



The Peterborough Pilgrim



If nothing changes there
are no butterflies.
Cursillo changes us like
butterflies.

FROM THE COMMS TEAM (OF ONE)



There must be many of you out there who have forgotten that there is such a thing as Pilgrim Magazine and others that have never seen one as it has been a while since it has been produced. But better late than never and just like the Phoenix rises again from the ashes, so does the Pilgrim Magazine .

What has happened since the last edition? Well, there have been lot of changes on the Secretariat recently as many members have left having completed their allotted time of service and new representatives have taken their place. Some of the new members will be well known to most of you but there are also some who you might not know but more of that further on in this edition. In order to put a face to a name you can find pictures of the team on the website at www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk/YourSecretariat.

You may have seen an annoying ad on TV all the time with a tag line of '*You are not alone, we are a loan*'. Well, I am not after a loan, but I am alone. The Comms Team at the moment is me but I do have a team and it is all of you. I know you are wonderful and exciting things in your life as a Cursillista and want to share it so as to encourage us all. So please send articles and pictures for inclusion in future editions to me at paul.anstice@btinternet.com. Then I can change the title to 'From the Comms Team'

Paul

Something from Cheryl

Dear Cursillistas

Welcome to our Peterborough Pilgrim, with photos, information and reports of events some of us have attended.

I hope to see you at the Summer Ultreya, but realise that the date this year clashes with a Lay Ministry day. Hopefully our planning in the future will avoid such clashes.



I'm delighted to report we have five pilgrims signed up for Peterborough #10 which is 13th to 16th October and I hear there are many others interested. Please hold the weekend in your prayers the staff, pilgrims, sponsors and staff at Launde Abbey. Dates are already being discussed for Peterborough #11.

A card has been sent to Bishop Donald on behalf of Cursillo as he is just about to go on sabbatical. Please hold him in your prayers, and also Bishop John having just relinquished his responsibilities in Leicester Diocese who has to pick up the full reigns in our diocese.

Ultreya!

Cheryl

Summer Ultreya



If you missed the Spring Ultreya, the friendship and perhaps more importantly, the cakes, then you have a chance to make amends as the Summer Ultreya at 18th June at St Mary the Virgin, Main Street, Little Harrowden is almost upon us. For those that have no idea where Little Harrowden is and need a SatNav to find your way, the postcode is NN9 5BA. In case you still have difficulty in finding the church, here is a picture so you know what it looks like.



Coffee will be available from 10.30am so we can at 11.00am. During the day there will be a Floating Group Reunion session, a witness talk and Eucharist. Lunch will be a bring and share lunch which will give you all an opportunity catch up to date with friends. Last year had an fiendishly frustrating but fun ice breaking activity during lunch and another one is planned for this year.

British Anglican Cursillo Council (BACC)

You may recall coming across BACC on your Cursillo weekend, detailed in the rough guide to Cursillo Terms.

BACC is the national body, made up of representatives of Cursillo in every diocese, which regulates and co-ordinates Cursillo in the UK. It issues guidance about and gives training in how to run Diocesan Cursillos and Cursillo weekends. It convenes bi-annual Council meetings, produces a national newsletter, has a website, and co-ordinates the holding of an annual national Ultreya known as Ultreya GB.

The BACC website is at www.anglicancursillo.co.uk and you are encouraged to visit it. There is all sorts of information on it, including BACC pages which is a magazine covering all sorts connected with Cursillo. Do have a look at this to find out what others are doing in their Dioceses.

Anyone who staffs on a Cursillo weekend is encouraged to attend a Cursillo Leaders Workshop (CLW). There are usually three a year, for which there is funding for participants. Do let me know if this interests you

Liz Medlock and Eddie Miller recently attended a CLW, both of whom are staffing on Peterborough #10, and Liz's report is below.

Reflexion on Cursillo Leaders Workshop

There were nineteen participants most of whom were to lead a weekend or staff on one. For Eddie and me it was somewhat of a refresher as it is about six years since we attended a workshop. The weekend was full on, with ten

talks all followed by discussion! The morning and evening prayer and two Eucharist services supplied much spiritual nourishment.

The main messages to bring back and share from the weekend were how important it is to put the Fourth Day first and how group reunion is the bedrock of Cursillo. It is to offer mutual respect, safety and support on our Spiritual journey. We were reminded that Cursillo is about turning disciples into apostles and building the church through our prayer, study and action.

Regarding sponsorship we need to be open and answer fully any question fully asked by prospective pilgrims. There are to be NO secrets, we would never wish Pilgrims to feel uncomfortable during the weekend by facing something they had not expected. After all, God is the surprise, not us!

The Cursillo weekend must be authentic with the fifteen talks, five meditations and three Eucharist services, adding only what will enhance the weekend for the pilgrim. We were asked to consider if the extras add value or hinder God. For it is when The Holy Spirit enters into the pilgrim at the weekend that it is a success and we need to leave space for this to happen.

So a lot to take on board! As always the food and fellowship on the Cursillo weekend was wonderful, and we both returned home energized for our church and Cursillo.

Ultreya!

Liz Medlock

Catch the Vision

Judy Craig Peck attended the recent National Cursillo

'Catch the Vision' conference and has sent us thoughts on the weekend.

Dear Friends

I write this the day after returning from the National Cursillo 'Catch the Vision' conference at Swanwick in Derbyshire. Seventy-five people gathered for the weekend, and another ten came for the Saturday. It was good to share with folk from around the country about how they do things in their diocese, get tips on new things we might try and to worship and study together.



During a services one of the Spiritual Directors from another diocese shared a poem / prayer he had written which he called an 'invocation' to the Holy Spirit. I found it very moving. It reminded us of the power, the love, the life and joy of God. That God is often where we do not expect him to be, if only we have eyes to see and ears to hear. It also spoke of inviting and calling the Holy Spirit to refill us and inspire us.

As I was reflecting on the weekend, and thinking about the way forward for our Peterborough Cursillo, I wondered if this invocation might help us to be inspired to sponsor someone from our church, to invite them to come to Cursillo so their faith may be renewed, that they may become more aware of God's power and love and be filled anew with God's spirit. The idea that God may be in unexpected places led me to think perhaps he might be calling unexpected people to make their Cursillo. In conversation with a friend this week she said something

that made me realise I had assumed she would not be interested in Cursillo, without ever considering that she may find it a good thing to do. I was surprised and it made me realise we so often get stuck in thinking along tramlines, and forget that God may be in unexpected places.

My invitation to each one of you is to pray about who you might sponsor for Peterborough #10 in October or for the future. Remember to check it out with their parish priest before asking them. If the priest has any concerns or questions you ca not answer, you can ask them to contact me, or Revd Karen Jongman, who will be taking on the role of Spiritual Director for Peterborough Cursillo in October at the Clausura.

My prayer is that we will each of us be renewed in our faith through Cursillo, through our fourth day activities, through our prayer, study and action, that we will be inspired to invite others to join in with our group reunion and prayerfully think about who we might sponsor for a weekend sometime.

Judy Craig Peck

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulations to Judy Craig Peck who has been appointed the National Cursillo Leaders Workshop Convenor elect and we wish her well in her new role.

Peterborough # 10

Our next Cursillo weekend at Launde Abbey will soon be upon us. I know it is not until 13th to 16th October but believe me, it will soon be upon us. The planning for the weekend is well advanced, between them Cheryl and Liz has filled all the weekend staffing positions bar one (but more about that later) and staff training starts in earnest on

Saturday 2nd July.
Not far away.

If you have read Cheryl's comments we are in the happy position of having a number of pilgrims already committed to attend and a few more are



waiting in the wings. What a lovely position to be in at this point of the year, but will still need more. So how can you help? Most importantly you can pray for help from God to identify people within your church and benefice who you feel would benefit from doing the Cursillo weekend. If when you have identified potential pilgrims you are at a loss how to persuade them to go, you might like to try some of the following arguments that were used on me:

'You'll enjoy it'

'Launde Abbey is a peaceful place to spend a weekend'

'The food is wonderful'.

The final statement was the clincher for me! Once you have clinched your pilgrim by whatever means, you will find all the necessary forms on the website at www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk/LeafletsforCursilloandSponsorship. Let's make Peterborough #10 a bumper Cursillo pilgrimage.

Palanca Secretary

For many years the role of Palanca Secretary has been held by John Mullins but now he and Irene are soon to move out of the Diocese. We thank John for all he has done in this role, and our thanks to both of them for their faithful commitment to Cursillo over the years. We wish them well in their move with much happiness and joy in their new home.

The role of the Palanca Secretary is keep an eye on the BACC website and to email wall palanca for Cursillo weekends as they occur. This person is also the contact to receive wall palanca for our weekends. John has agreed to cover this role for June and July, but we are in need of someone to take this on from September.

Do you think this is a role you could do? Please contact Cheryl if you are interested and want to find out more and she will put you in touch with John.

Spring Ultreya and AGM

Earlier reference was made to the Spring Ultreya and AGM and those that may have missed it. Well, better late than never, this is what you missed.

The Spring Ultreya and AGM took place at St Michael and All Angels in Kettering on Sunday 20th March at which eighteen Cursillistas attended. Lay Director, Jane Burns opened the meeting and reported that during the last year there had been less activity than in previous years. Attempts to run a clergy taster day failed due to the lack of response. A successful Cursillo weekend at Launde Abbey, led by Tony Walker was the highlight of the year and Jane noted with appreciation the efforts of Vic Hopkins for stepping in as SA at the last minute. Jane reported that the secretariat has been under staffed for all of the year which has meant that one or two things have slipped through the net.



Jane explained that this was her second and final report as Lay Director and it had been a privilege to serve in this capacity for the last two years but having started training for ordination in August she felt she had been unable to do justice to the role. She expressed her thanks to all those who had been on the Secretariat over the last two years for their support, hard work and commitment. Jane was presented with a bouquet of flowers and book token in appreciation for all her work by Judith Willis.

Judy followed Jane with her report as Spiritual Director. After five years in the post she would be resigning in October, with her replacement Canon Karen Jongman being licensed to this appointment by Bishop Donald at the Clausura. In 2017 Judy said she will become the SDA convenor at Cursillo Leadership Workshops.

Judy believed that the group reunion was stronger in some parts of the diocese than others and welcomed the appointment of a fourth day representative.

On behalf of Peterborough Cursillo Judy thanked Jane for her work as Lay Director and admired her ability to undertake the role given her full time employment and embarkation on training for ordination.

Cheryl's Treasurer's report noted that at the end of the year the cash balance was lower than the preceding year. This was partly due to the Secretariat decision to reduce the contribution from staff and pilgrims for the



weekend and costs incurred for a clergy taster day which did not happen due to lack of interest. Cheryl made a plea for more planned giving to the Cursillo. The accounts for the year were approved.

The AGM concluded with the election of the Secretariat members for the coming year.

Following the AGM, the Cursillistas split into groups for floating group reunions and afternoon concluded with an inspirational witness talk by Lois Clark.

After The Weekend ... The Fourth Day

I attended Peterborough #8 and since that amazing, emotional, revealing and reviving experience, I have been fortunate to have attended a group reunion almost every month. My sponsor Colin and his wife Sue are enthusiastic members of Cursillo and have shown me the value of the Fourth day. I have discovered that the Cursillo movement tries to demonstrate and teach that one needs to gather regularly with other Christians for common purposes. There are three aspects of a useful Christian gathering, prayer, study/learning, and common action.

Most people think that the heart of "Cursillo" is the three day pilgrimage weekend. It is not! If you have attended a three day retreat, you go back home to normal daily life. The fourth day is the day back at home. The fourth day is the day with the usual responsibilities and pressures. The fourth day is filled with the temptations and inertia of daily life. The fourth day is filled with challenges and difficulties!

In Cursillo the weekend life is easy, the fourth day is hard and every succeeding day of our lives is the fourth day. If

the assembly of faithful people is to help us, it has to meet on the fourth day. It has to be both a challenge and a support throughout the rest of our lives. The weekend can be a good experience. It can demonstrate and help us practice the value of small supportive groups which pray, study and act together. However, when the weekend ends it is important that we find such a supportive group in all the fourth days of our lives.



Across the Diocese many such groups exist. The membership and participation can be fluid. It is also possible to create such a group! Three people are enough to form a group. After the weekend, those who attended join a Group Reunion and attend an Ultreya supported by their sponsor.

The Fourth Day involves:

- A rule of life in which individuals are encouraged and stimulated to continue to deepen their spiritual life by means of the sacraments, prayer, individual study, spiritual direction and intentional action.
- Group Reunions, where committed individuals meet with others in small groups on a regular basis to review their spiritual progress (prayer, study, action) and to plan ways to bring their Lord to other people.
- Ultreyas where Cursillistas get together to share ideas and apostolic successes and disappointments.

The point of the Fourth Day is to underscore and support apostolic action. The emphasis is on meeting in order to engage each other in a vital ministry, to share the grace of God with one another, to plan ways to share that grace and to hold each other accountable for carrying out our plans!

If you have any questions with regards to attending a group reunion, or would like to share the great things you have experienced at the meetings and the different locations, please let me know on my email belldfb@aol.com

David Bell

TO CLOSE - A CELTIC BLESSING



May the beauty of God
be reflected in our eyes,
the love of God
be reflected in our hands,
the wisdom of God
be reflected in our words,
and the knowledge of God
flow from our hearts,
that all might see,
and seeing, believe.