



A MINISTRY OF OUR LADY'S NURSES FOR THE POOR

May 2020

Dear friends of the Brown Nurses,

I would firstly like to acknowledge our colleague Mary Short, who retired earlier this year after dedicating many years to the Ministry and service of the poor.

For those of us who remain, there have been challenges associated with working in smoky conditions and, more recently, contending with shops that were empty of essentials. The impact on our clients has varied from an understandable fear of contact with the outside world to the blissful ignorance of one lady in our care who has no radio or TV to convey minute-by-minute updates on the spread of the disease.

We keep in mind the example of the Sisters and other clinicians who faced widespread outbreaks in earlier times. For them, and us, the uncertainty of what might come has proven to be a challenge. In some ways, it has been helpful having a focus in the form of our clients – planning how to keep them well in body and spirit through medication, food and fellowship.

To close this newsletter, there has been another important milestone in our Ministry community – the 60th birthday of a long-term client named Peter. He first became known to the Sisters in 2002 and came into our care in 2008.

In singling Peter out, it is worth reflecting on the relational model of care that underpins our service. Rarely does a day go without a phone call (or several phone calls) from him to enquire about our wellbeing, give vent to some distress, or seek assurance that he is eventually “going to heaven”. As we regularly assure him, his earthly trials will surely qualify him for admittance.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued interest in the welfare of our clients.

Philippians 4:8-9: Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Sincerely,

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