



Fourth Bridge

January 2022



Lord of all beauty,
Shine your light on
me today,
That I may brighten
the lives
of those I meet.





From Sally
Lay Director

Dear Friends,

Well, we made it through 2021 and here we are in January 2022 with a New Year ahead of us. I wish you and those whom you love best, all good things this year.

In January last year I don't imagine any of us thought that we would still be under the regime that we are, still wearing masks and still avoiding crowds to keep ourselves and others safe. On the other hand, we are now, by and large, all vaccinated, and have had boosters so although still cautious we are able to feel a little more confident, and to look forward in hope.

2021 was a remarkable year for Cursillo in Scotland as we held Cursillo #68 in September. Grateful thanks go to all those who served in any way and we extend a warm welcome to our new Cursillistas - a wee jog here is to sponsors, to remind you of the importance of helping new Cursillistas to find their way into a reunion group. Zoom has worked in our favour for this with sessions lasting just 40 minutes and only one person being able to talk at any time. It's certainly been a good exercise for me in planning and being concise and also in listening!

With the new year we are already planning our next Cursillo, in this case, Cursillo #69 will be held at Kin-noull in Perth which many consider to be our home venue. Lay Rector will be Cat Outram of Edinburgh and Observing Lay Rector, Margaret McMeekin from Dalkeith.

This Cursillo will be held from Thursday 8th till Sunday 11th September.

I'm already looking forward to seeing everyone at the closing service!

Before then though, we have to find and build a team and we need to identify those of our friends who might find a Cursillo to be a support in their faith journey. Do you think the time might be right for you to join a Cursillo team? We need people of all levels of Cursillo experience, those who have been on team before and those for whom it would be a next step. Look out for application forms coming soon, feel free to contact me or any other Cursillista for more information about serving on team.

As well as an opportunity for service, being a team member is a lot of fun, a chance to form new friendships and watch the joy of Cursillo being revealed to others as they experience the love of God in community. Having received the gift of Cursillo ourselves, it is good to be able to offer it to others. Who do you know who might find Cursillo to be the right thing for them? Now is the time to start praying for them and talking to them and getting the date pencilled into their diaries.

We continue, thanks to the generosity of Cursillistas to be able to offer Cursillo as a gift to participants and that continues to be the case for Cursillo # 69. If you would like to help Cursillo to continue in this way then do get in touch with our treasurer, we are happy to receive any contributions, large or small, one off or by regular standing order.

I would encourage you, if you do donate, to sign up to gift aid so that your gift is worth even more to us. Contact David Dalglish or Jenny Wright for more information. Jenny is taking over from David as our treasurer, and we are very grateful both for David's steady hand over the past few years and for Jenny's willingness to take on this role.

Thank you to all members of Secretariat and Servant Community who have continued to help guide Cursillo through the last few years, your support for both the Cursillo Movement and for me personally has been invaluable. I hope we are going to be able to meet face to face again soon - we are always looking for more people to come and help so if there is something which you would like to be involved with, do get in touch.

My friends, Cursillo in Scotland is very close to my heart, the friendships and bonds formed with people both in Scotland and further afield are very special. Do please continue to pray for the movement and for Cat and Margaret and the evolving team for Cursillo #69.

I wish you all the joy Cursillo has brought to me, along with a happy and healthy 2022.

Ultreya! Sally

Cursillo #68 Carronvale September 2021



Some reflection on our Cursillo weekend.

We were at the Cursillo #68 weekend . Mathew and I are still cherishing the memories of the Cursillo weekend. It was a heart-warming experience . Every Cursillo member was very welcoming and made us feel like we are all one family in Christ. We were so amazed to see the dedication and passion of the Cursillo organisers and enjoyed the care and love from every one.

A special thanks goes to our Sponsor Ruth Simpson who took her time to gave us some surprise visits and generous gifts.

One of the best memories are of the meditation sessions by Nick and Paul. Table discussions were also really good to reflect on.

We highly recommend this to the people who have not had a chance to attend Cursillo weekend ❤️

Ultreya!

Mathew and Beena



**From Revd David Dalglish
Provincial Spiritual Director**

Reflections on Community

Although it has sometimes been difficult to accept and indeed for many of us continues to be difficult to accept, for every downside there is always an upside and that has certainly been the case in this pandemic.

The upside has surely been the move away from the claim “That there is no such thing as society,” to us seeing for ourself that very society coming together in so many different ways, to people knocking on the doors of strangers in their street, asking if they need help, to youngsters shopping for the elderly, to the manning of food banks and the simple task of telephoning or writing to someone living on their own, at every level there has been a growth in the sense of community, to caring for other people and especially the lonely and most vulnerable.

For Cursillo and Christians in general, community is at the heart of everything that we do and believe in and has been a source of great comfort and strength to many of us. In the Borders we were particularly blessed and were able to come together physically for a December Ultreya and it is my hope that 2022 will enable us to repeat this throughout Scotland.

How can we as Christians be at the forefront of caring for others and caring for our community? Jesus the word made flesh knows how much we all need good, loving and wise shepherds. Not only does Jesus reveal himself as the Good and Wonderful Shepherd, but each one of us, as we grow to maturity, is called to be a good shepherd, a servant-leader for others.

In order to be real shepherds, who lead others, we have to learn first of all to be good followers. Jesus is revealed as the “Lamb of God” before he reveals that he is the Good Shepherd. He listens to the Father and obeys the Father before revealing to us what to do. To be good parents, don’t we first of all have to be good sons and daughters? Can we teach others if we have not learned from others? How can we love if we have not been loved?

Jesus, Light of the world, calls his disciples, calls us, to become light for the world. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, calls us to become good shepherds, to mature spiritually, to help others in need and to seek out those who are lost, crushed or oppressed, who have been pushed to the margins of society.

As a servant community we must be a community of good shepherds, a community of love with a love for not only God our Father but for each other and for our world.

May you all receive God’s blessing in this, a New Year.

David



From Margaret Editor of Fourth Bridge

Happy New year everyone, welcome to our Epiphany issue of the Cursillo Scotland magazine. It was delightful to receive the photograph of the 'snow star', to mark the occasion from Brenda and Duncan in Aberdeen. You will find it in one of the pages to follow...

As editor, I always love how articles arriving in for copy have a similar theme. In this issue there is a sense of community, and I hope like me when you read David's reflections, you felt uplifted but calmed in some way. David ends his thoughts on drawing us to caring for our world. You will read further on in the magazine, Marion's words, that takes us to consider the seamen's roles at our docks and at sea.

Which leads me to ask if as a Cursillo Community, we could consider an action together? Read on and hopefully once reading Marion's action talk, we too feel like supporting the cause, which Marion brings to the table.

As I leave you to finish reading all the news and requests, may I just take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, your prayers and friendship, and enfolding me in love as I attempt to undertake new responsibilities for Cursillo.

Ultreya!

Margaret (and now I hand you over to Cat)



From Cat Outram Lay Rector Cursillo#69

CURSILLO Leaders Workshop

As I write, I am just back from attending a Cursillo Leaders Workshop and have been asked to write on the experience. So here goes!

I was very glad of the opportunity to go as part of my preparation for leading the next Cursillo Weekend # 69. But really, these weekends are for anyone interested in Cursillo, in developing further an understanding of what this movement is all about. Long before getting there, we were all encouraged to read the relevant sections of BACC's Resource Manual which can be sourced and downloaded from their website <http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/resource-manual.php> But once we'd arrived, there was a big booklet of notes on everything, so I now have a lot of useful material to keep me on track.

This particular weekend was at Shepherd's Dene, west of Newcastle – just a hop, skip and a jump across the border. This place is a beautiful Arts and Craft period building set in its own gardens and orchard with fine views to the surrounding countryside, a truly restful place to spend time in.

Everyone arrived on the Friday (I was the only participant from Scotland), registering at 5:30pm and eating at 6:30pm and the food was delicious. Different dietary needs were catered for and the desert that first evening was sticky toffee pudding – what’s not to like! The first talk was then at 8:15pm followed by compline and bed.

From the Saturday through to Sunday lunch time we had a pretty full timetable of talks on (to name but a few) ‘Christian Living and the Place of Cursillo in Christ’s Church’, ‘Keeping Cursillo fit’, ‘The Authentic Cursillo’, ‘Servant Community’ and ‘The Job Ahead’. These were followed by discussions in small groups, regular worship and much singing – very much like an introductory weekend. In fact, I think it was quite good to be reminded a little of what that feels like – to have so much information to process along with getting up very early, rushing to worship, rushing to meals and very little time off! But the team of four were very experienced and led us very ably through all we had to do and there was a constant supply of tea, coffee and sweets – as you’d expect!

The other participants, around 14, came from a whole variety of backgrounds, experiences and different roles and were an amazing bunch. I really regret not having had time to talk more fully with all of them.



We were put into a different group for every discussion so we were given the opportunity to mix. Someone at some point said: what-

ever happens – God always turns up too! It wasn’t all work – there was some time-off scheduled and on Saturday evening we all had a chance to share something: a poem, a joke or a story and general good cheer together. But, you know, I was exhausted – and had to go to bed early.

Leaving on the Sunday my head and heart were buzzing. So much of the next stage of planning for a weekend depends on getting the core team together and then the rest and it’s daunting – but I feel much more confident, I understand something of the reasoning behind the method. Prayer and with God’s help I trust all will be OK.

We have also been given a mandate to invite potential participants to Group Reunions and/or Ultreyas as a valid way of introducing them to the practice of Cursillo. A much better preparation, I think and easier to have something practical to share.

I’ll finish here with a list of CLW planned for next two years should any of you be interested. I really would recommend it.

18 – 20 March 2022 at Wistaston Hall, Crewe

7 – 9 October 2022 at Shallowford House, Stone, near Stafford

3 -5 March 2023 at Wychcroft, Bletchingly, near Redhill

Anyone interested in attending a workshop please contact Sally Mair.

Please keep Cursillo #69 in your prayers, and I encourage you to consider either joining as part of the team, or whom to sponsor as a participant. Thank you. Cat Outram

'Zooming here & there in Edinburgh Ultreya'

Edinburgh Ultreya has used Zoom to provide a 'virtual' Ultreya throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. I can't remember who first introduced Zoom to the Ultreya. I expect it was one of the churches using it for their own worship; but whoever it was we were very thankful.



However, it all seemed to coincide with the arrival of COVID; and not long after the end of the Group Reunion at St Leonard's, Lasswade's period of responsibility as Edinburgh Ultreya Reps .

My Group Reunion [GR] (Sally Mair, Marilyn Shiells, David McGavin & I) relieved the Lasswade Group of their responsibilities and on 16th February 2019, our GR took control of the Ultreya Planning, benefitting from Lasswade's organisational skills.

Then COVID arrived, and unrestricted face to face Ultreyas soon ceased. Zoom fairly rapidly appeared and was adopted to enable us to have 'virtual' Ultreyas. As it turned out, we found the spread of four congregations in our GR very helpful. One of our GR had experience in the use of Zoom for congregational musical worship. David took charge of music. Sally wearing her Chairman's hat was ideally suited to be the contact with Clergy. Mike agreed to be 'secretary'. We found we had a core group of Cursillistas who responded to this monthly 'virtual' Ultreya.

We were hopeful that we might build up a bank of volunteers to give the lay talks; but despite requests for volunteers, they were reluctant to offer for future talks. Clergy and those who supplied music were more willing; certainly when 'persuaded' to offer.

So we quickly found that the organisation of 'virtual' Ultreyas required a lot of polite encouragement, and persuasive approaches; but we learned quickly. It could be said that our three-year spell was so enjoyable that we did not note the passing of time: but three years are now nearly up and will expire on 26/02/22. Our time of planning 'Virtual' Ultreyas in Edinburgh is almost over.

We now need a new person or GR to rise to the opportunity to host and organise the Edinburgh Ultreyas and act as Edinburgh contact.

If you or your Group Reunion would like to consider this venture and to give back something to Cursillo, please get in touch with a member of the current organising GR, or the Reverend Bill Elliot, to 'sus' out any more about the task.

Hosting is a very rewarding chance for Cursillo involvement.

Mike

Our next Ultreya, on Zoom, will be sometime in the last week of January. If you don't receive an invitation then please contact one of our group for joining info. All are welcome.

A place at the table...



Borders Ultreya

We had great joy in the Borders with 3 Weekend #68 participants, Chris & Pauline Jones and David Noyce and it was a delight to have their Welcome Home in person in October at St Mary's Coldstream. All our Ultreyas have been via Zoom since Lockdown so this made it an even more special occasion.

November Ultreya was back to Zoom but on Saturday 4th December we met in the morning at St Peter's Galashiels for our 'Live' Advent Ultreya' - and very good it was to be together and sing together – in our masks. Marion Anderson gave a most illuminating Action Talk on the work of the Missions to Sea Farers which is printed in this edition of 4th Bridge. With Rosemary's most delicious Soup Lunch to round off the morning it was a wonderful treat to enjoy fellowship in person.

Over the past year we have enjoyed attendees at our Borders Zoom Ultreyas from across Scotland and also from south of the Border. Our first Ultreya for 2022 is Friday 5th February 7.15 for 7.30 via Zoom and all are most welcome to join us.

Ruth McGrath
Borders Ultreya Rep

**Gracious God,
make known to me my guiding star.
Show me the path of that star,
the path home to you.**



Not much news from Aberdeen / Inverurie with covid still raging up in our area we have had to put an Ultreya on hold once again. Hopefully we will get caught up before Easter !!!!!
We were out walking today, and came across this beautiful snow star, it never ceases to amaze me at the stunning scenery we are surrounded by, and give thanks for being able to appreciate and enjoy it all.
Please continue to keep Lorna and Cissy in your prayers. 🙏

Brenda and Duncan x

An action for all?

"O hear us as we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea. "

How often do you think of or pray for the men and women who bring 90% of what we consume in the UK to our shores?



Today there is a gale blowing around the house with rain lashing on the windows. Here I am, sitting in safety and comfort with family and possessions around me. Some of the seafarers have been on the same ship for 18 months, far from family and the comforts of home, enduring storms physical and emotional, wondering what might be happening with their loved ones, missing treasured events. Covid has given us a window into this type of existence. We have been isolated from those we love, from friendships dear to us and many of us find it painful.

In 1836 an Anglican clergyman the Rev. John Ashley wondered where sailors went to church. After some research he bought a ship in 1839 and fitted it out with a chapel for 100 people. Over the next 15 years he visited 14,000 ships and sold over 5000 Bibles in the Bristol channel area. His aim was to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of the sailors giving practical and emotional support. This initiative has developed worldwide now in 200 ports in 50 countries, available every day of the year. In 2000 it became The Mission to Seafarers with a flying angel logo (Rev. 14. v 6).

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in mid-air, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people.



Chaplains in the ports offer a warm welcome to those they meet only briefly. Volunteers donate gift parcels for these essential workers of mixed nationalities. During shore leave

seafarers want diversions, contact with family, internet connection, appreciation, accommodation, showers. With the introduction of containers, rising docking charges, Covid and visa restrictions, hours in port are reduced. On board ship there is little oversight so Seafarers can be exploited, exposed to extremes of weather, piracy, and shipwreck.

The chaplain the Rev. Tim Tunley, #66 provides warm scarves and hats to seafarers at Leith docks but never has enough!! So, if you are able, please knit to bring comfort to some of these 1.5 million Seafarers and remember them with a thankful heart as you sip your morning tea, coffee, or hot chocolate.

Marion

Patterns are available on the Mission to Seafarers website or from
mmanderson1258@gmail.com

Editor's Note:

I too have heard Rev Tim Tunley speak, as will many of you reading this today. Knitters are in great demand these days to assist in projects from Stitches for Survival, premature baby hats, craft stalls and many more worthwhile causes.

However, Marion has brought her action to share with us and I would like to encourage everyone to knit at least one hat for the appeal. Perhaps your immediate response is, 'Ah, I don't knit'.

Could you find a knitter and ask that person to knit you one hat?

Tim has given me permission to print the knitting patterns in the magazine (Page 12) from the web site for ease. Although there are more options on the website:

<https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/at-church/knitting>

Let's arm Tim a Cursillista from #66, in his action, with an abundance of hats to take to Leith Docks. Once you have your knitted hat complete, use the network of communication through Cursillo to get them to Tim.

Although this is obviously an ongoing appeal, we will aim for a booster action of hat knitting until the end of February 2022.

A little Fourth Day Cursillistas Community in action?



Hat

You will need:

Double knit or 4 ply wool.

Size 8 (4mm) Needles.

2 oz of wool. (a variety of colours/stripes may be incorporated into the pattern)

Method:

Cast on 120 stitches.

Rib (2 plain 2 purl) for 12 inches

Next Row: Knit 2 together to end of the row Purl next row.

Repeat these two rows once more.

Knit 1 row. Purl 1 row. Pull thread through all stitches and sew up seam.



Muffler

You will need:

Two needles, size 6.

8 ozs of double knitting wool – whatever colour/colours are available. Stripes are very welcome!

Mufflers encircle throat twice, ends covering chest and should not be more than 10” wide and 5ft long.

Cast on 40 sts. Work in Plain throughout.



Illustration not as pattern