

Catholic Nurse

WINTER 2008

www.catholicnurses.org.uk



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Association of Catholic Nurses of England and Wales.

CONTENTS

Page

2	Editorial	
2	The Doctor's Guild	Jacqui Hall
3	President's Report	Jacqui Hall
4	CICIAMS Elections.	Jacqui Hall
5	ACN Elections	Jacqui Hall
5	Catholics in Health Care	Jacqui Hall
6	Dates for the diary	Jacqui Hall
6	Global Alliance for Nursing and Midwifery	Jacqui Hall
7	CICIAMS World Congress	Jacqui Hall

Editorial

In this edition of the Catholic Nurse Journal, we present the newly elected National Executive Board. We have included aspects of the contributions made at the Catholics in Health Care meetings, and also information on the "Catholic Medical Association" formerly, the Catholic Doctor's Guild.

The World Congress for CICIAMS and a General Council Meeting is to be held in March 2009, hosted in Monterrey, Mexico. This will involve electing new International Executive Board members. Anyone who wishes to join Jacqui Hall, who is representing us, please contact the CICIAMS web site for further information www.ciciams.org

The Doctor's Guild Jacqui Hall

While attending a meeting of the National executive board some time ago, Nora McCarthy informed the Committee that the doctor's Guild were to change their name. This was around the same time that we were changing to our present title. We are now informed that the Catholic Medical Association is the new title replacing the Catholic Doctor's Guild. It would also give scope for other Catholic health professions to join this Association. At present the ACN has resisted the amalgamation to this new association partially on the grounds of cost but also due to our own new identity being so recently formed.

President's Report

Winter 2008

Dear Members,

This year we are anticipating a great deal of change with the advent of the CICIAMS World Congress about to commence in March 2009. The Association of Catholic Nurses of England and Wales will be represented by me on this occasion (although I would urge anyone else to join me if they can afford the time and expense). It would be a great achievement if we can influence the elections of new Executive Board members internationally.

As a Catholic Nurse I was fortunate enough to go to Lourdes in the special Paulian Year and the 150 years since the "Visitation" of Our Lady to St Bernadette. It was as part of the International Military Pilgrimage 's 50th Anniversary that I managed to accompany other Forces Veterans as you can see in the picture below.



My colleagues and I had also completed the journey around Lourdes to claim our plenary indulgence. Once we were back at the hotel we were getting ready to accompany these "Chelsea pensioners" to the "Hosanna House" where a BBQ was being arranged for us.



My TA involvement as a Nursing Officer, who was a member of the Ambulance Train Squadron, managed to get me invited to York. There I was to be involved in the presentation of the Territorial Army Centenary Locomotive, which was unveiled by HRH the Duke of York, Prince Andrew.



This past year has been quite eventful for a number of reasons. We managed to have yet another successful Pilgrimage to Walsingham and although there were a number of members missing (Eileen Lamb especially), we were able to celebrate them in our prayers and liturgical celebrations. Mary Farnan has once more produced some wonderful memories on the web site for us to reminisce.



At our AGM in October I was able to give a little insight into what it was like to be “a nurse in Afghanistan”. Using a power point presentation, I gave a short account of my experiences (cleared by the MoD of course). Our meeting this coming year will be on 31 October 2009, at St. Vincent’s Convent, London, so make sure you have this noted in your diary.

Nora McCarthy has not been too well for some of 2008 and yet she still tries to make sure we are represented in some way, when it comes to the Doctor’s Guild or other such meetings. We wish her health and happiness in 2009 and hope she continues to get better.

Through the constant work produced by Mary Farnan, I believe we have made a huge impression on the Catholic Nurses and the presence of the Association as a useful vehicle for Catholic Nurses. Many people have used the web site and it continues to be truly commendable, many thanks Mary for all your hard work.

Questionnaires continue to be completed on the web has been particularly useful in allowing people to comment on what they look for in the organisation and how they would like us to proceed. Hits continue to be from around the world so not only from England and Wales.

The Catholics in Healthcare are still working tirelessly and when I have been unable to attend, the National Executive have been very supportive. Once more my thanks to Mary Farnan who represented us recently.

The publication “Caring for the Catholic Patient” continues to be a popular piece of work and even the CICIAMS Executive have asked for copies to take to Mexico! Published by the CTS, it gives guidance for people caring for Catholic patients, which will be useful to all Nurses.

Our own Catholic Nurses Prayer Book has also proved to be very popular and we are considering producing another edition if we can get enough contributions. Please feel free to write your own prayer if you can. Any contributions will be gratefully accepted and selection will then be made at the editor’s discretion.

The global alliance for nursing and midwifery has been up and running for some years now and have recently been discussing a number of important aspects of patient care. One issue is regarding out of date drugs and medication, while a more recent issue is that of the desperate state in Gaza for the civilian population and the nurses and doctors out there.

It is almost exactly a year since I returned from Afghanistan and I can’t believe how quickly the time has passed. I hope I did not neglect my duties to you too much but please give support to the new National Executive Members who are in office since October 2008.

I wish you all a Happy and Blessed New Year and offer the Love of Christ as “the reason for the season”.

God Bless to all who contribute so much to the work of the Association of Catholic Nurses.

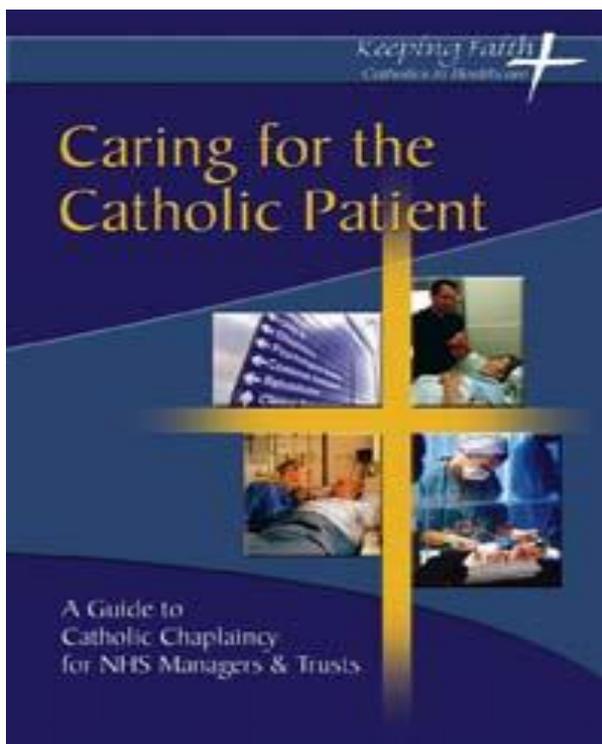
Jacqueline Hall
President of Association of Catholic Nurses, of England and Wales

**Association of Catholic Nurses of England and Wales
Elections: October 2008**

Following the nominations for the positions of the National Executive Board, the following people were elected:

Jacqueline Hall	President (to extend for only one more year)
Gerry Yates	National Vice- President
Mary Farnan	National Secretary/Website Management -Association of Catholic Nurses & <u>CICIAMS</u> website.
Elizabeth (Liz) Cooney	National Treasurer
Nora McCarthy	Journal Editor
Christine Bentley	Newsletter Editor

I would like to thank all of those people who have been elected, for showing such dedication and support to the Association of Catholic Nurses. We can't continue without you.



Catholics in Health Care
www.smuc.ac.uk/catholics-in-healthcare/

Jacqui Hall

It has been wonderful to see how successful the new publication "*Caring for the Catholic Patient. A Guide to Catholic Chaplaincy for NHS Managers and Trusts*", has been. It was a privilege to be able to attend a seminar held by Catholics in Health Care at St Mary's College, London. Once more we were privileged to have very eminent speakers. I was accompanied to the Conference with one of the speakers, Baroness Julia Cumberledge, who just happened to get off the same train as I did and

offered to share a taxi to St Mary's College. The "***Faith in Health Sustaining vocation and professionalism in Healthcare today***", Conference was held from 3rd to 5th July 2008 at St Mary's University College, Twickenham

The Aims:

1. To further the current public debate about vocation and professionalism within the NHS by bringing into the frame the contribution of Catholic teaching and the experience of Catholics and other Christians working in healthcare; and
2. To provide a space for healthcare professionals from different dioceses across the country who seek to see their work as a vocation to reflect on the spiritual basis of that vocation, to be renewed and affirmed in a ministry that in the eyes of the Church directly flows from the healing ministry of Jesus, and to foster local networks in dioceses.

Desired Outcomes of the Conference

- A wider and deeper appreciation of the positive contribution the Church can make to the evolving debate on the future of the NHS;
- A celebration and affirmation of the contribution of Catholics involved in healthcare at all levels, lay and ordained, as part of their Christian witness;
- Creative thinking about possible new ways in the longer term whereby the Church might be engaged more explicitly in healthcare delivery;
- The participation of the Church more effectively in dialogue about spiritual care as a vital dimension of healthcare and social care, and in advocacy for mental health work. The Conference was a resounding success which provided much food for thought.

Dates for the Diary:

7 February 2009 National Executive Board Meeting. St. Vincent's London.

24 February 2009 Health Care Reference Group Meeting, London.

7-11 March 2009 CICIAMS World Congress, Mexico

19 May 2009 Health Care Reference Group Meeting, London

9-19 June 2009 Walsingham, Annual Pilgrimage

31 October 2009 AGM, ACN, St Vincent's Centre, London.

Global Alliance for Nursing and Midwifery

Jacqui Hall

From an e-mail I received recently we are urged to recognise that The Gaza war is a 'NEW' catastrophe for all Palestinians. Sahar Hassan asks us to consider the following:

First:

The Lancet published an Editorial, Comment, Special Report and Correspondence to highlight the deteriorating situation and describe the impossible and tragic circumstances being experienced by civilians and doctors there.

For Editorial, Comment, Special Report, and Correspondence, see:
www.thelancet.com/gazamaterial For reportage from an aid worker in Gaza, follow the links.

Second:

Stories that were written by a Palestinian nurse (a friend of Sahar) who was feeling the dilemmas of answering the questions of his children and describing feelings of helplessness to protect / support his six kids. Although you might already have seen these, in the below links, Please read his stories, view the CNN report and observe the CNN video:

http://insidethemiddleeast.blogs.cnn.com/2009/01/11/online-theses-of-despair-from-gaza/?s_subsrc=gaza1&s_src=default

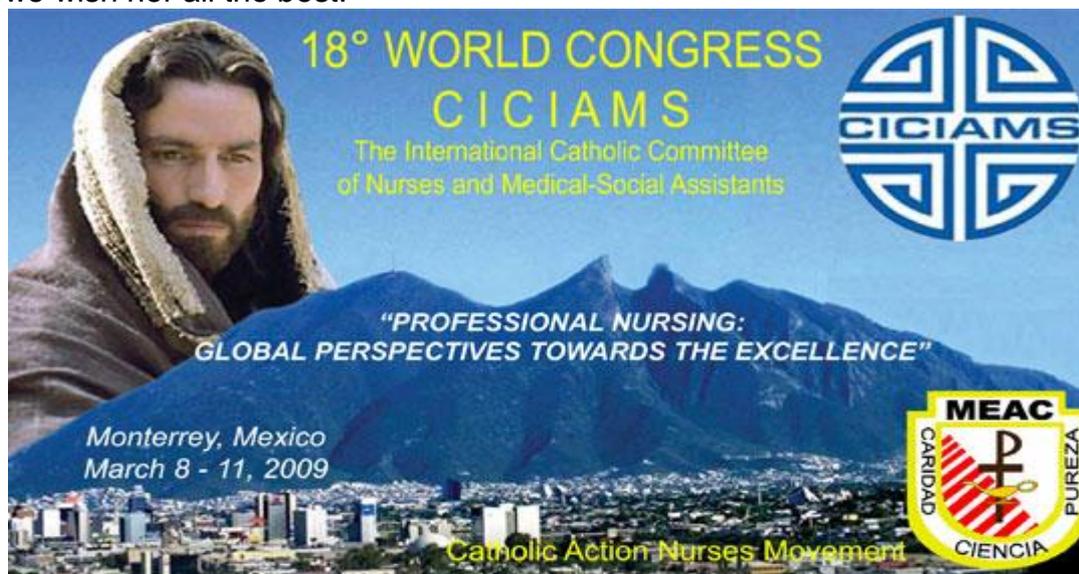
<http://edition.cnn.com/video/>

As nurses we can at least offer our prayers and support.

CICIAMS Elections Jacqui Hall

There are more CICIAMS elections to be held in Mexico at the World Congress, as the General Secretariat of CICIAMS, Geraldine McSweeney was unable to continue in this post and handed in her resignation. Nominations have been requested by the Secretariat and anyone willing to stand as a candidate for international positions are asked to get in touch with your President Jacqui Hall, so that we can put your name forward. You can register on the web at www.ciciams.org

It is with regret that Miss Geraldine McSweeney from Dublin, has had to resign as General Secretary of CICIAMS, we wish her all the best.



**ORGANIZER COMMITTEE 18° CICIAMS WORLD CONGRESS 2009
ARCHDIOCESE OF MONTERREY / CATHOLIC ACTION NURSE MOVEMENT**

'A' is for Apple



A is for apple, and B is for boat,

That used to be right, but now it won't float!
Age before beauty is what we once said,
But let's be a bit more realistic instead.



NOW



A's for arthritis;
B's the bad back,
C's the chest pains,
Perhaps car-d-iac?

D is for dental decay and decline,
E is for eyesight, can't read that top line!
F is for fissures and fluid retention,
G is for gas which I'd rather not mention.
H is high blood pressure--I'd rather it low;
I for incisions with scars you can show.
J is for joints, out of socket, won't mend,
K is for knees that crack when they bend.



L for libido, what happened to sex?
M is for memory, I forget what comes next.
N is neuralgia, in nerves way down low;
O is for osteo, bones that don't grow!
P for prescriptions, I have quite a few,
Just give me a pill and I'll be good as new!
Q is for queasy, is it fatal or flu?



R is for reflux, one meal turns to two.
S is for sleepless nights, counting my fears,
T is for Tinnitus; there's bells in my ears!
U is for urinary; big troubles with flow;
V for vertigo, that's 'dizzy,' you know.
W is for worry, NOW what's going 'round'?
X is for X ray, and what might be found.
Y is another year I'm left here behind,
Z is for zest I still have-- in my mind.



I've survived all the symptoms, my body's deployed;
And I'm keeping six doctors fully employed!

