



CURSILLO®

# The Fourth Bridge

August 2018



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



## **Cursillo Office Bearers**

### ***Secretariat***

Lay Director: Fiona Buchan 01241 857464

Spiritual Director: Rev Canon Duncan McCosh 01750 20524

Secretary:

Treasurer & Gift Aid: David Dalglish 01705 32293

Convenors:

Communications Morag O'Neill 01389 763710

Fourth Day Duncan Cowie 01467 623576

BACC Rep Sally Mair

### ***Other Office Bearers***

Registrar: Morag O'Neill 01389 763710

Resources: vacant

4th Bridge Editor Duncan McCosh 01750 20524

Palanca Secretary

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

## Lay Director's notes ..... Summer 2018

It has been a great summer full of new experiences and opportunities. The lovely weather raised our spirits and gave us something to enjoy in our often troubled world.



We returned to the newly refurbished Kinnoull where we have always felt comfortable spiritually, if not always physically.

We had a great time of history telling, and enjoying good times with friends old and new. We saw new ways of getting the Cursillo message out with the film and joined in the making of some new creations of our own whilst some of us enjoyed a time of quiet contemplation walking the Labyrinth.



We worshipped, prayed and sang together we learned of what has happened in the recent past and considered some hopes for the future.

Last month I was privileged to serve as a member of team on Weekend #66. We were given the opportunity to try out a new, to us, way of running the weekend. There were misgivings but opportunities to develop a different way of giving the experience of an Authentic Cursillo weekend. It was authentic and focused still encompassing the holiness Learning, joy and fun.

Attending the welcome home in Inverurie showed me that the Cursillo weekend, whatever form it takes remains a great gift to offer to assist in deepening faith.

Recently the Servant community and Secretariat meeting in Dalkeith continued the initiative to take that part of the Fourth day around the country to where people are.

We looked back again at some of the work previously done about putting the Fourth day first and discussed ways of going forward using the new, whilst staying faithful to the Cursillo method.

I challenged those at the meeting as I challenge you all now to share a vision of how you see Cursillo going forward. We have new enthusiastic Cursillistas let's build on that enthusiasm. To that end we are holding a get together in Perth to look at "Sunday Revisited". It is a chance for recent participants, sponsors and anyone who would like a short refresher on the messages about The Fourth day which sometimes get lost in the busyness and tiredness of the Sunday.

Looking back at the history of Cursillo in Scotland has been great for me. I am in awe of the dedication and faith of those who brought us the gift, those who grew and sustained it.

I would like to build a physical archive of that history. You are the living archive, please help us to sustain the vision and grow where we are planted through our prayer study and action.

Ultreya ! Fiona

*The minister was looking for a parking space and eventually in desperation parked in a no parking zone.*

*He placed a note on the dash board saying*

*'I've been round the block ten times, can't find anywhere to park and I'm late for an important meeting ... forgive me my trespasses'*



*When he returned he found a parking ticket and a note which said.....*

*'I've been patrolling this area for 10 years and if I don't issue you with a ticket I might get the sack ..... lead me not into temptation'*

As they say there is nothing intrinsically wrong with temptation, its giving into it that's the problem.

Well just for a change I would like to encourage you to give into temptation.

Be tempted to be more Christ like in all aspects of daily life and to this end be guided by what Jesus said about himself in John's Gospel.

I am    the Bread of Life  
          the Good Shepherd  
          the Gate  
          the Light of the world  
          the Way the Truth and the Life  
          the Resurrection  
          the Vine

Each of these indicate a different facet of Christ's character which we can emulate.

Bread – God's provision for us ..... how do we provide for others?

Shepherd – Leads .... What is our role in leading others?

Gate – Protection ..... Who do we look to for protection?

Light – Guidance ..... What guides our lives?

Way-Truth-Life – Inspiration .... Are we an inspiration to others?

Resurrection – Unconditional Love ... Wow, wish we all had that.

Vine – Growth/fruit .... Be tempted to allow our faith to grow and blossom as we journey through life and bear the fruit of God's Love and Goodness in all we do and say.



So I encourage you to be tempted ..... go on.

*Duncan*

## Notes from Servant Community meeting

Attendance: 12 folks were present from 5 Ultreya areas.



Fiona the Lay Director reviewed what had gone on over the last year or so and set the challenge of 'What is our vision' as we looked forward. Fiona also high-lighted the value of putting 4<sup>th</sup> Day first and that prayer should be at the centre of all that we do.

*Venue for meeting - St Mary's Church, Dalkeith*

The talk initiated a good discussion about 4<sup>th</sup> Day and how to promote 'The Cursillo Method' in Ultreya areas and particularly within the relevant diocesan structure. Intentional Discipleship is something being promoted within the SEC and it was felt that Cursillo offered a lot in this regard.

Ideas suggested were Clergy Taster days, 'open meeting' concept, holding Ultreyas in churches that do have Cursillo contact, using the promotional film (when the SEC one is made), inviting prospective Cursillistas to Ultreyas and SGRs.

Weekend 66: (The condensed weekend) Papers were circulated with the feedback from Team. Generally, the weekend had worked well (a lot better than expected) with some advantages and some disadvantages. After much discussion it was agreed to run a condensed weekend again with some tweaking of the timetable. Kinnoull is booked from Friday 27 to Sunday 29 September 2019. Team applications will be available in the new year.

Secretariat Vacancies:

a) Secretary. b) 4<sup>th</sup> Day Convenor c) Palanca Contact.

There were no suggestions/nominations put forward at the meeting for Secretary but Duncan Cowie was appointed as 4<sup>th</sup> Day Convenor and Duncan McCosh as Palanca Contact.

Although not strictly a vacancy if you are tempted to take on compiling the Fourth Bridge Magazine please speak with Duncan McCosh, it's not that difficult, just a matter of getting the text/copy together and a nice man in Selkirk formats it and prints the copies required and the on-line version for sending out. Go on be tempted!

The Annual Returns and Accounts for the year have been lodged with OSCR and anyone wishing a copy please contact Duncan McCosh (temporary secretary) who can email or post a copy to you.

It was noted that we have a healthy bank balance and no outstanding bills to pay.

Date of next Servant Community meeting:

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November

Holy Trinity,  
High Street  
Monifieth DD5 4AB

All are welcome to attend this gathering.

*A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."*

*The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Several went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."*

## **Sunday Re-visited**

Participants from the last few Weekends have been invited but **this event is open to all** as it is hoped to have some good discussions and debate about the value of the Cursillo Method of The Rule of Life, Ultreya and Small Group Reunion.

10:30 for 11am start until 3pm.

Lunch and refreshments provided

(please contact Duncan McCosh with any dietary requirements)

*Parking is available at the South Inch which is a  
5-10 minute walk from the  
Threshold Centre and the Train Station is also nearby.*

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

The Threshold Centre

Princes Street

Perth PH2 8LJ

Duncan McCosh

[mccosh.selkirk@btinternet.com](mailto:mccosh.selkirk@btinternet.com)

01750 720524 Please leave a message on answer machine.

## Catch up from around the Country

### Edinburgh & Lothians

Edinburgh Ultreya meets monthly with an average attendance of 18. In the summer months we generally meet in the evening while in the winter months we meet on a Saturday morning. Our current practice is to meet in a different church each month, usually a church that has a Cursillo member.

An open invitation is always given to the Rector and anyone else interested.

Our January meeting is always an Epiphany Party (too much else on at Christmas time).

After each meeting an email 'catch up' is sent to every Edinburgh Cursillista that we have an address for with a summary of the Action / Witness talk and Gospel response along with any notices and future dates.

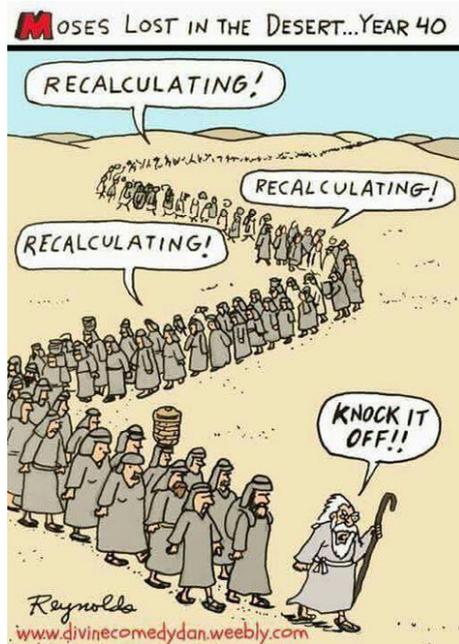
### Moray

Here in Moray we are keeping Cursillo alive through our "Drop In Reunions". These take place about once a month at a hotel in Inverness, where, over coffee, we manage to hold a group reunion using the newer method - sharing, supporting and praying for one another. It works very well and in the past few months, seven or eight of us have consistently turned up and found it very worth while in helping each other along our spiritual journeys. No-one bothers us - but maybe notice us and we hope this might prove to be a witness of some kind ....Ultreya!

Gill McWhirter (an unofficial, low-key sort of Ultreya rep for Moray).

## Brechin

We continue to meet every other month. We are few in number but always have prayerful, thoughtful and inspiring meetings.



BACC report

from

Two Hat Sally!

I've recently taken over from Duncan McCosh as the representative for Northern UK...so that's Scotland and Durham... on the BACC (British Anglican Cursillo Council) Standing Committee (SC) which is the working arm of BACC. As the Standing Committee meets just before the BACC Council, it made sense for me to also pick up Rosemary McCosh's role as BACC rep, so here I am your new Rep to BACC.

My first job was to attend the Standing Committee (SC) meeting followed by the biennial weekend conference at Swanwick in May of this year. My first achievement was realising that there are two Swanwicks in England and turning up at the right one, Derbyshire not Hampshire, which until then had been the only one I had known about! The SC meeting looked at various admin tasks and heard reports from all of the Cursillo Diocese in the UK which was interesting. It was really good to hear how well Scotland is doing and how the focus almost everywhere is firmly on Fourth Day rather than weekends.

Trevor King, the BACC President and Revd Cynthia Hebden, the BACC Spiritual Director both fed back on their visits to various diocese, including our own 30<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations just the week before, at Kinnoull.

Cynthia Hebden comes to the end of her term as SD for BACC next year and her successor was announced, he will be Rev'd Stephen Bowring, currently SD of Ely Cursillo.

The Cursillo Conference focus this year was on Successes and Challenges - what we do well and what we find challenging in our Cursillo communities. The picture across the UK is very similar, with the focus on Fourth Day, it was great to hear how the movement has been taken on board by the archbishops in England as part of their mission.

We also heard how the various Cursillo diocese in Wales are hoping to follow the Scottish model and move to being a Provincial movement and several Scottish Cursillistas have been involved in providing info about this.

The BACC Resource Manual, which contains information on the nuts and bolts of the movement, has now been extensively rewritten and edited and is now available for purchase from BACC, for around £20, or as a free download from the BACC website <http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk>

My next task, is to head off down to Chelmsford for a SC meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August followed by the annual UK Ultreya on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September. This is a joyous occasion when hundreds of Cursillistas from across the UK all meet up. As expected, there is joyful worship and singing as well as the chance to meet up with friends from across the UK. I know it's too late for this year, but information on next year's Ultreya GB will be available soon. If you would like to join us in carrying the Scottish banner, it's a great experience and usually takes place the first weekend in September. Next year it will be a bit nearer home as it will be in Chester Diocese.

It's open to all and again information will soon be available on the BACC website with links from our own website [www.cursilloinScotland.org](http://www.cursilloinScotland.org).

Pictures and a report on the ULTREYA will hopefully be on our website soon after my return.

Until then as the founders would say, Ultreya...Keep Going!

Sally Mair

## ‘Welcome Home’ in a Garage!

The Aberdeen Welcome Home was hosted by the Cowies in Inverurie and after all the glorious weather we had had, Duncan and Brenda had planned a barbeque, so grass was neatly cut, patio swept, garden furniture all laid out, insect repellent and torches all ready to light and a couple of hours to go it decided to rain!

No problem, tables and chairs borrowed from church and the Cowie’s garage was the venue for a lovely Welcome Home for the 4 Participants and 3 Team members.

Having been to many Welcome Homes over the years this was definitely the first I know to be held in a garage, which included piped (not bag) music.



About 20 of us were comfortably seated surrounded by an array of gardening and DIY equipment and treated to a splendid meal and reminiscences of Cursillo events through the years as well as each of the Participants giving their feed back from their Weekend.

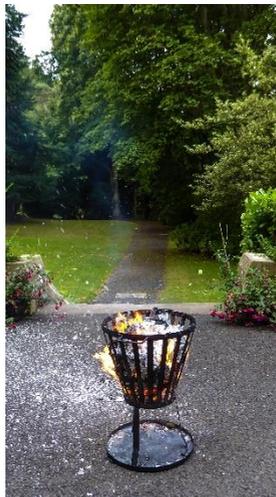
The only slight hiccup was the lights going out every now and then, very spooky, until we realised they were on a timer!

*Duncan McCosh*

## For your Prayers – Weekends in the UK

Further information is available on the BACC website regarding Palanca and Closing Services. [www.anglicancursillo.co.uk](http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk)

18-21 October '18	London #33	
25-28 October '18	Blackburn #65	Chelmsford #37
	St Alban's #9	Chester #57
	Canterbury #58	Southwark #42
	Leeds #4	
1-4 November	Durham #27	
15-18 November	Ely #34	
22-25 November	Leicester #45	
	and further afield	
27-30 September	Florida #140	Men's Weekend
4-7 October	Florida #140	Woman's Weekend



*Letters to God from Cursillo 66 being posted*

## **A few thoughts from Caroline Delaney Cursillo 66**

Cursillo is a movement that stemmed from the Camino Pilgrimage in Spain. The pilgrims wished to capture the essence of Camino, where a joyous, loving and supportive atmosphere is fostered. This atmosphere is what I experienced in Kinnoull Monastery in Perth, and I find myself in the same predicament as the founders of Cursillo were in. I am left wishing I could spend my life on Cursillo weekend and to continue to be inspired and motivated by the expression of God's Love that was presented and by the talks, discussions and worship.

Cursillo is like an allegory of the Camino walk. You might meet wonderful people after your day's walk, but the next day you must walk on, perhaps on your own. It's all about the journey. On the walk, the pilgrims greet each other with "Ultreya", which is an encouraging word, meaning "keep going" and this greeting is now used by Cursillo members worldwide.

The key message in my opinion, is to keep going and to ask yourself what you can do to get closer to God, to make the world a little better and to make someone smile. The organisers of the weekend thought outside the box to get the Christian message across. They used acts of kindness, surprises and treats to overwhelm and shock the person into understanding the message deep down in their hearts, rather than letting it go in one ear and out the other. It gives one a deep understanding that "I am loved, I am a sister to all. We are here to support each other. We are here to laugh and be happy together".

It was a weekend of largess of spiritual food, that continues to sustain me. I feel stronger and braver, in the knowledge that God is on my side and I have so many prayers from strangers and friends to achieve this. We are all Easter people living in the 4<sup>th</sup> day. We've heard the good news, thus can go forward to do God's work.



*Let there be Light.*

Saturday night's service was for many the highlight of Cursillo 66.



A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him.

Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean.

It's the same in my business."

## **LOVE**

(as seen recently in the church magazine of St Fillan's, Edinburgh)

A group of women were at a seminar on how to live in a loving relationship with their husbands. The women were asked, "How many of you love your husband?" all the women raised their hands.

Then they were asked, "When was the last time you told your husband you loved him?" Some women answered today, a few yesterday and some couldn't remember.

The women were then told to take out their mobile phones and text their husband "I love you, sweetheart."

Next the women were instructed to exchange phones and read aloud the text message they received in response to their message.

These are the replies.

Who the hell is this?

Yeah, and I love you too. What's wrong?

Eh, mother of my children, are you sick or what?

What now? Did you wreck the car again?

I don't understand what you mean

What the hell did you do now?

Don't beat about the bush, just tell me how much you need.

Am I dreaming?

If you don't tell me who this message is actually for, someone will die.

I thought we agreed you wouldn't drink during the day.

Your mother is coming to stay with us, isn't she?





