



CURSILLO®

The Fourth Bridge

April 2018



EPISCOPAL CURSILLO® IN SCOTLAND Reg. US Pat. Office Affiliated to B.A.C.C.



Scotland

d
e
c
o
l
o
r
e
s

Cursillo Office Bearers

Secretariat

Lay Director: Fiona Buchan 01241 857464

Spiritual Director: Rev Canon Duncan McCosh 01750 20524

Secretary: Ruth Arthur 07711294200

Treasurer & Gift Aid: David Dalglish 01705 32293

Convenors:

Communications Morag O'Neill 01389 763710

Fourth Day: Ian Arthur 07740683715

BACC Rep Rosemary McCosh 01750 20524

Other Office Bearers

Registrar: Morag O'Neill 01389 763710

Resources: vacant

4th Bridge Editor Duncan McCosh 01750 20524

Palanca Secretary Ian Arthur 07740683715

Music Closing David McGavin 01968 675614

Utreya Reps

Aberdeen & Orkney: Duncan Cowie 01467 623576

Argyll & the Isles vacant

Borders Ruth McGrath 01573 228346

Brechin Janet Spence 01241 859580

Edin & Lothians Ruth Simpson 0131 663 2242

Glasgow & Galloway vacant

I love the wee joke: “how many Episcopalians does it take to change a lightbulb” CHANGE!!!!!!

By and large most folks are not terribly good at embracing change, particularly what I would describe as institutional religion, i.e. us the Church. There is something comforting about consistency and familiarity, it can have a good feel to it. We are no different in Cursillo, I remember once attending an Ultreya and when we arrived the folks hosting it were serving refreshments “but we don’t normally serve refreshments until the end of the meeting not now” someone whispered. Anyway, no further refreshments were produced and the only talking point on the hour-long journey home was the blooming refreshments served at the beginning. In fact, we got in such a fankle about it that I don’t think we even said thanks for what was provided.

We are whether we like it or not creatures of habit and changing can be a bit of a challenge. Well Cursillo in Scotland has a bit of a challenge for its next Weekend.

Because we had to cancel the Weekend in early March because of the severe weather (the Beast from the East) the only time available to us at St Mary’s, Kinnoull was a Friday to Sunday booking in July. Our other recent venue at Carronvale House did have a Thursday to Sunday available but the majority of the Participants preferred the July date.

So, we are going to change the way we do Weekend 66 and are going to fit the 15 talks and 5 meditations (all that is required for an Authentic Cursillo Weekend) into a Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday morning and early afternoon. The timetable for Weekend 66 is printed later on in this issue, please use it as a prayer guide as you support the Team and Participants.

PS. A Friday to Sunday Weekend is often used in the States and BACC are aware that we are doing this and have raised no objections.

Weekend 66 Timetable

S2G = singing to gather

4:30 onwards	Participants arrive
6:00 PM	Welcome Talk – Introduction
7:00 PM	Dinner
8:00 PM	Explanation of Spiritual Retreat Meditation Introduction - Letter to God Meditation Introduction to Penance/Confession
9:30 PM	IDEAL Rollo
9:45 PM	Compline (optional) then bedtime for Participants
10:00 PM	Team Meeting
SATURDAY	
6:45 AM	Wake up
7:30 AM	Morning Prayer - LR or OLR & Meditation
8:30 AM	Breakfast
9:15 AM	Table organisation, renaming Conference room 'Rollo Room'
9:30 AM	Discussion of 'Ideal' Rollo
9:45 AM	Singing to gather (S2G) GRACE Rollo
10: AM	Discussion of the Rollo
10:15 AM	Break
10:30 AM	S2G LAITY Rollo
10:45 AM	Discussion of the Rollo
11:00 AM	S2G STUDY Rollo
11:15 AM	Discussion of the Rollo
11:30 AM	S2G SACRAMENTS Rollo
12:00	EUCHARIST & Meditation
1:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 PM	S2G GRACE for SPECIFIC ACTS (FAITH) Rollo Explain Palanca - Read General Palanca and Distribute Personal Palanca
3:00 PM	Break

3:15 PM	S2G PIETY Rollo Chapel Visit
4:00 PM	S2G ACTION Rollo
4:15 PM	Discussion of Rollo Break and Free Time – introduce the idea of art work/skits
5:00 PM	S2G OBSTACLES TO A LIFE OF GRACE Rollo
5:15 PM	Discussion of the Rollo
5:30 PM	Free Time – Preparation of Art Work/Skits
6:45 PM	Sherry Party
7:00 PM	Dinner
8:00 PM	History Rollo Art Work or Skits or other form of presentation
9:30 PM	SERVICE of RENEWAL & COMMITMENT
10:00 PM	Team Meeting
SUNDAY	
6:45 AM	Wake-up
7:30 AM	Morning Prayer & Meditation
8:30 AM	Breakfast
9:30 AM	S2G LEADERS Rollo
9:45 AM	Discussion of the Talk
10:00 AM	S2G STUDY AND EVANGELIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTS
10:15 AM	Discussion of the Talk
10:30 AM	Break
11:00 AM	S2G CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY in ACTION Rollo
11:15 AM	Discussion of the Rollo
11:30 AM	S2G THE CHRISTIAN LIFE Rollo
11:45 AM	Discussion of the Talk
12:00 PM	Free time
1:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 PM	S2G GROUP REUNION Rollo

2:15 PM Discussion of the Rollo
2:30 PM ULTREYA Rollo
Discussion of the Rollo
Break/Prep time for Table Feedback at Closing Service
3:00 PM Closing Service



A Catholic priest and a Rabbi were talking about the possibilities of promotion in the Roman Catholic Church.

“If a man works hard,” said the priest, “he can eventually become a bishop and maybe even a cardinal.”

“Is that as far as he can go?” asked the rabbi.

“No,” said the priest. “Who knows, he might become the pope.”

“And that’s the top?” asked the rabbi.

“Well, beyond the pope there is only Jesus Christ, and of course nobody can become Jesus.”

“Why not?” said the rabbi. “One of our boys made it.”

Servant Community and Secretariat Meeting – Saturday 8th April

Talk by Duncan McCosh

“The Church is the people you know” said by one of the characters in The Sacred diaries of Adrian Plass aged 37 ³/₄

How do we define the Church? For some it is a big institution or organisation, for some it is a superb support network, for some it is just habit and for others it is the very life breath they breathe.

Early church were known as the People of the Way, Saul persecuted those of the Way. Acts 9:2

The origin of the name may have come from Matthew 7: 13-14
‘Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

And in John’s gospel Jesus claimed to be The Way, the truth and the life.

Jesus’ life, his teaching, his death and resurrection were the inspiration to those first Christians and the Church as we know it was born out of those moments, the beginnings of The Way.

3 important cluster moments in the birth of the Church.

1) John 3: 16 – The events of Easter, his trial, death & resurrection were a demonstration of God’s love.

2) The two instructions

a: great commission Matthew 28 and Mark 16

b: the new commandment John 13: 34.

3) The birthday of the Church – The Day of Pentecost. I always like to have a cake and candle in church for Pentecost and get folks to sing happy birthday before blowing out the candle, which of course is one of those trick ones which lights up again. The point being you cannot extinguish the HS, God’s great gift to us.

Each church nowadays is unique but we are all faced with a pretty basic question: What is the purpose of the Church? Put simply the purpose of the church is Mission and each church/congregation will have their own definition of 'mission'.

Some dioceses when there is a vacancy conduct a 'mission audit' before a new priest can be appointed. Most would say that this is a sound principle and another guiding principle might be the well quoted words of Archbishop William Temple 'the purpose of the church is primarily for the benefit of its non-members'.



Call to mind the parable of the sower. It is worth noting ... the parable is not so much about a 'technique' for sowing (only 25% success rate) but rather to keep sowing indiscriminately.

Our job is not so much to bring in a harvest, 40, 60 or 100-fold, but just to continue sowing, it's God who will make it flourish.

May the good Lord bless us as we continue on our Way, in the Church and within the Cursillo Movement and may He bless us with an inexhaustible supply of seed.

† † †

Website: The new website is up and running

<http://cursilloinScotland.org>

Thanks were expressed to Morag O'Neil for all her hard work in getting this established.

The Facebook page is being used regularly by over 50 people.

All were very pleased when Morag agreed to continue for another year to further develop the website.

30th Celebrations: 11th & 12th May

We have fully booked Kinnoull for the Friday evening and are hoping for a good turn out on the Saturday. The Friday evening after dinner we have invited Ann Engh and Cynthia Hebden to reminisce about how Cursillo got started in Scotland. The Saturday morning will have a number of workshops to participate in, some practical some of a more spiritual nature. Lunch will be followed by the AGM with a celebration of the Eucharist with +Idris Jones as the celebrant.

Weekend 66

All is in hand for the reconvened March weekend. As a follow up to the Weekend we plan to hold a 'Sunday Revisited' on Saturday 22nd September. It is felt that the crucial message of Cursillo regarding the Cursillo Method (group reunions, Ultreyas, Spiritual Direction and the Rule of Life) is often lost because people are tired when the talks about group reunions, Ultreyas, Spiritual Direction and the Rule of Life are given and so to counter this all Participants from the last few Weekends will be invited as well as a general invitation to the 4th Day. It is hoped to hold this at Kinnoull and further information will be made available in due course.

Data Protection: To comply with the new regulations everyone on the 'Cursillo List' will need to be contacted to seek permission to hold their contact information.

Treasurer: Current balance £15,226. A cancellation fee of £600 has been requested by Kinnoull for the March weekend.

BACC Standing Committee met at Doncaster on Saturday 24th February 2018 and were represented by our Area Rep Duncan McCosh.

Much of the business was taken up with the final planning for the bi-annual conference which will be at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, Saturday 19th May 2018.

Further details on the BACC website

<http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/cursillo-conference/>

There was a preview of the new Cursillo film which had been organised by Trevor King the BACC President along with Cursillistas from St Alban's diocese. It is hoped to have this available on you tube and other media outlets and the promotional film will be launched at the Conference in May. The film is excellent and gives a very good idea of the impact that Cursillo can have.

BACC Pages. Editor required. For further information please contact Trevor King.

The final revision of the Resource Booklets was discussed. This has been a huge piece of work and thanks were expressed to the group who took this on.

Printed copies will still be available at a nominal cost but they will also be available to download from the BACC website.

Duncan's term of office as Area Rep for Scotland & Durham comes to an end in May and Secretariat are delighted that Sally Mair will take on this responsibility.

Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah; he was floating his stock while everyone was in liquidation.

What kind of man was Boaz before he married?

A. Ruthless.

Which Bible Character is a locksmith?

A. Zaccheus.

ULTREYA GB – 1st September 2018



Programme

- 9:15 Registration in Cathedral (tea/coffee available)
- 10:15 Welcome, Notices and worship
- 10:50 Trevor King, BACC President
- 11:00 Ultreya – floating groups
- 11:45 Witness talk
- 12:25 Introduction to National Ultreya 2019
- 12:30 Break for lunch
(in Chelmsford or bring packed lunches to eat at Cathedral)
- 2:00 Assemble for Walk of Witness
- 3:00 Service in Cathedral
- 4:30 Finish of day activities

Evening

- 6:30 for 7 Gather for supper and Ceilidh dance in the Cathedral
- 10:00 Finish of evening activities

To book in please download a booking form. ([Booking Form](#))

When downloading a pdf file it may be necessary to save the form first before filling it in.

If you have difficulties or do not have an email address, please call 01255 554921 or 07963 707825 and leave us a message. We will return your call and help you through the process.

There are plenty of places nearby in Chelmsford for lunch but if you have brought a packed lunch, you will be able to eat it at the Cathedral.

If you would like to join us for supper and the Ceilidh in the evening in the Cathedral, you will be most welcome,(please see link to [Ceilidh & supper](#)) and please book on our booking form. ([Booking Form](#))

Action Talk by Elspeth Smale at the last Borders Ultreya.

I've had several people say that young people now are not interested in faith and have little knowledge of the church. In my experience I have found that young people, in particular children, are very curious. I would like to share with you some of the events and stories that have caused me to reach this conclusion.

As many of you may know I am training to be a primary school teacher and have worked in several childcare settings. One of these was an Afterschool club in a small village with only around thirty pupils in the whole school. Each day we would serve snack to the 15 or so children who would attend the club and they were given the opportunity to speak together as a group. During one of these snacks the children were speaking about God and his existence. Bearing in mind these children were between the ages of 5 and 10, one little boy said that he didn't believe God existed because there was no absolute proof, to which another child stated that this was where faith came in. They said that definite proof was facts, but accepting God without facts meant faith. This group of children spent the entire of their snack debating this and putting forward many of the arguments that I have heard adults use on both sides. The interesting outcome of this was the number of children who said that they did believe there was a God, over half of the group. One boy in particular was very interested in attending church and had asked his mother on several occasions, but she had never taken him. When I inquired as to why she hadn't, she said that she wasn't sure what would happen during the service or how to interact with those who were also attending. It wasn't the boy's lack of faith that stopped them from attending, but his mother's lack of confidence. I asked his mum if she would like me to tell her what happened during services and the different kinds of activities which her son could take part in, such as messy church and Sunday squad. She was thrilled that someone had reached out to her. I discovered that neither herself or her son had a bible to read, so I found a children's bible and an NIV in a charity shop and gave them those. She later informed me that her son was reading it every night and discussing it with her in the morning. This encouraged her to read those passages in her own bible. By working with the

younger generation, I had introduced God into two people, and generations, lives.

During the summer I spend my time nannying for a number of families and I often get asked questions from them after I've told them I was at church at the weekend. One family, who have three children of primary school age, are particularly intrigued by my faith. Each Monday when I arrived at their house they would ask me what we had been talking about at the service on Sunday. This led to me almost repeating the sermon and explaining parts to them. After several weeks of this, their mum told me that the children had been asking to go to church and wanted a bible to read. The eldest has begun reading to the two younger siblings at night before they went to bed. Once again these children just needed a little help and support.

More recently I have been approached by friends who were curious about my faith. One friend who was disowned from her congregation after her father had an affair was particularly intrigued by the episcopal church. On good Friday I was talking to her and she asked what would happen at the service and whether it was like a funeral for Jesus. She has since bought her own bible which she has been reading.

In fact many of my friends who say they are not comfortable about faith have had a bad experience in the past. For example, one went to church when she was younger but because her mother was out of work no one spoke to them. Another had a member of the congregation questioning whether her family were really Christians because they were of Indian origin.

Children are naturally inquisitive beings. This is one of the first things you are taught when learning about childcare and education. The current generation are not disinterested in faith, but need someone who has already found it to ease their way.

A tale of two brothers.

Most folks know that John Wilkes Booth assassinated President Abraham Lincoln when the President attended a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.

John Booth had two brothers who were also well known actors, Edwin and Junius Jr.

Sometime before the assassination of Lincoln, Edwin Booth was at Jersey City train station, New Jersey. A 21 year old man, was waiting in a very busy line to buy a ticket into a sleeper car and he was pushed up against the idle train car. The train began to move, and the young man fell into the gap between the platform and the train. Booth grabbed the man by his coat collar and brought him safely back onto the platform.

The young man knew who Edwin Booth was, given the latter's fame as an actor. But it would be a few months later — and after the assassination — that Edwin Booth would learn that the young man whose life he saved was Robert Lincoln, the oldest son of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln.

History suggests that Edwin found comfort in the fact that he was involved in saving a life, unlike his pro-Confederacy assassin brother who took the life of another.

