

HEALING WAYS

The Order of St Luke

Spring 2013



Almighty God, who inspired your servant St Luke the physician to set out in gospel the love and healing power of your Son: make obvious in Your Church the same love and power for the healing of our bodies and souls; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

My Dear Friends

How often we talk about the weather, and we have indeed had something to talk about recently, with the most unusual conditions as we approached Easter this year. In reality climatic conditions can vary greatly over the years, but they do tend towards the average. Our memories of youth are filled with wonderfully happy sun-filled summer days, while cold, dull or rainy summer time is selectively excluded from our thoughts. In this way we convince ourselves that the weather is getting steadily worse, and we can latch onto the popular theme of global warming. Our conversation is shaped by this and we may then talk about 'unseasonal weather' in such a way as to create anxiety, leading us to think about the state of the world. Some may resolve to take action in living more simply, recycling and caring for the created world. Others may be de-motivated and reckon that ignoring the situation and carrying on as normal is the only thing that can be done.

While many parts of the United Kingdom were blanketed in snow, the small rural area where I live was covered with water. What fell as snow elsewhere arrived on our fields and roads as constant rain. Some fields were flooded hedge to hedge, while the dip where our lane rolls over the drumlins was turned into a large and unexpected lake. My astonishment was not at the speed at which the lake appeared, but the haste at which the local birds appropriated their new feeding ground. A large heron took command of the expanse of water, wading slowly round the edges, searching for frogs, while two mallard duck swam peacefully to and fro across the lake's length and breadth. All three birds were taking respite from the bitter wind that swept the shore at the end of the land. They were nature's opportunists, snatching a reprieve from the fierceness of the elements and turning the change to their advantage.

In May we have a wonderful opportunity to step aside for a few days and come together to hear Rev Les Isaac speak on Reconciliation at the Annual Conference at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire. Why not come and join us there? Bring a friend or two with you and enjoy the fellowship, the worship, the praise and prayer and be prepared to be challenged to enliven your walk with God.

As Christians committed to the healing ministry of our Lord Jesus we need to grasp the opportunities placed in front of us, to support and encourage one another and to share our faith journey in our hurting world. Looking forward to meeting you at Swanwick.

Your sister in Christ
Pat Mollan

Warden's Reflections and Annual Report **TIME FLIES**

The next Annual General Meeting to be held at Conference this year at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, sees me standing down as the United Kingdom Warden, having completed my five year tenure, and the induction of the Reverend Chris Low as the new Warden. Time has flown and as I reflect back over those years I can see that we have achieved quiet a lot. We took the initiative to ask members their views by sending out a questionnaire. We also took a realistic look at where our true membership stood and undertook to put our finances on a sound footing.

We have moved from being registered under the Benevolent Societies Act to being registered with the Charities Commission and in that process designing and implementing a new constitution. I feel that the new constitution has made us fit for purpose for the new

