



CURSILLO®

# The Fourth Bridge

March 2020



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



## **Cursillo Office Bearers**

### ***Secretariat***

Lay Director: Sally Mair

Spiritual Director: Rev Canon Duncan McCosh

Secretary:

Treasurer & Gift Aid: David Dalglish 01705 32293

Convenors:

Communications:

Fourth Day: Duncan Cowie 01467 623576

BACC Rep: Caroline Waddon

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

Registrar: Karen Ellis

Resources: vacant

4th Bridge Editor: Duncan McCosh

Palanca Secretary: Wendy Wilkie

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: Mike Coats

Glasgow & Galloway: Fran Walker or Morag O'Neill

Dear friends,

How can it be that we are already half way through Lent, looking forward to Easter when it seems as if Christmas is just behind us? From my point of view this time of year always rushes by, as most years

I spend a month of it in India, in the place which Cursillo introduced me to 23 years ago.

One of the things which it may surprise you to hear about South India is the openness of people's faith there. The church is extremely hands on, running schools, hospitals, nursing homes etc. it is a place of what, in Cursillo terms we might describe as Active Christian Witness.

This year I was there for the first ten days or so of Lent. The school in which I spend time, is for children with various disabilities and every day, at 12 noon, the school bell rings. All work stops and children and adults bow their heads or kneel. One of the school staff goes to the microphone, she covers her head with the fall of her sari, and prays for a few minutes, all listen and all are silent. How wonderful that prayer can be so open and so much a part of daily routine.

One of the great joys, of Cursillo is the encouragement of shared prayer and worship. We are encouraged to share our prayer life, to encourage each other in identifying what God is telling us to do, each in our own place. To share our understanding of the world and identification of what we can do. We are all God's children, all of us with our unique gifts and talents and Cursillo provides us with a means to develop these and use them to further God's Kingdom here on earth.

We have some great adventures in Cursillo in Scotland happening very soon:

- The Weekend to be held jointly with Durham: do you remember the excitement of Durham 1? Now we are working in partnership with Durham Cursillistas to hold a joint weekend. I do hope you are encouraging participants to consider being involved in the weekend. If you can involve them in your reunion group or bring them to an Ultreya, then that is a great taster and introduction to the method. Remember that a Cursillo weekend is simply an introduction to the method which stays with us into our everyday lives. Please pray for the participants and team.

- **Sunday Revisited:** a chance to remind ourselves of the Cursillo message of the Sunday talks and how to embed the Cursillo Method in our lives. All are welcome, both new Cursillistas and also those who may not have heard those wonderful talks, which hold the core message of Cursillo, for a few years. More information elsewhere, but do come it will be a day of fellowship and learning.

Our Provincial Ultreya and AGM will be coming up in the early summer, this is a time to renew friendships with Cursillistas from other dioceses who you may not have seen since your own weekend. Do plan to come, it would be great to see how many of our 68 weekends can be represented. As always we will be looking for people to take up the baton and make sure that Cursillo in Scotland remains relevant and fresh. If you think you would like to be involved either in a local way or as part of the central Secretariat or Servant Community, then speak to your Ultreya rep, or give me a call or drop me an email, I would be happy to chat things through. All offers of help are gratefully received.

I wish you all a Happy Easter,

Ultreya Sally

### **Sunday Revisited:**

*The purpose of Sunday Revisited is to help new Cursillistas to understand the message of the Sunday talks which explain the three parts of the Cursillo Method.*

*At a Weekend these are given towards the end of the weekend and with all that has gone on the impact of these talks might be lost.*

*An invitation is sent top the Participants of Cursillo 67 and a general invitation to the more practised Cursillistas to come along and share their experience of the Cursillo Method.*

**Sunday Revisited:  
Saturday 25 April at The Threshold Centre, Perth.  
10:30 for 11am. Lunch provided.**

An aim of mine when I retired was not to fall into too much afternoon TVing. Thinking instead that I should be out and about either 'doing good' or following 'healthy pursuits'.

I have however become a great fan of the Repair Shop programme. If you haven't seen it, people bring in items in need of repair which have sentimental value or hold a cherished memory.



Some of the items are really old and worn or broken so badly you wonder if they can be fixed: everything from teddy bears to dolls houses, clockwork toys to grandfather clocks, rocking horses to old bikes, chipped cups to fine porcelain table wear are lovingly repaired and restored.

At times the transformation is quite astonishing which is evident when the owner comes to collect the finished item which has been transformed from something which just held past memories into something which will create new memories into the future.

I often hear when I am doing locum duties, apologies from folks because there aren't as many people attending as there used to be or that there are no children or families coming anymore and I sometimes toy with the notion that it would be nice if there were a 'church' Repair Shop to get a bit of a feel good factor going again and wonder if one of the things that might help is a good dose of 'Cursillo' to revive and help the church on its journey.

Or what if there was a 'Cursillo' Repair Shop, now there's a thought! although I have to say the Ultreyas I get to are still pretty uplifting and give food for thought to take away.

Every Blessing as Easter approaches ... Yours in Christ

Duncan

## **Aberdeen / Inverurie**

Ultreya on Sunday 29th March at 2pm at Brenda and Duncan's house 17 Cuninghill Ave Inverurie AB513TZ

## **Borders Ultreya!**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 7pm @ Coldstream

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 7pm @ St Andrew's Kelso

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 5.30pm Eyemouth - Fish Supper Giacopazz's followed at 7pm Ultreya @ St Ebba's Eyemouth

**Moray:** Ultreya continues to hold Drop-In Reunions about once a month, usually at the Palace Hotel, Inverness at 11.00. Anyone wanting to get in touch could do so by emailing Gill McWhirter on gill.mcwh@uwclub.net or phoning her on 07729647713

**Glasgow and Galloway:** St Augustine's 1st Monday of the Month at 7:30pm

**Edinburgh:** Please contact the Ultreya Rep

## **Joint Scotland/Durham Weekend 28-31 May**

Shepherd's Dene, Riding Mill, Northumberland

Application forms available on the Cursillo web site

[www.cursilloinscotland.org](http://www.cursilloinscotland.org) and from Ultreya Reps.

*It is hoped to organise a coach from the Central Belt to take people to the Closing Service, details to follow after the Secretariat/Servant Community meeting on the 21st March.*

**Complete applications to:**

**Karen Ellis, 6 Balnakiel Terrace, Galashiels, TD1 1RW .**

**Tel: 01896 757429 Email: [registrar@cursilloinscotland.org](mailto:registrar@cursilloinscotland.org)**

*Judith Wilkinson gave the Action talk at the last Edinburgh Ultreya and it says much about fulfilling a vocation.*

## **Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland**

More than 10 years ago, when I was still working, I attended a lunchtime seminar hosted by the then full-time Work Place Chaplain in the City of Edinburgh. Having been disappointed 5 years prior to that in failing to proceed to train for Ministry in the SEC, I was excited that this may hold the key to my Ministry. Indeed it was so. I was accepted for this training and afterwards was given the post of Work Place Chaplain at Fort Kinnaird Retail Park where I've been for 8 years. In that time, I also stood in as Interim Chaplain at Edinburgh airport when there was a vacancy in the Edinburgh West Chaplaincy. That was a lovely experience and I still catch up with the staff there whenever I'm travelling. It is so nice to be remembered!

Training of course is ongoing, so that awareness and listening skills are being refreshed from time to time. Chaplains themselves get together from time to time socially to catch up and exchange ideas and stories.

In Edinburgh, we have 2 full-time, 2 part-time and 21 volunteer chaplains (of which I am one and apparently the first!), who provide pastoral support to people working in retail, transport, offices, care homes, royal mail and the emergency services. For many, the Chaplain is their only contact with church. WPCS Chaplains provide front line support for those suffering stress, depression, bereavement, relationship and family issues and, as necessary, signposting them to the appropriate agency to help them deal with their problem.

What do you think of when you hear the word "Chaplain"? ( I'm glad I'm not named Charlotte – I'd hate to be called "Charlie the Chaplain"!)

Seriously though, you'll know about hospital, military and prison Chaplains, who are ordained ministers within a denomination, but over the last 10 to 15 years there has been a fundamental shift that has seen a growth of Lay Chaplaincy in a wide number of areas.

The philosophy of Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland is to serve people of all faiths and none - although their chaplains **are** of the Christian faith. Whilst chaplains are not there to preach or convert, it is my personal belief and faith which drives me in my ministry. I'm there to recognise the basic human need for spiritual, pastoral and practical care, to listen to their story and walk beside them in times of sadness and joy. I try to bring God's love into their lives without using words! I find Chaplaincy very rewarding and I hope, by the grace of God, I can help those I'm there to serve. It is my calling.

Each year since 2016, I've organised a carol-singing event at Fort Kinnaird on the Saturday before Christmas. Folk from Holy Trinity and West Church, Haddington, St Mark's Portobello, St Barnabas Moredun and Bristo Craigmillar churches have joined me, braving some wickedly cold, wet and windy weather; Fort Kinnaird is a very bleak place! However, in 2019 we were blessed with mild weather for the first time. Chaplains have been asked to conduct marriages, baptisms and funerals as well as holding a Service of Thanksgiving within the workplace when a member of staff has died. This helps to bring Christ into the workplace when otherwise He would probably be ignored or side-lined.

There is a church on the edge of Fort Kinnaird which belongs to our Diocese but was not sustainable as a congregation 30 years ago. So from then on until last summer, it was used as a Community Arts Centre. I had always had a hankering for it to be my Chaplain's office. So a few months ago I was very excited to hear from Sophia Marriage, Rector at St Mark's Portobello, into whose parish Fort Kinnaird falls, that she has been given the task to see how best the church may now be used. I'm hoping that we'll be able to work together to use it for some sacred space available to the Fort Kinnaird staff, customers and all. Exciting possibilities I hope!

Some years ago, I was warned, by a priest in the Edinburgh Diocese no less, that Chaplaincy is the hardest Ministry to follow. I don't know whether that is true, all I can say is that I find it fulfilling and satisfying and I love to meet the different people who make up the work-force at Fort Kinnaird. A couple of years ago, I had the honour of having one of our Ordinands "shadow" me for 2 or 3 weeks. I was delighted to be told afterwards, that, of all those Ordinands who had "shadowed" a Chaplain, **my** Ordinand was the only one to have enjoyed the experience! I hope the others were not too put off!

If anyone is interested in exploring this Ministry for themselves, please do speak to me afterwards. I'd be more than happy to give you more information.

There are more opportunities within the WPCS than volunteers, so I ask for your prayers. Luke 10 verse 2 springs to mind "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields"

And pray for the softening of hearts so they are ready to receive the good news about Christ.

Thank you for listening.



## Duncan Cowie's (4th Day Convenor) favourite Easter poem

Breath of the Spirit by Ted Munyard

### The Peasant Boy

The peasant boy on crutches to the village made his way,  
he'd heard the man from Galilee was coming there today.  
men told how he had cured the sick and made leper clean  
and preached about the scriptures in a way not ever heard.

He gave a blind man eyes to see, turned water into wine,  
took evil spirits out of men and put them into swine,  
his answer to a mother's plea was raising up n her daughter.  
He calmed the wind and stilled the waves - He even walked on water.

Each time the boy had tried to see this Jesus it would seem  
he only ever reached the place where Jesus once had been.  
And now off to Jerusalem - perhaps he'll find him there,  
helped by his faithful crutches and perhaps a little prayer.

They say this man was put on trial and now faced crucifixion.  
He might have time to see him yet despite his own affliction  
with all his strength he dragged his legs, his lungs stung in his chest.  
He'd stop once he'd seen Jesus, then he'd take time to rest.

The cross stands stark against a sky all grey and brooding still,  
not one thing stirs for all is quiet upon Golgotha's hill  
Then comes a sound to break the spell the sobbing of a child  
who stood along with outstretched arms as though he be beguiled.

"Too late," yet once again "Too late," he cries as he draws near.  
"Can I not hear at lease one word from lips I hold so dear?"  
"It is finished" were the only words and then the Christ man died.  
A soldier came, reached up and plunged a lance into his side.

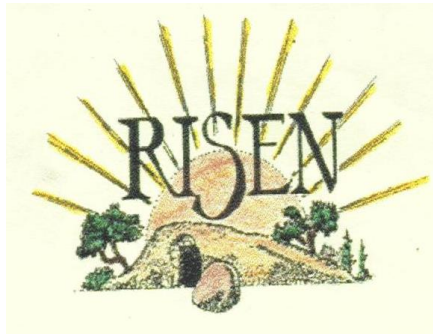
His friends then came and lowered him down and took their Lord away  
a lonely child the only one remaining there that day  
and as the night drew ever near the sun set in the west  
he laid his head against a stone, He needed now to rest.

He'd travelled such an arduous road to hear his master's words  
his milk of human kindness soured then slowly turned to curds.  
And with that lump fast in his throat the night watch he would keep  
he huddled on the stony ground and cried himself to sleep.

**But with the rising of the sun the wonder of the cross begun  
it's shadow spread across the ground until the crippled boy it found  
an image fashioned by the sun of cross and boy becoming one  
and as upon that cross he lay his crutches he did cast away  
his arms flung wide to greet that day  
like Jesus, on that cross.**

He realised his stance had been like Jesus hung on high  
it was for him that Jesus died spread eagled to the sky  
nailed to that cross in sore disgrace for all the world to see  
to bear his pain that he may live for all eternity.

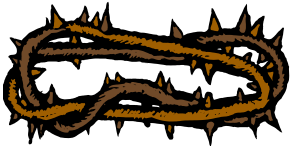
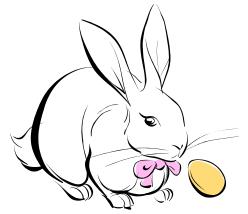
His heart now warmed he understood and through his tears he smiled  
You, me, and he, 'Eternity', for this Christ was defiled.  
Unaided he stood straight and tall his senses now were reeling  
because of faith in Jesus Christ he thus received God's healing.



For all young men the future's theirs they have no fear  
since Jesus rose from out the tomb, the Spirit draws us near.  
For now no man need stand alone before that wondrous cross  
for all is gain with Jesus Christ man's sin the only loss.

## EASTER

Chocolate eggs and cuddly bunnies  
Mark the start of Easter time.  
But where's the cross, the Lord's great passion  
That took our sin both yours and mine?



Once a babe but now a king  
Born of David's royal line  
See the crown of tangled thorns  
Rammed upon the head divine.

Jeering now they strip and beat Him  
Nail Him to a cross on high  
Throwing dice they shout and mock him  
Watching there for Him to die.

Little did they know the outcome  
That it was the Father's plan  
That the Son should give His life  
Our sacrifice, the Paschal Lamb.

Taken down and wrapped in spices  
In a borrowed tomb He's laid,  
Stone rolled hard against the entrance  
Guards and seal securely made.



The women and disciples seek Him  
He who death could not hold down  
Risen now, forever living,  
Wearing now the victor's crown.

He the firstfruits of the Father,  
Secures for us a heavenly place  
What great joy and celebrations  
When we see Him face to face.

*By Megan Carter*

## **Best**

The reporter was interviewing the town's oldest woman. "And what do you find is the best thing about being 104?" he asked. "That's easy," she said. "No peer pressure."

## **Nice**

The nice thing about becoming forgetful is that you can hide your own Easter eggs.

## **It helps**

Laughter is like changing a baby's nappy: it doesn't permanently solve any problems, but it makes things more acceptable for awhile.

## **Sermon**

When a minister rehearses his sermon, is he practising what he preaches?

## **Easter Bunny**

A man was driving when a rabbit darted out into the road, he couldn't stop and hit the rabbit head on. A woman drove up and asked why he was crying in the road. He said, "I have done something horrible. I have run over the Easter Bunny. Now there will be no one to deliver eggs on Easter." The woman instinctively reached into her handbag, walked over to the lifeless bunny and sprayed something onto it and stood back. A moment later the bunny sat up, shook itself, and hopped slowly into the woods. Then it stopped, turned, and waved at the man and woman. Then it hopped on another 10 feet, stopped, and waved, ran another 10 feet, stopped, and waved again. It did this over and over until it was finally out of sight. The man was bewildered. "Whatever have you done to that rabbit?" The woman explained: "Used my harespray. It revitalises hare and adds permanent wave."