

# Seventh son of a seventh son has the hands of a healer



## Healing Hands

LISA MATASSA



Bringing relief: Danny Gallagher travels extensively and has drop-in centres in many parts of the country. He says: 'I go wherever I am invited and I stay as long as I need to.'

**A**MAZING is a word often used to describe the faith healer from Derry who has made front page headlines across the globe. As the seventh son of a seventh son, Danny Gallagher always attracted attention but he never expected to have a gift that would allow him to cure thousands of people of every known disease. He has travelled to over 17 countries healing people and is often described as a miracle worker.

Danny first realised he had the gift when he was just eight years old. He had a dream one night that he helped a young girl who was dying by laying his hands on her and saying a prayer that a priest in his dream taught him to say. He never forgot the prayer and when he was 17 he used it to cure a young girl who was paralysed from the waist down. From that day on he knew his life was about to change and his reputation as a faith healer spread far and wide.

29 years later Danny continues to bring relief to thousands at home and abroad. "People of every known ailment have been cured," he says.

And the list is long. He has cured skin complaints of every description, headaches, paralysis, asthma, kidney and lung complaints, arthritis, back pain, cataracts, depression and panic

attacks, to name but a few. Danny is often successful curing more serious illnesses like cancer, blindness and heart conditions. People who have been told nothing could be done have been cured by Danny.

His method is always the same. Holding a small crucifix, he lays his hands on the troubled part of the body and says his special prayer. Afterwards, he lights a candle and blesses it.

"I never feel I do it. I feel it's God who cures them; I feel very happy for the person when they're cured," says Danny. It usually takes three visits before a person is cured. Most people start to notice an improvement after six weeks.

Danny takes great pride in healing others but one of his happiest moments was when he gave sight to a

woman who had been blind for 22 years. The 42-year-old lady from Birmingham came to see Danny and on the way home after her second visit her sight was fully restored. She gave Danny her white stick, which he keeps with all the other memorabilia he has collected.

Closer to home, Gretta Fleming from Clarendon sings Danny's praises after he cured her of a skin condition doctors were at a loss to diagnose or cure. She got it after her last child was born and it stayed with her for 21 years, making life a misery. "It was very painful and I used to get awful headaches and sore throats. I couldn't go out when I had the rash because I couldn't be seen with it," Gretta says. It took about six visits to Danny before the rash disappeared but it has never returned. Gretta says

she got a warm sensation like a soothing energy when Danny laid his hands on her. "I'm completely cured, and I have never got anything since," she says joyfully.

Danny has a number of drop-in centres throughout the country. He frequently visits Cork, Cavan, Limerick, Belfast, his native Derry and Donegal. He doesn't confine his visits to these areas, he says: "I go wherever I am invited and I stay as long as I need to."

He doesn't charge for his services and is happy to accept any donation people can afford to make. The only time he asks for a fee is for private visits, in which case he charges £20 to cover travel expenses.

Billy Harmon from Meath heard about Danny on his local radio station and decided to go and see him.

## Gallagher when hope was lost and been cured



Healing contact: Danny always lays his hands on the troubled part of the body while holding a crucifix and says a special prayer.

"Before I went to see Danny I was terribly weak and tired. I couldn't do anything and I had terrible pain in my legs and arms. I had trouble with my eyesight as well."

Billy says the pains were caused by diabetes and he was also suffering from vertigo, which often caused him great discomfort. He has never looked back since his visit to Danny five years ago. He is still taking his medication for the diabetes but says: "I have never felt better. I've never had the vertigo since, and I've had no problems with my legs. My eyesight has greatly improved as well."

However, there are times when Danny is unable to cure someone. Thankfully, it doesn't happen often. "Of course, I feel disappointed if I can't help but even our Lord, who was the greatest healer, couldn't

cure everyone," he says.

**D**ANNY IS no stranger to scepticism but it is not something he has to deal with often, as most people are very positive about his healing ability. In his soft Derry voice he explains: "Healing is for everybody, for people of all denominations. All my work is backed up by medical evidence and I've often cured people on television. If they say it's not happening let them prove it."

He is adamant about making the point that everybody who comes to see him must have seen a doctor first. He is also very insistent that people continue to take their prescribed medication: "Nobody should stop taking any treatment

without consulting a doctor first."

Danny has a very good relationship with the medical profession and has letters from doctors all over the world. "Doctors have often sent people to me. Sometimes they send people in ambulances," he says. He recalls a time when he was on a visit to the States: "30 doctors came to see me in the one day." Some wanted to be cured themselves and some brought family members and friends that wanted to be healed.

At 46 years of age, Danny is still going strong. He is busier than he has ever been as his gift of healing continues to amaze people around the world. "It's a hard life but I'm very pleased that I've helped so many. I couldn't go to my bed and sleep if I didn't try to help people. I believe I'll go 'til I drop," he laughs.