

Greetings and welcome to 2007. I have been asked what is the Master Class about, and tell me more about your time with Mr. Bowen.

In all human history it is difficult to find any healing art/science modality which is as effective as the Bowen Technique in improving human health and well-being from "conception to the grave".

Training in Bowtech, the original Bowen Technique has evolved since its introduction to the world in 1986. In the first seminars, such a wide variety of procedures was introduced that it soon became obvious that the content needed paring down and putting into some logical sequence. Modules 1 to 6 were established followed by Specific Bowen Procedures 1 (formerly called the Advanced). It is now time to introduce our Master Class or Specialised Bowen Procedures 2. These procedures "troubleshoot" problems that have not resolved and offer more options to consider. None of these procedures is new. Most were either included in those first seminars or have been demonstrated informally at Bowtech seminars in the past to help practitioners with specific unresolved issues.

The content of the Specialised Procedures 2 manual is a compilation of those extra moves and procedures that have not been documented previously.

Tom Bowen encouraged us with a very deeply symbolic statement: "Be confident and trust the technique". His life's work was to leave the human race a great gift – the Bowen Technique.

Few people realize the time and effort spent by Mr Bowen and myself – in trying to get his work recognized.

One member of the state parliament who was a client of Mr Bowen told him if elected he would ensure Bowen's work received recognition.

He was elected and that was the last we heard of him. Eventually in 1974, Mr Bowen asked me to accompany him and be assessed at the same time by the Chiropractic and Osteopaths Board for registration. I drove Mr Bowen to Melbourne where our practical work was assessed. Mr Bowen told me just to do procedures as we know them without explanations.

Of course, at that time, there were no notes or charts of Mr Bowen's work. These were all written by me later on. In fact, it is probably safe to say that all interpretations of Bowenwork in the world have been copied from our manuals or purloined by people we have trained.

The Board refused to give any recognition to our work. This was despite the fact I had a Diploma of Osteopathy from the South Pacific Council of Natural Therapies. The next step was to form the Victorian Society of Specialist Osteopaths. This group of approximately ten Natural Therapists, who were denied registration, formed this society and met on a regular basis. Mr Bowen and I were members of this society. But our best endeavours fell by the wayside, as we were told we could not use the word Osteopath, so Mr Bowen called himself a manipulative therapist. Manipulative referred to muscle, not bone.

I'm sure, if he was alive today. Mr Bowen would be thrilled to know that we now deliver a Nationally Recognized Certificate IV and Diploma of Bowen Therapy in Australia through our Registered Training Organisation – The Border College of Natural Therapies.

Ossie Rentsch