

Spring 2019



BACC Pages

The magazine of The British Anglican Cursillo® Council

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, TREVOR KING

It's good news – and more good news!

I'm writing this in Easter Week as once again we celebrate the Good News that Christ is risen having defeated sin and death for us, for me. Simply because He loves us. What better news could there ever be? From that central, essential core of our faith flows everything that makes us Christians, and that gives us the hunger to have a living relationship with Him in PRAYER, to learn more about Him and our faith in STUDY, and to respond to Him in practical ACTION.

For me, and I hope for you, my original Cursillo weekend provided the clearest, simplest summary of that truth that I had ever heard, wrapped up in a blanket of love, acceptance and understanding which opened up both my mind and my heart. Over the 27 years since then my regular commitment to the 4th Day activities of Group Reunion, Ultreya and (sometimes) Spiritual Direction has given me the support and encouragement that I need to keep the reality alive. Regular worship in my own parish church has of course provided the bedrock and rhythm of my Christian life but Cursillo has provided the highlights, the sparkle, indeed the rainbows!



And there's a lot of good news to report at the moment regarding the British Anglican Cursillo movement.

Over the last few years most Cursillo dioceses have had to cancel some weekends or have gone ahead with very low numbers of participants. Whilst I've not kept statistics, from the conversations I've had with Lay Directors in the last few months things seem to be picking up this year. Fewer weekends are being cancelled and participant numbers are increasing. Praise the Lord!

(Continued)

Cursillo is a movement of the Church providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action and enabled to share God's love with everyone.

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When weekends have been cancelled the booking at the venue has often been used to hold a Cursillo retreat or quiet weekend, and these have proved very successful. As President I've attended three run by Canterbury, Chichester and Ely Cursillos, and they were all very well planned and well attended as well as being restorative, thought provoking and fun. Interestingly they all seemed to attract both Cursillo 'regulars' and Cursillistas who weren't seen so often at 4th Day events, thus providing an opportunity to get them more involved again. I thoroughly recommend them.

Arrivals and Departures

At this year's BACC AGM held in Shepshed, Leicestershire, on 18th May it will be time to say 'Good-bye' to three important people on the national Standing Committee and welcome their successors.

Revd Canon Cynthia Hebden comes to the end of her 3 years as **National Spiritual Director**. She has done a great deal to support and forward the Cursillo movement during her term of office and will be missed. Cynthia will be succeeded by **Revd Stephen Bowring**, who has been shadowing her for the past 12 months. Stephen has a vast experience of Cursillo having served as Diocesan Spiritual Director in both Leicester and Ely dioceses and served on Cursillo weekend teams in no less than 7 dioceses.

Jane Wrigley will stand down after serving 4 years as **National Treasurer**. She has been a very 'safe pair of hands' ensuring that BACC is financially sound and we are extremely grateful to her, not least for staying in post an extra year so her successor, **Cheryl Goddard**, could finish her term of office as Peterborough Cursillo Lay Director. Apparently Cheryl has an Open University Certificate of Accounting and her financial experience includes managing the purchase and sales ledger for a business with a turnover of quarter of a million pounds; I think she'll cope with ours! You'll find a piece introducing Cheryl later in the magazine.

Billy Hollis is extremely relieved to be finally handing over responsibilities as **Webmaster** after doing the job for ages! (He can't remember how long and nobody else knows!) Billy has done an amazing job keeping information on the BACC website up to date and chasing Lay Directors for updates. He has developed the website into an extremely useful resource of information about Anglican Cursillo – if you've haven't seen it recently take a look. **Steven Ridley**, currently joint LD of Ely Cursillo, is taking over. Professionally he is a freelance web software designer and writer with extensive experience of website maintenance so we are looking forward to seeing what he can do for us. One of his first tasks is going to be developing the site so that it automatically adapts its format to the screen of whatever device is being used to view it, which the current website doesn't do (it keeps the landscape horizontal format of a PC monitor).

A huge 'Thank You' to Cynthia, Jane and Billy for all they've done, they all deserve a well-earned rest.

President Elect

I now have only 1 year left to serve as **National President** (where has the time gone?) so in the winter we started the process of finding my successor to start shadowing me at this year's AGM. I'm delighted to tell you that **Beth Roberts** from Chester diocese has agreed to offer herself for the role, the only brave soul to do so. Beth has a great deal of Cursillo experience and has served on the national Standing Committee in the past as Area Representative for Wales and the Marches. She introduces herself later in this edition.

The 2019 BACC Pilgrimage: "The Path to Pilgrimage – Becket and Beyond"

Organised by Canterbury Cursillo it will run from Tuesday 13th August to Friday 16th August and be based in Dover, Kent. The focus will be on the subject of pilgrimage following the death of Archbishop Thomas Becket in 1170 AD. In those times, pilgrims came to Canterbury from all parts of the British Isles and also from Europe in considerable numbers. Highly respected historian, Canon Dr Christopher Dent, will be leading the pilgrimage and we will visit historic and spiritual sites in East Kent including Canterbury Cathedral.

We will be staying at Dover College, a place not only of great learning but also of significant historical interest. We will use the College's comfortable minibuses for our transport and the provisional itinerary blends interesting history with significant spiritual experiences and worship. A memorable experience is guaranteed and the **cost per person is £250.00**.

Further details can be found on BACC's website: <http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/information-for-diocese.php>

National Ultreya GB 2019 in Chester, Saturday 31st August

Chester Cursillistas are delighted to welcome you to this year's National Ultreya at Chester Cathedral. Chester is a beautiful Roman city which attracts tourists from all over the world. The city and the surrounding area have a huge range of accommodation to suit all needs and budgets. As ever it's going to be a marvellous day of celebration and worship so do try to make it.

Full details and a booking form are available on Chester Cursillo's website, <https://www.chestercursillo.org.uk/>

2-day Cursillo Weekends

BACC is currently trialling a two-day Cursillo weekend format. We are all familiar with some of the problems of persuading younger folk to come on a weekend, especially those who work and who find it very difficult to take time off for Weekends. There's also the cost of three days full board accommodation, whether the participants are paying themselves or the diocesan Cursillo is funding it; two days are cheaper than three. 2-day weekends have been pioneered by the American Episcopal Cursillo and in the last 12 months Cursillo Scotland have run one, and two more trials are planned for this year. In November the BACC Standing Committee will review these trials and make a decision about whether the 2-day format can be used by all dioceses.

Resurrecting Lichfield Cursillo

Sadly Lichfield Cursillo ceased being active over 10 years ago but moves are now being made to try to re-establish it. This is at the request of the Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, and with the help of the Lichfield Diocese Director of Mission, Revd George Fisher and a number of Cursillistas who have recently moved into the diocese. Two Cursillo Workshops will be held in Stafford in early May with over 40 folk attending, some who are existing Cursillistas but many curious enquirers. It's very early days but let's pray that something positive comes from it.

(Continued)

And finally ...

If you're wondering what Cynthia is going to do after being NSD don't worry. As well as still being a parish priest she's getting married!! The lucky man is Andrew Thomson from the Kettering area. Don't they make a lovely couple? Very many congratulations to them both.



ULTREYA 2019

**AT CHESTER CATHEDRAL
ON SATURDAY AUGUST 31**

Chester Cursillistas welcome you to this year's National Ultreya being held at our beautiful cathedral in the fine Roman city of Chester which attracts tourists from all over the world.

Built as a fortress in the 1st century A.D. the city is known for its extensive Roman walls made of local red sandstone. A Roman amphitheatre, with ongoing excavations, lies just outside the old city's walls.

The Rows is a shopping district distinguished by 2-level covered arcades and Tudor-style half-timber buildings.

So a lot to explore if you wish to make a weekend trip.

We will not be holding any evening entertainment; the day will close with the Eucharist.

**For more information and booking details visit www.chestercursillo.org.uk
There is plenty of local accommodation available. See visitcheshire.com**

Meet Beth Roberts, our President-elect



I have been a keen member of Cursillo since attending my own weekend in October 1999. I depend on the ongoing support, direction and discipline of Group Reunion to provide the prompt for review and therefore development of my own Christian life. I am an ardent advocate of the Cursillo method having seen the effect on other individuals too and have enjoyed supporting the movement in various ways over the years.

I have staffed in both Chester (many times) and Bradford dioceses (twice). I have been Lay Rector of a Chester weekend on two occasions and feel privileged to share with others as they develop in confidence and faith through their weekend and fourth day.

As BACC area representative for a (then) newly defined area of Wales and the Marches I began the process of regenerating Cursillo in the Lichfield diocese by renewing contact with their known Cursillistas and I look forward to the support and development offered by the wider Cursillo family to that diocese as well as to those dioceses undergoing the gifting process.

I enjoyed working as part of the team responsible for reviewing and rewriting the Resource Manual in 2017/18. I am curious to know how each diocese organise themselves as well as their concerns and priorities and feel that BACC can continue to develop its assistance in sharing the best practice on many different levels and I am encouraged that cross diocese working and the sharing of resources is now evolving.

After a professional career as a rating surveyor with the Civil Service I chose to take early retirement 4 years ago and enjoy the indulgence of many pastimes and hobbies. This has been an opportunity to get to know many others outside the church family whilst still maintaining time for my current church family responsibilities as PCC secretary and a Home Group Leader. I appreciate contemplative prayer with the occasional quiet day and retreat and recently returned to Scargill for a specialist retreat simultaneously indulging in spiritual growth and making bobbin lace.

I recognise that the task of President is a big ask of anyone as every one of you has different expectations of the role but I trust I will, at least, be available to listen to all and I would like to get to know you more in order to help BACC serve and encourage you in your part of the body of Christ.

I received a prayer card when on a weekend team recently which says, *“God doesn’t call the equipped, He equips the called”*. This gives me the confidence that, just as we do with everything in Cursillo, I would rely on your prayer and I shall trust in God for guidance in whatever response is required of me in this venture.

Whatever (or whoever) God has in mind for Cursillo in the near future may we all continue to pray and work together.

Ultreya!

How do we keep new Cursillistas involved?

*National Spiritual Director
the Rev Canon Cynthia Hebden suggests
developing the Servant Community*



I am now coming to the end of my three years as National Spiritual Director of the British Anglican Cursillo Council and I want to say what a privilege it has been to serve on the Standing Committee. I have met such a wide range of wonderful people and it hasn't been long before we have felt like very special friends. Added to that was the absolute joy of feeling that we were working together at something very worthwhile and being part of building up the Kingdom of God throughout the United Kingdom. If you get the opportunity to be on the BACC Standing Committee do seriously consider it; it is a great privilege.

One of the greatest achievements by BACC during my time of service has been the re-writing of the Cursillo Manuals, all of which are available on the web page, together with the promotional film.

Something that has been troubling me throughout these three years is how many dioceses are struggling to keep Cursillo going; how many are struggling to get both participants and staff; how many are struggling to get clergy involvement.

We have always, quite rightly, said that being involved with Cursillo on a Secretariat level is not for everyone and we must rejoice that people who have been on weekends are doing wonderful things in their parishes and dioceses, and that is all true. However, we do need people to work at keeping Cursillo active, and I suspect that there are many people who have been on weekends who lose touch because we do not encourage them sufficiently.

Having worked on the Cursillo manuals, it occurred to me that the answer could be the 'Servant Community'. This is something that seems to have been overlooked right from the start. I was involved in the early days of Cursillo Cymru and right at the beginning of Cursillo in Scotland and the Servant Community tended to be the people who place butterflies on the pillows or produce table mats etc.

If you read through the manual on the Servant Community you will realise that it is so much more; it gives everybody an opportunity to be part of the larger body of Cursillo in a diocese. People, I think, come off a weekend and are either asked to be on the Secretariat, or on a weekend, or disappear out of sight. Hence, weekends are staffed over and over again by the same people because that is the only way a person can be involved.

According to the manual, the Secretariat should be made up of three separate smaller groups and anyone can be invited and encouraged to join one of those groups. The idea is, geography providing, that the Secretariat should meet one morning and be joined for lunch by members of the Servant Community; the afternoon session should include some teaching and Bible study and then the three groups work on aspects of their particular responsibility.

The three groups are Pre-Weekend, Weekend, and Post weekend. The Weekend group is fairly obvious but there is much to discuss to make sure that the weekends offer a wonderful experience for everybody involved. The pre-weekend group is very much promotional, perhaps preparing some sort of promotional material to take around to individual clergy, parishes, and diocesan events. The post weekend would work on Group Reunions and Ultreyas and ensuring that parishes who have been affected by Cursillo are well supported.

The alternative to this is Weekenditis, the worst possible disease in Cursillo; where the only emphasis is how we can put on the next weekend!

Ultreya!

Prayer is our secret weapon against global warming!

Dear Fellow Cursillistas,

I am writing to share with you something that has been increasingly on my heart and mind for some weeks now - our response as Christians to the threat of global warming, which many now say is a ticking clock. It is time to put it on our prayer agenda big time.

We know that God loves and cares for our whole world - his creation. He is never taken by surprise and he has a plan! Agreeing with him in consistent, faithful prayer for his good purposes WILL make the difference - he has promised it!

The question is - how to factor this prayer into our busy lives which may already be on overload? The last thing we need is more meetings, commitments, time away from family and friends.

This is my suggestion - for prayer alliances, where individuals covenant with God to pray specifically about global warming and environmental issues - maybe for one hour a month, maybe one hour a week. They can choose when and where to pray and how to divide the time. People can meet together or agree to pray at the same time if they wish.

If you think this is a good idea, maybe you could discuss it in your Reunion Group, which is pretty much perfectly designed for such an initiative as this! Think back to your Cursillo weekend - Cursillo runs on prayer - it's our secret weapon!

I may add that I have emailed as many clergy in the Durham Diocese with this idea as I could find - about a hundred - with a sample prayer points sheet attachment in case they found it helpful. (I may have emailed your vicar!) About 10 responded and I will be emailing a prayer points letter to them on a monthly basis. If you think you'd like one, let me know on dimurp@aol.com and I'll send you one too.

Go with God, fellow Cursillistas.

Ultreya!

Di Murphy, Durham #6



In the Cursillo movement, being "in colors" (De Colores) is to be in God's grace. Cursillistas use that phrase when they greet each other. There is a traditional folk song called De Colores, also used by Cursillistas. The multi-colored rooster, which is a symbol for the Cursillo movement, originated from that song.

PROFILE: Cheryl Goddard

BACC Treasurer-elect

My name is Cheryl Goddard and I am a Cursillista in Peterborough Diocese. I am currently on a short sabbatical from Cursillo responsibilities having just stood down after serving six years on Secretariat in roles including treasurer, secretary and Lay Director. It is rumoured that I'm due to become Treasurer of BACC at the AGM! I'm very grateful for Jane Wrigley continuing a fourth year as BACC Treasurer so that I could complete my three years as LD. Thank you Jane.



I first came across the word Cursillo in 2006 when a friend suggested I should 'go on Cursillo'. I looked around Peterborough Diocese and couldn't find any reference to this, as it had not been gifted to the diocese at that time.

In 2007 I walked 200 miles to Santiago de Compostella, without any knowledge of it being the inspiration for Cursillo. In 2008, Peterborough Diocese was gifted Cursillo, and so when in 2009 my parish priest said I ought to go on Cursillo (oh, that word again!), I agreed without hesitation.

Since then I have staffed on a few occasions, been Lay Rector and been involved on Secretariat; I have also just attended my second CLW. While Cursillo has not led me to lay ministry or taking on other activities in my parish, I have felt my current ministry is my paid employment as PA to an Archdeacon and my commitment to Secretariat. (In the past I have been active in the church with Sunday Club, as a member of the PCC, a chorister, churchwarden and the publicity officer). I have also had a personal ministry as my mother's carer for a number of years until her death last year.

My group reunion – one a priest, another a lay minister and myself - have set up a couple of activities in our Benefice. One is a Reading Café where we read and discuss faith-themed books on Christian living, prayer, poetry, an autobiography, novels and short stories. We ran a Lent Group this year based on *Les Misérables*, and because of the interest shown in that, aim to continue meeting once a month, exploring faith using resources such as Table Talk.

My financial experience includes managing the purchase and sales ledger for a business with a turnover of quarter of a million pounds, including trading in Euros, while also having sole responsible for order picking and despatch. I am treasurer for Wellingborough Inter Faith Group – a role I am carrying out for a second time. In 2007-2008 I completed the Open University Certificate of Accounting – a qualification equivalent to a Level 1 Bookkeeper. While I enjoy this type of activity, it is not something I could imagine doing as full time paid employment.

My family is a wonderful daughter and a nine-year-old grandson who live on the Wirral. I have the companionship of a beautiful elderly cat, Bubbles, who came to live with me after a neighbour asked if I would take responsibility for her when he died.

I look forward to taking on my new role on BACC and meeting and being in contact with many of you in the future.

BOOK REVIEW

'Writing our Faith' by Julia McGuinness

Published by SPCK, 2013. ISBN 978-0-281-06963-7

Encouragement to write about your spiritual journey

I have always liked words. As in recent years I have started to write a little poetry myself, I was drawn by the title of this book. I came across it last year, as I was browsing amongst the books for sale in The Open Gate, Retreat House on Holy Island.

Life has been especially busy and I have to admit that once back at home, it sat on my pile of 'books waiting to be read' until a few weeks ago.

I did not realise that within its pages there was such a treasure chest of riches just waiting to be discovered.

In her preface, Julia McGuinness writes that "this book brings together different genres and approaches to writing - therapeutic, devotional, expressive and creative - within the context of Christian faith". As a Christian and a member of Lepidus, a UK network of those involved in the practice and teaching of therapeutic writing, Julia has valuable experience to share in this publication. As someone who loves all forms of writing, but especially in the realms of spiritual journeying and personal growth, her book is a vehicle to help others to make the most of personal writing's potential,

I found her style of writing easy to read and the content very accessible. In each chapter she introduces a different topic and her own input on the particular subject is augmented by the experiences of others, shared in their own words.

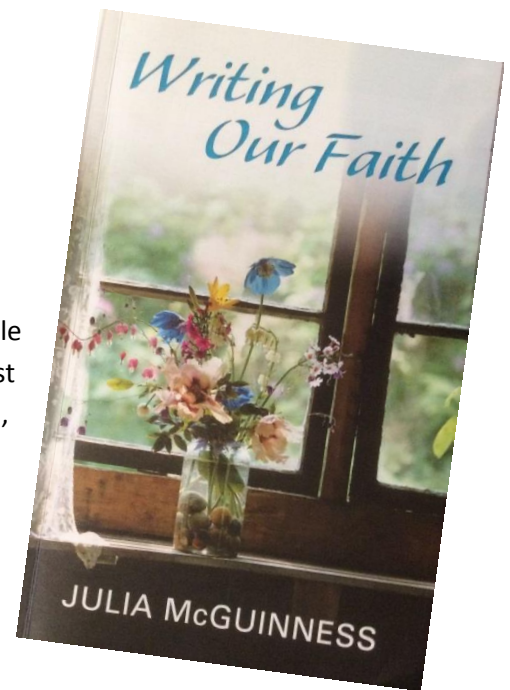
Her writing is punctuated throughout with practical ideas for the reader to experiment with, and each chapter ends with a 'more things to try' section. It seemed to me that there were things to encourage the non-writer to have a go, ideas to spur on the novice writer and new areas to explore for the more seasoned writer.

As the book unfolds, Julia explores a variety of genres, including journaling, plans and prayer, letter writing, stories and poetry writing. The final three chapters introduce writing through loss towards healing, writing for growth, and writing to, with, and for others.

Julia makes it clear that given that we are all unique and at different places on our journey through life, some forms of writing will be more appealing to one individual than another. Also the depth of engagement with a writing task may vary depending on what level is most fitting for the particular writer at a given time.

Finally to quote Julia again; "so use this book's suggestions at whatever level is appropriate for you. Explore widely, write deeply, and enjoy practising your more favoured approaches as you integrate writing into your faith journey."

Having now read this book from cover to cover, it will not just reside in my bookcase, but will be at hand, so I can dip into it again and again. I very much look forward to the future writing adventures that it offers.



Rosemary Gillespi (York Cursillo)

What is the BACC (British Anglican Cursillo Council)?

All dioceses using Cursillo must be affiliated to BACC to enable them to have Cursillo in their diocese, with the agreement of their bishop, and to run Cursillo events.

British Anglican Cursillo Council – has the following aims

1. To encourage and support new and existing Cursillo dioceses
2. To ensure there is consistency in the use of the Cursillo methods
3. To promote Cursillo nationally

BACC produce and update all the guidelines and manuals, they aim to promote consistency of Cursillo across the UK, ensuring it fulfils its aims and the founders' vision. BACC organises Cursillo Leaders Workshops (CLW) as part of that aim.

The President, National Spiritual Director, and all the standing committee, are there to help. Diocesan Lay Directors and Spiritual Directors should have the contact details, or see the BACC website.

Structure

Officers are elected by affiliated dioceses

- President
- National Spiritual Director (Vice President – ordained)
- Secretary
- Treasurer

There are two **council meetings** a year, in May and November; each diocese can send three representatives.

- Diocesan Lay Director
- Diocesan Spiritual Director
- Diocesan BACC representative

Standing committee – carries out the work of the council.

- Area Representatives, currently 9, from the affiliated dioceses which are regionally organised; they are nominated and elected by the dioceses they represent
- BACC officers
- CLW convenor
- Co-opted members e.g. Resources Officer, Website Master, Registrar

The **President and NSD** will come to support the dioceses in things like Days of Deeper Understanding, Clergy Taster Days, Ultreyas etc.

The **Area Reps** are keen to be invited to your diocesan events, Clausura, Ultreya, to attend secretariat occasionally and to generally support the dioceses in their work. They may also encourage and facilitate some regional events which will include those from neighbouring dioceses.

BACC is there to help, be in touch!

Judy Craig Peck

BACC Areas from Sept 2017



Active Cursillo diocese	●
In the process of being gifted	●
No longer active Cursillo diocese	●
Diocese that has never had Cursillo	●

The Role of the Cursillo Area Rep

There are nine Area Representatives, each serving for three years, who are part of the BACC Standing Committee which meets four times a year. The function of the Area Representatives is to keep BACC in touch with what is happening within Cursillo throughout the country and to feedback helpful information and encouragement to Secretariats and Cursillistas within their area.

I am the Area Representative for the South West and try to fulfil my role in three ways:

The South West includes dioceses of Oxford, Bristol, Bath and Wells, Gloucester, Salisbury, Exeter and Truro. At the current time only Exeter, Oxford and Bristol have active Secretariats and earlier this year, following the example from other areas, representatives of each of these Diocese held an area meeting for the first time. The purpose of the meeting was to

encourage each other and to share strengths and weaknesses from each diocese so Cursillo can be strengthened within the region. The objectives of the meeting were met and further regular meetings are planned.

When possible, and when invited, I attend Ultreyas, Clausuras and meetings within each diocese. This enables me to grow closer to Cursillistas within the area, giving support and encouragement for all that they achieve.

I send communications to the dioceses within the South West that are not active within the Cursillo Movement. The purpose of this is to reach out to any Cursillistas, or those interested in Cursillo, within these dioceses with the aim of connecting them with others who may wish to attend group reunions on a regular basis.

*Angela Smith, South West Area Rep &
Lay Director Bristol Diocese*

Husband and wife share the role of Lay Director



Dawn & Steven Ridley

Steven and I took on role of joint Lay Director for Ely Cursillo in April 2018. This was not something either of us had ever considered, or wished for, but doesn't God have a wonderful way of leading, and possibly cajoling us to go where he wants us to be?

A few months before Lesley Bowring was to step down as LD it became apparent to me that she was struggling to find someone to take over. Knowing that Lesley was to be moving out of diocese meant that not having a successor would mean Ely Cursillo would cease to run. Cursillo meant too much to me for this to be a possibility and so it got me thinking. I was due to lead the first pilgrim weekend following Lesley's departure, so there was no thought that I would be involved in taking on the LD role, and I did not feel I had any of the necessary skills for it.

My husband Steven, on the other hand, had led a weekend and had the necessary skills, but did he have the time or inclination to be Lay Director? I approached Steven about taking this on. His initial answer was that he did not feel called to lead Cursillo. However, I had a funny little notion in my heart that we should take on Cursillo, so maybe it was something we should do together, after all, I had the time and desire, and Steven had the skill set. With some hesitation I suggested this to Steven. We decided that we needed to find out more and spend time praying about it. We talked to Lesley about the role and still did not make a decision, hoping that someone else would come forward. Alas no-one else had spoken to Lesley about the role, so having left the decision as late as possible, we found ourselves agreeing to taking on LD for Ely Cursillo as a joint role.

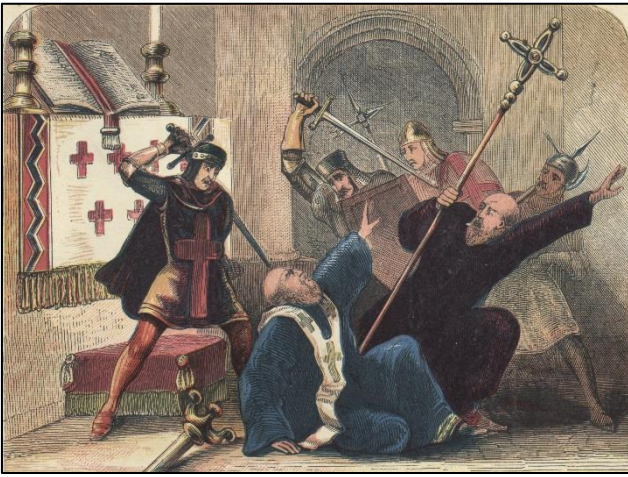
So far, it has worked well for us as we have been able to draw on our individual strengths and bounce ideas off each other. Steven (having run his own business) is comfortable with the more official side – leading secretariat meetings, the AGM, helping with the treasurer role, liaising re insurance and the Charities Commission – the official 'must have' stuff. I however am much more practical, more at home leading Ultreyas, liaising with people ensuring everything is in place, and making sure we as a couple are organised for each event.

Generally the split works well, although my own lack of computer skills has been a challenge for me and definitely driven Steven to despair on more than one occasion! But where one of us falls short the other picks up and keeps us moving forward. Although it has been hard work at times, and rather busier than we might have hoped for, we have both been hugely blessed by our involvement in Ely Cursillo so far. It is good to share the load together and we would encourage anyone who feels they can take on a Cursillo role as a couple to give it a go as it is a blessing from God to work together and share in building his kingdom.

Dawn Ridley

Note from Trevor King, President of Anglican Cursillo.

In the Autumn 2017 edition of BACC Pages (still available on the website), there was an article about two clergy sharing the role of Diocesan Spiritual Director in Sheffield. Indeed, in Leicester diocese now there are 3 clergy sharing the role.



BACC Pilgrimage 2019

The Path to Pilgrimage

– Becket and Beyond

Tuesday 13th to Friday 16th August

The 2019 BACC pilgrimage organised by Canterbury Cursillo will be based in Dover, Kent. The focus will be on the subject of pilgrimage following the death of Archbishop Thomas Becket in 1170 AD. In those times, pilgrims came to Canterbury from all parts of the British Isles and also from Europe in considerable numbers. Highly respected historian, Canon Dr. Christopher Dent will be leading the pilgrimage and we will visit historic and spiritual sites in East Kent including Canterbury Cathedral. We will also visit Dover Castle, Maison Dieu and St Edmund's Chapel.

Dover College is where we will be staying – a place not only of great learning but also of significant historical interest. We will use the College's comfortable minibuses for our transport and the provisional itinerary blends interesting history with significant spiritual experiences and worship. A memorable experience is guaranteed.

The maximum number of pilgrims will be 42 and the cost per person is £250.00 including a non-refundable deposit of £100. Cheques should be payable to Canterbury Cursillo, to arrive by May 31st.

English Heritage members are requested to bring their membership cards and those with Canterbury Cathedral passes are also requested to bring them.

Further details from: ANN WELTI, Holly Tree House, The Green, Shepherdswell, Dover CT15 7LQ.

TEL: 07710 090965 / 01304 830768 Email: bookings@canterburycursillo.org

Canon Hall Speers is now a Bishop in Madagascar



Former Spiritual Director of Lincoln and later St Albans Cursillos, Canon Hall Speers has been called out of retirement and invited by the Episcopal Church in Madagascar, to become the next Bishop of Mahajanga, in North West Madagascar. He was consecrated and installed in the Cathedral Church of St Luke, Mahajanga in March this year. He and his wife Sarah will be living in Mahajanga for the period of his appointment.

Cursillo Leaders' Workshops

We had a good CLW at Wistaston Hall in March 2019 where the venue was friendly, flexible and welcoming. In the feedback the positive comments mirrored what we often hear, including the benefit of sharing with those from other dioceses, understanding more about the Cursillo method, what Cursillo has to offer the church, the emphasis on Fourth Day and the importance of ensuring that weekends provide an authentic Cursillo experience.

Those who attend a CLW find it a helpful way to understand Cursillo and its place in the church. One of the delegates this time fed back they wished they had done it 18 months previously.

The incoming National Spiritual Director and BACC treasurer attended as delegates and both fed back how useful it had been for them as they prepare to undertake their new roles.



Who should attend a CLW?

- Those undertaking a major role in their diocese, region or nationally e.g. it is an ideal thing for incoming Lay Directors and Spiritual Directors to do, along with BACC reps, other secretariat officers and members
- Lay Rectors ought to do it, preferably well ahead of undertaking that role
- Anyone who is interested in learning more about Cursillo, what it is about, how it works, and what it has to offer the church
- Those who continue to be involved in Cursillo are advised to attend every 3-5 years

Where do CLW take place?

- Retreat centres in different locations around the country
- We try to move them around to facilitate as many people as possible being able to attend
- We choose locations which are accessible by car or train and will endeavour to pick delegates up from nearby railway or bus stations

Future CLW are planned for **July 2019 at Shallowford** near Stone in Staffordshire and **November 2019 at Pleshey** in the Chelmsford diocese, bookings are being taken now, the application forms are on the BACC website.

The recently revised timetable flowed well and seemed to make more sense. I will follow up some thoughts to develop the material further. The revised Eucharistic worship was well received and following feedback I will review the non-Eucharistic worship to include a wider variety of styles.

We look forward to welcoming you on a CLW soon!

Judy Craig Peck, CLW Convenor

Here to help

An update from resources officer Tony Tucker

It has been a pleasure to support the work of Cursillo in our dioceses through the provision of resources enabled by BACC. As I have listened to Lay Directors and other diocesan officers it has become apparent that the range of skills needed to support the method may not be present in every diocese. BACC wants to be able to help each Cursillo community flourish.

A huge step forward was achieved through the BACC video, which will help to raise awareness of just how useful the method can be in a parish. We used it at a diocesan conference at Swanwick when a range of ministers stopped to chat.

Redrafting and revising the Manual was a huge task. To have them available online in a downloadable form has proved to be very useful. We can of course provide printed versions on request. The guides for both the Lay and Ordained talks, which are based upon the material produced by the Episcopalian Church in America, are also available.

It is also possible to order pull-up banners which are very useful when representing Cursillo at Synods and other conferences. Car window stickers, bookmarks and so on are also available. I can do the artwork for you if it helps.

Work is also underway to build upon our website and make even more resources available.

Of course it's also possible to send you a hard copy of BACC Pages if you would find that useful at a cost of £1.00 plus postage.

Please do give me a call if you think I might be able to help and don't be afraid to chase up your inquiry if I seem a little slow in responding.

Tony Tucker Tel: 01636 626899 resources@anglicancursillo.co.uk

THE CONSTITUTION

One of the items to be discussed at the AGM is the proposed revisions to the BACC Constitution.

These revisions are intended to:

- (i) Make it clear which BACC roles constitute the Standing Committee;
- (ii) Alter the method for electing the Treasurer and Secretary so that it is the same as the method for electing the President and National Spiritual Director (i.e. one vote per diocese);
- (iii) Set out the method for electing Area Reps (one vote per diocese in that Area);
- (iv) Delete those parts of the Constitution that cover matters that are properly the prerogative of individual Secretariats (e.g. expenses for BACC reps attending BACC meetings).

Richard Tabberer, BACC Secretary

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Thank you to all our contributors for this issue.

If there is anything you would like to contribute to the next issue, any thoughts, prayers, study recommendations or action tips that you would like to share please send to (preferably by email) to either of the following addresses:

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