shalom, Elaine and Charles.

¹ See October 2013 Newsletter