



This Summer Newsletter includes the 2020 AGM



A letter from our SD, Jonathan Couper

Dear All,

How we all miss each other in this forced distancing we have to endure. Fortunately nothing can separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:39)!

Corrie Ten Boom once wrote this (recorded in "This day is the Lord's" ISBN 0 340 27158 2 p11) "My grandfather wrote to his father, "I pray that the Lord will come closer to me", but my great grandfather wrote this answer in a letter "a fish does not ask the water to come closer to him; a bird does not ask the air to come closer to him. The Lord is very close to us. Enjoy it. -for in Him we live and move and have our being Acts 17:28.



He stands at the door of our hearts. The question is not about how far or near God is, but whether we open the door to allow Him close to us.

In recent weeks I have been reading a book which my wife Anne has just read. It is called "The lost art of Practicing the Presence" by Jim Goll, and I have found it wonderful. Within its pages are truths written by men and women who have lived their lives in the love of God. I have got space for just one quote. "I want to become still in mind and body so my heart can know and sense God moving within. His promptings are gentle, and until my own inner and outer ragings are quieted I will not sense His inner moving. In becoming still...I simply want to be in touch" with God. (James Goll p24)

Although apart from each other, we can share the same aims, have the same hope, and rejoice in the same Saviour.

Let us aim to be better not bitter, by choosing to let nothing stand in the way between us and God. His cross has removed every stain, every barrier, and He says to each of us, "Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Matthew 25:21).

Let us aim to be deep not shallow by resting with God beside the still waters in the secret place within our hearts. **"Let nothing disturb you, nothing frighten you, all things are passing, God is unchanging. Patience gains all; nothing is lacking to those who have God: God alone is sufficient."** — St. Teresa of Avila.

In the most difficult circumstances of life, there is often only one source of peace.



Jesus is our Rock; our refuge in whom we place our trust.

May God continue to lead us and bless us ,

Jonathan

Rev Jonathan Couper

Kay Burn reflects.....



It was in 2016 when I last spoke about my spiritual journey in the witness talk I presented at an Ultreya meeting in Scarborough. I have just read through it, amazed that it was still on my iPad and fascinated by what you find when you are looking for something else.

Well how has my spiritual journey progressed. After that Ultreya I became a member of the Secretariat as the Palanca rep. This involved sending palanca to all the Cursillo groups around the country holding Cursillo weekends and it was a real joy to encourage these groups and receive palanca from them which in turn encouraged all who attended on our weekends

surrounding everyone in prayer.

I have continued to attend Cursillo reunion group meetings, be part of our Benefice Pastoral Care Team and lead monthly assemblies and special one off assemblies at the local primary school. When I read this I am challenged to see how I am progressing forward due to various changes I have or am having to overcome.

At the end of last year it was discovered that I had bone damaged in my hands and so meant that my medication had to be altered. The new medication is a biological treatment which before you can take it you need to have a barrage of tests to see if you are suitable, which thankfully I was so I was able to start this treatment in March, this also enabled me to take part in a medical trial, but then lockdown happened. Because of the medication I was already on and the new medication I had just started pushed me into the shielding category so now I have to stay at home ,

I can sit in the garden, but no shopping or going out for walks. I thought I would really miss being out and about but not at all I love this pace of life. I do appreciate for lucky I am not having to go out to work and not having the financial burdens of lots of people.

I have more time for prayer, reading the bible and listening and watching YouTube services, taking part in Thy Kingdom Come and the Church of England Easter pilgrimage. I have been able to spend more time reflecting on what I have read. I have been able to spend more quality time speaking to people I haven't spoken to in a while.

I am embracing technology I already knew how to FaceTime and video message in Messenger, but I have now discovered the wonders of Zoom. Let's hope we don't have a power cut.

As the lockdown starts to ease for some, the hospital have advised I stay in isolation until the 23rd July I pray that the things I have learnt stay with me, I still have challenges, forgiveness or should I say my lack of forgiveness is still a huge hurdle for me, but God is working with me and I am now able to pray for those I feel have wronged me .

As I continue to walk with God I feel an inner peace and know that he will continue guide me and be with me. So after reading what I presented at the Ultreya and thinking I hadn't moved on in my Spiritual Journey after writing this I can see that it is not in the busyness of life, but in the quite reflective moment when I have been still and given my self the chance to listen to God I have certainly moved forward.

Kay Burn

THOUGHTS from Wanda Maciuisko



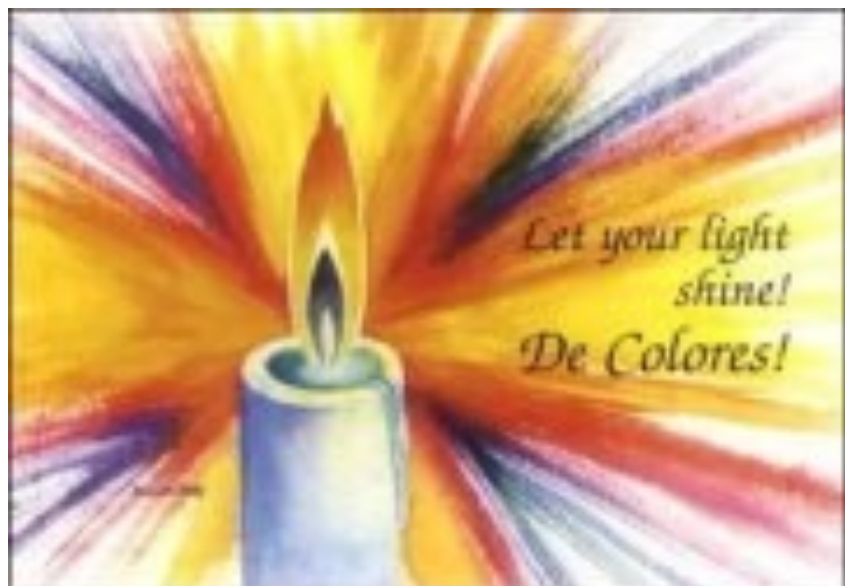
I have been reflecting on what to say given the strange times we are living through .I have continued to be sustained by reading the Bible especially the Acts and doing a lot of praying .I have also been troubled by how Cursillo can go forward .I am not a fan of social media and sticking to this resolutely through lockdown was hard. The only exception I made was for my little granddaughter on What's App video calls. I did also watch services online. While it has filled a vacuum in our lives during lockdown it would be a mistake to continue relying on it in the continuing building of Cursillo. I have realised in recent days that it is only when we come out of difficult times that we know the true experience. I now liken my time in lockdown as being in the desert and very occasionally coming across an oasis. For me this was my son coming for the first time in May ,seeing my little granddaughter and daughter in law in June and finally seeing friends face to face in July. The ultimate oasis was going to communion for the first time on 5th August and meeting up with my reunion group. Talking to people on the phone was the main form of communication which kept me going especially through some dark moments.

Our movement is based on meeting together but for the foreseeable future this will be difficult .Our Ultreyas and reunions help us in our work in the church. It will be a very challenging time for all of us even more problematic than lockdown .Accepting that Cursillo is on ice till next spring as Jonathan has suggested gives us time for reflection and study .But we need to be sharing our thoughts and ideas. I look forward to meeting the challenge with all of you in person and in whatever medium you feel comfortable with .We must make sure that no one is excluded.

We know God is with us. A friend sent me this on a sad day -Psalm 139:9-10 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me ,your right hand will hold me fast . It gave me great comfort.

Ultreya and blessings

Wanda Maciuszko



How I Got Involved with Cursillo



Hello, my name is Lynn Stephenson. A name you will all know, I am currently the Membership Secretary for York Anglican Cursillo. Jonathan has asked if I would write a few lines as to how I got involved with Cursillo.

Well, I am a single lady who retired from the local council in Dec 2017 (Hooray), still live at home with my Father (although at the time of writing he is isolating with a friend in Hedon), and have had a varied route back into Church life. I came back to the Methodist Church in 1989, and for different reasons and searching for a spiritual home, I have also worshipped at the Pentecostals and Community Church. My spiritual home at the moment is St Swithins in Sproatley – 10 miles to the east of Hull.

I got involved with Cursillo in 2011, a friend who I knew from a house group we both attended, could sense that I was searching for something deeper than the church services in Sproatley and the house group, asked if I had heard of Cursillo. She then gave me the leaflets to look at, and suggested I might like to attend the weekend in Nov 2011. I did attend the weekend, felt the Cursillo love as soon as I walked into Wydale, but then wondered what sort of sect this was with people wearing wooden crosses!! The weekend was pretty full on, and I never appreciated the impact it had made on me till I got home and started to unpack my memories. I started to attend a Group Reunion in Burstwick, which I found very beneficial, until the lady who ran it died and it moved to during the day from the evening. I couldn't attend due to working, so I asked, was accepted and joined a group in Hull, which I attend today on the evenings and have also gone back to the original one during the day, since retiring. My friend was Lay Rector of the weekend in Oct 2012 and asked if I would staff on it, well I did, and the rest as they say is history. I was asked to be Lay Rector in Oct 2016, for which you attend the Secretariat meetings, which I did and the next AGM I was asked to carry on, on the Secretariat as Membership Secretary, the role I am still doing.

I love Cursillo, and obviously don't see it as a sect anymore, but a group of very like minded Christians who have become a family for me. I have met so many good friends through it, from the Group Reunions and Ultreyas! I will belong to it and carry on with the meetings for years to come, whether serving on the Secretariat or not.

Thank you for letting me share a little of my journey with you.

Ultreya!

Annual General Meeting

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Annual General Meeting 2020 Agenda

Minutes of 2019 AGM

Spiritual Director Report

Lay Directors Report

Finance Report
and Accounts for 2019 2020

Pre Cursillo Report

Post Cursillo Report (4th day Rep)

BACC Report

Election of Lay Director

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Election of Treasurer

Election of 4th day Rep

Election of BACC Rep

Safeguarding Issues

Date of next AGM

Annual General Meeting Decisions

Annual General Meeting 2020

Minutes of 2019 AGM

We accept the minutes as accurately recording last year's meeting

Finance Report

and Accounts for 2019 2020

We accept the accounts thanking Janet for her work during the year

Election of Lay Director

We formally accept Wanda Macuisko as our Lay Director. We thank God for her call and rejoice in the good foundation provided through the past ministry of Jan watts

Election of Secretary

There being no other nominations, we declare Margaret James duly elected

Election of Membership Secretary

We are grateful to Lynn for agreeing to continue for a further year after which this post may be combined with the secretary's job

Election of the Treasurer

Janet Green has kindly agreed to serve one more year to help the new Lay Director to settle in

Election of 4th day Rep

There being no other nominations we declare Trevor King our new 4th day Rep. We thank Ruth Bannister for her past diligence and hard work in this role and welcome Trevor as he takes over

Election of BACC Rep

There being no other nominations we declare Jayne Moxon duly elected

Safeguarding Issues

We ratify the Vulnerable Adults policy

Margaret Price "I am happy to continue for one year only as the Safeguarding Co-ordinator"

Date of next AGM

14th March 2021

York Anglican Cursillo Annual General Meeting

On Saturday 6th April 2019 St Andrew's Church, Sutton Park, Hull, HU7 4BL

1. Opening prayers Jonathan opened the meeting in prayer

2. Apologies

Elizabeth Charlton, Margaret Price, David & Mandy Fletcher, Shelagh Jones, Jan Hargreaves, Liz Mortimer, Cheryl Taylor, Sue Swales, Margaret Jagger, Sarah Sprules, David & Diana Bould

3. Minutes of the last meeting – agreed and signed as a true copy

4. Matters arising None reported.

5 Spiritual Director's Report

Today we look back over the last year. As every year, The Wydale weekend – is always a highlight and this year was no exception. Rosemary Gillespie led a great team, and we thank Rosemary for all the effort she put in and the graceful way she steered us through the weekend. We continue to be grateful to Wydale for their help. This year we introduced an additional reflective space in the side chapel which we hope to repeat this next weekend. This year during the weekend there were many significant moments where the Lord met people in a deep way. There was just one weekend held this year so we could pioneer new events to help build up the Cursillo community. We pioneered a quiet day and increased the number of events which included those who had not yet attended a Cursillo weekend. It has been a great joy that so many new Cursillistas join us straight away after their weekend at Ultreyas and are starting to bring interested friends with them. The community is growing We are so thankful to God that He brought Cursillo into the global church and into our York diocese. We are seeking to encourage a deepening of faith together and at the same time an increase in numbers. We need to be doing both. In increasing our numbers. Many come into Cursillo through the doorways of the weekend. We want to make it easier for people to come by inviting pilgrims as our guests. We had a surprise this year- and also gave Wydale a bit of a shock - by the large numbers who came to our first quiet day. Many more came than we had anticipated. The positive feedback we received afterwards , has encouraged us to hold two this year. One at Wydale in the summer and another in December at Emmanuel Bridlington. I also want to say a thank you to all those who faithfully host group reunions which provide a spiritual pivot point for encouraging so many in their faith. We hope more will start group reunions and we would love to see them operating in every part of the diocese. I wish to thank Jan for her wise and diligent leadership. She has many gifts which bring a blessing to our Cursillo movement . I thank also the secretariat for their work over the year, the spiritual advisors who have helped on weekends so positively and the chapel gofers who have been so helpful. Thanks also to the members of Cursillo who sent me words of encouragement during my recent illness. I am now completely fit and well and look forward to another great year with you all.. God is on the move and it is exciting moving with Him.

6 Lay director's report

I want to begin this year by thanking a variety of people. Firstly to our Secretariat members – all have been busy, involved, conscientious and very supportive of myself personally. We are losing Joy Hadley as our BACC rep and Kay Burn as our Palanca rep and both have been wonderful in their roles. We know that Joy in particular has had a very difficult few months and consequently has had to give up the leadership of York 28, but we know that she will be back to lead a future week-end. I also want to thank Rosemary Gillespie who so thoughtfully prepared and led York 27 – a wonderful weekend by all accounts. I also particularly want to thank Di Davies who, as weekend co-ordinator, does an enormous amount of background work in supporting the Lay Rectors who lead the week-ends. And this year she has also taken over the leadership of York 28 at very short notice. And finally I would like to thank Jonathan who always provides us with the most wonderful and stimulating spiritual food for thought whether in a short act of worship at the beginning of our meetings or in a longer meditation at a Quiet Day. He is also inspirational in his ideas as to how to move Cursillo forward. Going back to York 28 which is 3rd – 6th. May, do please give Di and the team your support by praying for the week-end, sending palanca and particularly by attending the closing service which will be on Bank Holiday Monday, 6th May at 3pm. It would be such a shame if the pilgrims miss out on the support at that service, simply because it's not on a Sunday.

We also have our next two week-ends booked– Tracey Netherton leading York 29 on 17th - 20th October this year and Margaret and Brian James jointly leading York 30 next June.

I do hope the information has got around now that we are not charging pilgrims for their week-end. They come as our guests but are encouraged to donate something at the week-end or after it, towards the following week-end. There are no bursaries and we just pray that our general funds will cover any shortfall in the amount we receive for each week-end. In other Dioceses where this happens the finances of the Diocese are met by a large number of Cursillistas underpinning the finances with regular giving – even very small amounts. We are calling this giving our “Mission Fund” and would encourage you all to consider becoming a regular giver – even £2 a month would help. You will be able to do this on the membership forms which are going out at this meeting

The 4th day rep. will tell you about our meetings etc. in 2018 so I will just mention a couple of additional things. Firstly Joy and I went on the BACC conference week-end. It was a wonderful experience with great speakers, lovely worship and in beautiful surroundings. It was open first to Lay and Spiritual Directors and BACC reps. but was then opened up to anyone. Don't hesitate to go on the next one in 2020 if you are able. It was there that the new DVD on Cursillo was launched. I do hope some of you are using this to publicise the effects of Cursillo. If not have a word with me afterwards and I will make sure you have a link to it. It really is worth looking occasionally at the national website – anglicancursillo.co.uk – the film is there as are all recent and back copies of BACC pages, the national magazine.

In September several of us met at Chelmsford Cathedral and had a wonderful day at the National Ultreya where, together with many hundreds of Cursillistas from all over the country we sang and walked through the middle of Chelmsford, carrying our banners and witnessing to our wonderful Lord before a marvellous service. This year's national get together is on August 31 at Chester and we hope that many more of us can join that occasion. National Ultreyas are so encouraging and uplifting. The day begins at 10am and ends at 3.30pm so it is possible to do it in a day. Do look on the National website for further details. We are having another Cursillo Quiet Day at Wydale Hall on 10th July. The cost will be £28.50 for the day, including coffee, lunch and tea. Janet Green will be taking bookings as from today. Let her know if you're interested. We shall invite members of Leeds Cursillo again. If any of you would like to come to the May Cursillo week-end as guests then please do see me later today. We have 4 places for anyone who would like a Wydale week-end away, knowing the other guests will all be Cursillistas. You will be able to join in any Cursillo worship and all meals and teas and coffees, while at the same time having an opportunity to explore the grounds or further afield. You will just not be allowed to be in the Conference room as this might seem a bit overwhelming to the pilgrims. The cost for full board for the 3 days would be £225. At Easter, Spring Harvest comes to Harrogate and Leeds Cursillo are putting on a large display but also giving away our York leaflets there. If any of you have any other ideas or suggestions for publicising Cursillo within the Diocese then do let us know. It is an enormous joy and privilege to be York Lay Director and I thank all of you for your support. I happen to agree with our National Spiritual Director who says that Cursillo is the greatest gift the church has been given.

7. Finance report

Along with the accounts below *, Janet advised on a new charity giving scheme: Our exciting new opportunity to raise funds for Cursillo is in partnership with an on-line company www.giveasyoulive.com who partner with charities to raise funds for them. For those who shop on-line we can receive a commission from various different retailers. All you have to do is register your details with giveasyoulive.com and select the charity you wish to support - i.e. York Anglican Cursillo. You will then see a list of retailers (stores/holiday firms etc.) which support this and how much commission they will pay (e.g. 1.5%, 3% etc) to us. You then place your order in the normal way and the relative amounts are paid to Cursillo with no cost to yourself. Janet also thanked Janet very much for her conscientious work as Treasurer during the last year.

*(*editor:- copies of last years accounts are not included in this publication but are available for viewing by contacting the treasurer)*

8 Pre-Cursillo

We accepted the role of joint Pre-Cursillo Reps in mid 2018, taking over from Margaret Price.

In 2018, only one weekend was held: York 27 (31 May – 3 June 2018).

It was a happy and successful weekend. There were 8 Pilgrims – 2 from York (Osbalwick and Gate Helmsley), 2 from East Yorkshire (Rudston), 3 from North Yorkshire (Claxton and Hunmanby), and 1 from Hull.

Three of these Pilgrims will be staffing on York 28.

York 27 was the first weekend not paid for in advance by the Pilgrims or their Sponsors. The Pilgrims were invited as guests of Cursillo, with no payment expected. However, if they wished to, they were able to give anonymously after the weekend to support pilgrims in the future. This was clarified in the booking forms and acknowledgement letters. This practice proved successful and will continue in the future.

Sponsors have a very important role in ensuring that pilgrims know what to expect on the weekend and will be able to benefit from the experience. The Guidance for Sponsors which had been revised in 2014 continued to be used.

Two Wydale weekends are booked for 2019: York 28: Friday 3 – Monday 6 May 2019. This is May Day weekend, which may be more attractive to those potential pilgrims who are working. At the time of writing we have 6 pilgrims booked, with the possibility of at least one more.

York 29: 17–20 October 2019 (Thursday–Sunday).

One Wydale weekend is booked for 2020: York 30: 25–28 June 2020 (Thursday–Sunday). As at the AGM there are 7 Pilgrims with another possibility of at least one more. York 29: 17–20 October 2019 (Thursday–Sunday). One Wydale weekend is booked for 2020: York 30: 25–28 June 2020 (Thursday–Sunday). As at the AGM there are 7 Pilgrims with another possible.

9 Post – Cursillo Report

In 2018 we had a DDU, a Taster Day, a Quiet Day and 4 Ultreyas. There should have been five but you'll remember we were hit by the Beast from the East and had to cancel the March Ultreya in Hull. That would have been here at Sutton Park so it's good that we've been able to come back here this year. There was also a Christmas lunch at Wydale for those able to get up there. We visited two new venues – Beverley Minster and St Michael's Cherry Burton also in the Beverley area. This year we will be visiting Emmanuel Church in Saltburn by the Sea for the first time. If anyone would particularly like to request that an event be held at their home church in 2020 please do let me know. Attendance at these events in 2018 (not including the Quiet Day) varied from 23 to 42 with an average of 31. It was encouraging that the DDU included a number of non-Cursillistas coming along to find out more. As you'll have seen from this year's programme we are following the same sort of pattern of interspersing regular Ultreyas with slightly different events.

Taster Days and DDUs are particularly good opportunities for bringing along any interested friends and the Quiet Day was clearly appreciated and felt to have been valuable enough to do again. In 2018 we continued to have 9 Reunion Groups across the Diocese. There are hopes that at some point in the fairly near future we may be able to establish a 10th somewhere in the Beverley area. Please get in touch with either me or Jan if you are currently not in a Reunion Group but would like to be. We are continuing to try and find ways to encourage more Cursillo activity on the west side of the Diocese.

Finally a word about the Newsletter which comes out around 3 times a year: Don't hesitate to contact me, Jan or Jonathan if you have anything of interest you would like included in a future edition and please also share with us details of any Christian books you have found particularly helpful in your own journey that others might like to know about. Bear in mind also that the stall at Ultreyas is an excellent place to re-cycle any Christian books you would like to pass on.

10 BACC Report

The Majority of the report is in the Lay Directors Report. Trevor King the National President of BACC reported that, it was always thought that the licence held by BACC was with the National Episcopal Church in USA. It has now been found out that the licence is held by the USA Catholic Church, and they have given their blessing for our manuals to be changed. Scotland Cursillo are trialling a 2 day weekend, including all the talks. At the meeting in November it is to be discussed if this is feasible to be widely used. The promotional DVD has been very well received across the country. Each Diocese to try to encourage more younger people into the Cursillo family. York Cursillo is one of the most successfully run in the country. The 2020 National is to be hosted by London and Southwark, with the walk of witness to go from St Paul's Cathedral over the Millenium Bridge.

11 Election of BACC rep.

Jan thanked Joy Hadley for her time and service for the last 3 years. Wanda Maciuszko has been appointed to the role for the next 3 years.

12 Election of Palanca rep.

Jan thanked Kay Burn for her time and service for the last 3 years. Anne Couper has been appointed to the role for the next 3 years.

13 Safeguarding Issues.

Margaret Price is continuing in the role as Safeguarding Officer. Jan thanked Margaret in her absence for her valued help in this role. Copies of the Safeguarding Policy for the coming year were available. Currently all members of the Secretariat sign a copy of the Policy as do all members of each week-end staff team.

14 Any other business. None reported.

15 Date of the next AGM. It was agreed that the AGM in 2020 will be on Saturday 4th April 2020

Annual General Meeting

AGM Report by Spiritual Director

(published earlier in Easter edition)

I would like to record my thanks to Jan for all she has done to serve the Cursillo movement in the York Diocese as Lay Director. Jan has brought much energy and wisdom to the task which has brought stability and growth. I personally want to say what a pleasure it has been to serve alongside her as Spiritual Director. I would also like to thank all those of the secretariat who have served this year, and I wish to acknowledge the grit and hard work which Ruth has put in as 4th day rep. Her work has provided a firm footing for next year as we adjust into a new season under a new Lay Director. Thank you also to Elizabeth Charlton for her willingness to belong to, and take the minutes at, the secretariat.

This year we will welcome Wanda as Lay Director. One of the strengths of Cursillo is that each office or role is time limited which means new people take on the old roles. Everyone is different so there will be new grace imparted. I am sure everyone will welcome and support Wanda in this new work. She has prayerfully considered this and the Lord has a purpose which will work out in the months ahead. I think the gifts she has will build on all the good things Jan has brought to Cursillo in this diocese. For the time being—until the AGM—Wanda will shadow Jan so we have double the benefit of them both.

This year I have been encouraged by those I have got to know from Saltburn to Hull.; from Hunmanby to York, who have recently joined Cursillo and also attended Ultreyas. Thank you to each one. Thank you too for the many more who continue to bring strength to Cursillo in our diocese by inviting others to join us and contributing so we can invite pilgrims to attend weekends free of charge.

Strategically we are aiming to continue our current plan to allow weekends to be staffed and pilgrims to attend, free of charge. For some years Cursillo was accused of being secretive and in recent years we have taken steps to address this by publicising as best as we can the actual events of a weekend. The other accusation was that Cursillo was only for the rich. This was because people saw that to start the Cursillo journey (by attending a weekend) used to cost them over £200. Now it costs nothing. Making Cursillo truly accessible to all. In addition I would like to see more “Crossover” events where those who are not yet involved in Cursillo can join in with us so they get to know us and be encouraged to belong. Such “Crossover” events currently are Quiet days, and some Ultreyas. I hope there will be more crossover events eventually. “Being a “Crossover event is never the main reason for its existence. The aim of Quiet days for example is to build up our spiritual life, but it can also bless others and so can easily become a crossover event.

I wish to also thank the diocesan clergy who have supported Cursillo by allowing us the use of their churches and those members of the diocesan leadership team who have been willing to preside and preach at our final weekend services. A big thank you to Rev Dianne Cox and Rev Bruce Harrison for their helpful role as spiritual advisors in the two weekends held last year.

It is good to remind ourselves that in Cursillo we are involved in something of great importance. Behind the scenes we are blessing countless churches and adding to the spiritual life in the diocese. Each one of us have played a part in this and will continue to do so. I heard this year someone making the observation “where would the church be without Cursillo?” and as I thought about it, my answer would be “impoverished”. There are riches in Cursillo which touches hearts and lives to the extent that we are able to bless others in ways we would not have done without the encouragement of Cursillo. I am thankful to be part of Cursillo in the York Diocese.

Jonathan



Annual General Meeting

Lay Director's report

Until we were suddenly forced into lockdown the time since the last AGM in April 2019 had been a really exciting one for Cursillo with an interesting programme of events all over the Diocese and two very successful week-ends. I especially want to thank Di Davies who took over as Lay Rector of York 28 as Joy Hadley very sadly became ill and had to step down. Tracey Netherton managed to put on a wonderful second week-end, York 29 despite just having moved jobs and all the training etc. that that involved. So we are deeply in debt to her too.



We had 3 Quiet Days during the year. The second one at Emmanuel Church, Bridlington, was poorly attended but at a time when many had Christmas fairs and other events in their own churches. Hopefully we may try another one there - it was greatly enjoyed by those who did attend and is a lovely venue for such an event. The Quiet Day in March at Wydale (just before lockdown) was a great success with 41 attending on a blustery, bright day and with three excellent meditations from Jonathan spaced out during the day. Amongst our Ultreyas we had one in Saltburn by the Sea.

One of the joys of my three years as Lay Director has been to see a strong Group Reunion established in that area and several of the Redcar/Saltburn Cursillistas are hopefully staffing on the next week-end. It may seem a very long way to go to an event but we are always so warmly welcomed and our distant members so encouraged. York 30 in June sadly had to be postponed until next Spring. Brian and Margaret James will still lead the week-end and have asked the staff to consider staffing next year instead. Very difficult for them both as they had done a lot of preparations already. Incidentally we felt called to donate £500 of our income to Wydale's fund for which they were extremely grateful, knowing too that we would be having fewer expenses in 2020 than we'd anticipated. As many of you know I have now served more than my three years as Lay Director. One of the great strengths of Cursillo is that the posts are time limited - there is no hierarchy and I shall hopefully settle down to the grass roots of York Cursillo again. It has been a huge privilege and joy to take on this role and I am more than ever convinced of the value of Cursillo to all our churches and parishes. So many Cursillistas are doing so many different roles in the name of Christ and this is ever more necessary as clergy are asked to take on more and more responsibilities. We are not a complacent, self-centered organisation but really must continue to see ourselves as a tool of the church. I am delighted that Wanda Maciuszko has responded to our invitation to be our next Lay Director, ratified by the Archbishop of York through Bishop Alison who has practical links with Cursillo. It is a wonderful appointment as Wanda is a fairly new Cursilista. The leadership of Cursillo is in very safe hands.

I wonder if there might be a Zoom Group Reunion for any in the Diocese who have not managed to find a Group near them - perhaps once a month. Let me know if you are interested.

We are also saying goodbye to Elizabeth Charlton who has acted as our secretary despite losing her wonderful husband and with varying health herself. We owe you too a great deal Elizabeth. Unless anyone else is desperate for Elizabeth's job, Margaret James has offered to take over. Thank you so much Margaret. Lynn Stephenson and Janet Green have very kindly offered to do a further year as membership secretary and Treasurer for which we are more than grateful. And to all the Secretariat members who I have served with over the three years - my most enormous gratitude. You have been hard working, encouraging, good humoured and supportive of myself and of each other. Some of us have been involved in Cursillo since before its start in York Diocese and we can be a little precious about the way things have always been done. We need fresh eyes and fresh ideas to keep us moving forwards and together with the experience that is already on the Secretariat I feel there will be an excellent balance in the leadership. Please do support Wanda in your prayers as you have done for me. Wanda will give up her role as BACC rep and Jayne Moxon has very kindly agreed to take over, unless anyone else would also like to do that role.

We shall have other changes on the Secretariat this year, particularly Ruth Bannister who has done one job after another ever since she did her week-end. We are so indebted to her - in fact her job as 4th day rep. has been so onerous that we have decided to try to appoint a 4th day team to share the work between a few. We do owe you a great deal Ruth and thank you so very much for all you have done. We hope of course to continue to see you at all sorts of Cursillo events. We hope that we might find someone willing to book the Ultreyas and Quiet Days for us, working on an annual programme in conjunction with the Lay Director. They would be the 4th Day rep. and head up the 4th day team and would be a member of the Secretariat. We'd like to also appoint a second person in a pastoral role to keep an eye on our Group Reunions, perhaps visit them occasionally and help to find Group Reunions or start new ones for our new pilgrims. These are the bedrock of Cursillo.

The third part of the 4th day role is a newsletter editor and I'm pleased to say that Trevor King has already agreed to do this. Just an aside here in that over the last weeks I have been holding Group Reunion meetings for our Group Reunion over Zoom. Several were beginners with Zoom but most have managed to join in. I hope that gradually we shall be able to meet face to face again and I do hope that York 30 will go ahead and be a great success in 2021. And finally an enormous thank you to Jonathan who is to continue as our Spiritual Director for at least another year. It has been inspirational working with him, even if I have occasionally to rein him in a little!- his enthusiasm for Cursillo and what it could do for the church is boundless. It simply remains for me to thank you all for your loving support and encouragement and I hope to go on seeing you at many future events.

Jan

Annual General Meeting

2018

Bank balance 31/12/18 10473.78

31/12/17 9444.35

RECEIPTS

Donations	3869.71	3852.37
Gift Aid	1002.93	783.84
Ultreya Sales	367.64	709.38
Weekend 27		4587.00
Weekend 28	6448.75	
Weekend 29	4871.50	
Quiet Day	888.50	1316.00
Christmas lunch		378.00
BACC Lunch St Chads	280.00	
TOTAL Receipts	17729.03	11626.59

PAYMENTS

Insurance	308.00	308.00
Weekend 27		5962.18
Weekend 28	6591.25	
Weekend 29	6013.00	
BACC Subs.	270.00	270.00
BACC Travel expenses	133.05	289.00
Room Hire	141.00	435.00
Bank charges	60.00	60.00
Website fee	66.00	130.75
Postage	36.60	12.05
Printing & Stationery	91.15	17.98
Miscellaneous	54.74	
Quiet Days	2019/2020 (1) 948.00	1404.00
Weekend 30 deposit		1330.20
Weekend 31 deposit	1365.00	
Weekend 32 deposit	1344.00	
Christmas lunch		378.00
Part cost Spring Harvest stand	120.00	
BACC Lunch St Chads	280.80	
TOTAL Payments	17822.59	10597.16

Surplus/Deficit	-93.56	1029.43
Closing Bank Balance	31/12/19 10380.	22 31/12/18 10473.78
General Fund C/fwd.	10380.22	10473.78

NOTES (1) Quiet Day expenses 2019 balance + 2020 deposit Annual Financial Statement 31st December 2019

Annual General Meeting

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Please find attached York Anglican Cursillo Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2019. The accounts have been independently examined by Mr. David Fletcher (a signed copy of which can be obtained from me if requested). As can be seen in 2019 we had a slight deficit compared to the previous year. However we still have a healthy balance. Also last year we had higher expenses as we ran 2 weekends and also paid deposits for 2 future weekends. As you are aware there is now no charge for participants on weekends and we are dependent on voluntary contributions.

As a guide the average weekend costs around £7,000 and income has usually been between £4-5,000. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has contributed to the costs of the weekends, and also to those who have supported other staff members or pilgrims financially. We are also grateful to our regular supporters who make monthly donations by Standing Order. If you feel you could help to support Cursillo in this way please do contact me and I will let you have our bank details.

As mentioned earlier I have agreed to continue to serve as Treasurer this extra year, but will be looking for a replacement for next year. Please pray about this and if you feel this could be YOU please do let me know and we can arrange for you to shadow me this year. Please do contact me directly if you have any queries on the accounts. My phone number is (01723) 449940 or Email janetcffi@gmail.com

Janet M. Green (Treasurer)

For we walk by
Faith,
not by Sight.
2 corinthians 5:7

Annual General Meeting

Pre-Cursillo report for AGM 2020

We accepted the role of joint Pre-Cursillo Reps in mid 2018, taking over from Margaret Price.

In 2019, two weekends were held:

York 28: Friday 3 - Monday 6 May 2019 (led extremely competently by Di Davies). This was the May Day weekend, and it was hoped that it would be more attractive to working pilgrims. This proved to be the case, attracting 11 pilgrims, some of whom were younger, and still working. Of these, 7 were from North Yorkshire and 4 from East Yorkshire. The weekend was a great success.

York 29: 17-20 October 2019 (Thursday-Sunday; led extremely competently by Tracey Netherton). This attracted 7 pilgrims, 5 from North Yorkshire and 2 from East Yorkshire. The weekend was again a great success, and a number of the pilgrims are proving to be extremely committed Cursillo members.

Sadly, the only Wydale weekend booked for 2020 (York 30: 25-28 June 2020, due to be led by Brian and Margaret James) had to be postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. This will now be moved to the York 31 slot (Friday 30 April - Monday 3 May; the Bank Holiday weekend); all subsequent weekends will thus be moved forward.

At the time York 30 was postponed, mid-March, only 4 pilgrims had been signed up. While it has been the case for recent weekends that many of the pilgrims sign up not long before the weekend, this is somewhat stressful for the team members, who put an enormous amount of effort into preparation for the weekend. We would therefore encourage all Cursillistas to ask God who they should be talking to about it in good time! **Margaret and Brian James**



BACC REPORT

It does not seem more than a year since I was elected BACC rep. I have attended the Secretariat regularly and hopefully reported the flavour of the AGMs accurately.

I attended my first AGM in May 2019, not knowing a soul but Sue from Sheffield was looking out for me and I was soon chatting to others. I have attended two more BACC council meetings - one in Chester in August 2019 and in York in November 2019. It has been a real privilege to meet Cursillistas from all over the UK. This has been a year of important changes for the British Anglican Cursillo and again it has been an honour to listen, disseminate and contribute a little, to the debates on constitutional change, two day weekends and the web-site. I have continued to meet other Cursillistas from the Diocese at Ultreyas and I was very disappointed not to be able to attend the Quiet Day in March. I was due to go on a CLW in March 2020 but this has been postponed like so much till 2021

Thank you for the support I have received from the Secretariat especially Jan and Jonathan who have had to answer numerous questions from me.

Blessings **Wanda Maciuszko.**

4th Day Report – 2020 AGM

Thank you to everyone who has donated to or bought items from the stall over the past year. The money we raise in this way is crucial so please do continue to support this. As I step down from the role of 4th Day Rep I would like to

I'd also like to thank Jonathan who took over creation of the last couple of Newsletters and Gail who has been such an efficient and helpful presence at Ultreyas, sorting out the stall and chasing people with a pen until they sign the signing in sheet. And finally, I wish our new Lay Director and the Secretariat all the very best for the future.

Ruth Bannister



Annual General Meeting

NOMINATIONS

York Anglican Cursillo
NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE SECRETARIAT

Name of Nominee: MARCMET JAMES
Position on the Secretariat:
Address:
Tel No:
Email:

Proposed by: LYNN STEPHENSON
Signature: L. Stephenson
Date: 2 MARCH 2020

Seconded by: JANET GREEN
Signature: Janet McGROON
Date: 2-3-2020

York Anglican Cursillo
NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE SECRETARIAT

Name of Nominee: Trevor King
Position on the Secretariat:
Address:
Tel No:
Email: trevorking3355@gmail.com

Proposed by: JUDITH APPLBY
Signature: J. C. Applby
Date: 3 July 2020

Seconded by: Jan Watts
Signature: J. E. Watts
Date: 30th July 2020

York Anglican Cursillo
NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE SECRETARIAT

Name of Nominee: JAYNE MOXON
Position on the Secretariat: RACE REP
Address: 34 OVERGREEN VIEW 2042
Tel No:
Email:

Proposed by: WANDA MACIUSZKO
Signature: W. Maciuszko
Date: 12/8/2020

Seconded by: DAVID THOMPSON
Signature: D A Thompson
Date: 12/8/2020



Rev Dianne Cox writes.....

My Cursillo Journey

"I will lift my eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help" psalm 121 v 1

'Why did you wait until now to come to work in Switzerland?' the lady in the bank asked me, looking at my age on the form. We were in a ski village at a top of a mountain in Switzerland where I had just arrived to be Chaplain and Head of Religious Studies at an International School. 'Yes, it is quite a surprise to me too,' I admitted. 'My plan for my life was that by this age I would be settling into retirement with my husband.'

This was January 2009. On Nov 10th I had visited the school, to take the reflection on Remembrance Day at the following morning's assembly before my final interviews. Despite careful planning I had managed to take the wrong suitcase at the airport, so I had neither interview clothes nor overnight necessities. I began to have serious doubts about what I was doing there.

Then in the middle of the night I woke up and the moon was shining over the mountains with such beauty that I was just stunned. And God spoke to me very clearly. 'How could you not come here? This is my beautiful world and you are the right person for this job.' When the Head rang me up afterwards it was that experience I talked to him about as I accepted.

God wanted me to have that job and I loved it.

What has this to do with Cursillo you may be wondering. But, of course, we cannot separate our life and faith journeys so easily as they are all linked. I had attended Cursillo 12 just two weeks before my brief trip to Switzerland. When I look back I remember particularly three things. One was the amazement of all those wonderful messages from people I had never met. (I still have them!). The second was Sue Nightingales Spiritual Director's Talk on the Sacraments. She had prepared a table full of good things, and it spoke to me of God's bountiful love for us. The third was being woken up by the singing on the Sunday morning and that feeling of being enveloped in love. And I believe I continued to carry that support as I journeyed up that mountain.

It had been for me a few years of big changes. After a late call to ordination, my husband died the year before I was ordained. The Cursillo weekend came at the end of my curacy when I had started to think about what I was to do next. And the opportunity to go to Switzerland came at the right time.



The archdeacon of Switzerland told me that Neuchatel English church was looking for a chaplain and so I moved there after I left the school, and again felt guided to the right place for me. It was there that I was first invited to help on a Cursillo weekend in Geneva, and I have helped several times since. I am hoping to help in November this year, God, covid and governments permitting.

This is an ecumenical Cursillo so it has the same structure but with some small differences. It always has at least one Anglican Chaplain, one Roman Catholic and one non-conformist Spiritual Director. As it is in the middle of Geneva, there is the written palanca, but also the food is cooked and brought by local Cursillo members. One thing I find very challenging is that we are encouraged not to wear watches! But the same warmth and structures are there, and it has been wonderful to meet with Christians from all over the world through Cursillo, as Geneva is such an important centre for international work.

Finally, I have been greatly privileged to help on York Cursillo weekends on several occasions. I particularly value the core Cursillo commitment to encouraging lay ministry. I continue to be so impressed with all the hard work preparing for each weekend, the high standard of the talks, and the response of pilgrims to the warmth, fellowship and encouragement they find. May Cursillo continue to be a blessing to all of you.

Dianne Cox

From the Geneva Cursillo website.....



Over a thousand people have made here the experience of a Geneva Cursillo weekend since these started in 1982. We are not a separate church or religious movement: our community only wishes to help other adults better appreciate that **Christianity is both a gift and a way!** This gift helps us rediscover together **simplicity and joy, respect,** and the strength of **prayer.**



GRACE

Judith Appleby has sent some comments from some ladies who live in Trinidad and Tobago on the theme of Grace and Gratitude in this pandemic.

"I heard God's grace in every heartbeat breath."

"I am grateful for experiencing daily the dawn of a new day. "

"The Grace and Gratitude I feel, refreshes my soul and strengthens my faith now and more than ever."

Judith comments,
"in other words "Count your blessings"."

Today I remembered that grace is one of the most beautiful gifts in the world.

Show it to others, because Someone once showed it to you.



1 Peter 4:10



Please Fill in the membership form and return them to Lynn Stevenson. Because of the data act we need your permission to communicate with you (and we also need the right details).

PLEASE SEND THE FORM BACK

Tell us on the membership forms if you would like to join a Reunion group or serve on a weekend team etc.

Thank you to all those who have already sent us your membership donation for Cursillo this year. Thank you to those who have given extra to Cursillo over and above the membership donation. We are also encouraged by those who have decided to support us each month. We really appreciate the opportunity this gives to expand the numbers of people who are able to benefit from Cursillo. Thank you also to those who have given us permission to apply for gift aid on each donation which increases the gift by 25%

***Thank you so much
Janet Green (Treasurer) & Lynn Stephenson
(Membership Secretary)***



Contact details.

Jan Watts: 01723 360410 / 07957 869287 laydirector@yorkcursillo.org

Rev. Jonathan Couper: 07710 257550 spiritualdirector@yorkcursillo.org