



Newsletter November 2023

York Diocese
Anglican Cursillo®



From our Lay Director, Cheryl Taylor.



Dear Friends

Unbelievable though it is that we are nearing the end of the year, we have much to reflect upon.

We were made very welcome at Emanuel Church Saltburn on a windy but sunny day on 1st July, where Veronica Govenlock gave her witness talk and Rev Bruce Harrison kindly provided the Spiritual response. A lovely fish and chip lunch was arranged by Tracey Bowers.

Also in July, Rev Tim and I met with Sammi Tooze from York Diocesan House to build further relationships and promote Cursillo alongside the new Rhythm of Life materials. We have extended invitations to Sammi and her team to join us for events and

weekends so please hold them in your prayers.

The 2023 National Ultreya was held in Rochester, where we were most definitely marching in the light as the sun shone gloriously. Tucked away in the Southeast, Rochester faced challenges of the train strikes, however, 280 Cursillastas made it to the celebrations, just the right number to fill the designated Quire of the Cathedral, including our dear friend Poppy Weston who sends her love.

The news from our British Anglican Cursillo Council (BACC) is that some Dioceses are at best surviving with Blackburn and Bristol closing, whilst others are thriving. We are extremely blessed to be on the sunny side with a further 12 Pilgrims having attended **YORK 32** at the end of September. Our thanks go to Sue Pearson and her wonderful team for all their hard work.

Some of our newest Cursillo members were also welcomed by Rev Tim and me when they attended the wonderful autumnal Ultreya in Wigginton on 14th October, hosted by Rev Dianne Cox and team.

Looking ahead, whilst our membership and Pilgrim list is on the very healthy side, our Secretariat has sadly dwindled through the recent pandemic and is struggling. As part of the servant community, it is imperative that we support one another and step up when we are able and feel God's call. Each of us is favoured with a gift and using your time and talents may be the blessing we need to set out on our new chapter of York Anglican Cursillo. Please do consider helping on the team for a spell of time, speak with me, Rev Tim Kelly (Spiritual Director), or Margaret James (Secretary), many hands make light work, and this would be better than us failing due to being overburdened.

It would therefore be good sense to spend time as our membership together to revitalise the York Anglican Cursillo 'team'. It felt appropriate to replace the May 2024 weekend to benefit from a period of rejuvenation, leaving us with one strong weekend to focus on. We will transpose the May dates for review, regrowth and deeper understanding (Further details on the programme will follow in the New Year) and the October weekend will run as planned for **York 33**.

Finally, thank you from me, I feel very privileged to have been asked to represent YAC as Lay Director and to be trusted with such a task. I promise that I will do my very best, to do my duty for God and Cursillo and as always, would very much welcome your prayers.

ULTREYA!

Cheryl Taylor

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Our Lay Director, Revd Dr Tim Kelly, writes.



It's now sixth months or so since I took over the reins as York Anglican Cursillo Spiritual Director from Revd Jonathan. I've met quite a few folks over the last few months (especially as part of the recent York 32 weekend) but I know that there are plenty of other Cursillistas that I have yet to meet face-to-face. So, let me introduce myself. I am Priest in Charge of the Four Towers Benefice, of Walkington, Bishop Burton, Rowley and Skidby (four villages just outside of Beverley). Prior to that I spent three years as Assistant Curate of Beverley Minster.

Before becoming a vicar, my former career was as a University Professor (of 25 years) at the University of York, specialising in the assurance of safety-critical computer systems. Think of autonomous cars, fly-by-wire aeroplanes, railway signalling systems, and medical devices and you get the right idea. From an early age I had that curiosity of engineers (especially with computers!) to try and figure out how things work.

In my university career I was always used to working as part of a team. When I arrived last year in the Four Towers Benefice, I was "over the moon" to find there was a strong ministry team of lay people, Recognised Parish Assistants (now called Authorised Lay Ministers), Readers and Retired Clergy to work alongside. I've always been a firm believer in the priesthood of all believers - that we, together, are rightly told that we "royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:5-9). Whether ordained or lay, we are each uniquely SHAPED and have our own ministry to be discovered, our own opportunities to participate in the Mission of God. When we work together for God's Kingdom great things happen. (York 32 was testament to that.) These beliefs lie at the heart of Cursillo. That is why I am delighted to be York Anglican Cursillo Spiritual Director and look forward with anticipation to all that 2024 brings to us as a community.

Revd Dr Tim Kelly

rev.tim.kelly@outlook.com



CURSILLO LEADERS WORKSHOPS

Who Should Attend A CLW?

The CLW is for all who want to know more about Cursillo. All are welcome, lay or ordained. Those who have any leadership role should certainly attend before, or as soon as possible after taking office.

What is Included?

An opportunity for sharing in worship & fellowship, hearing talks on the following and discussing their content with people from other diocesan / provincial movements:

- The Purpose of Cursillo including: Cursillo and the fundamentals of Christian Living.
- The Church and the place of the movement.
- Forming a Movement including: The Fourth Day First, The Groups – Reunion and Ultreya, Spiritual Direction.

- Making the Movement Work including: The Servant Community, The Pre-Cursillo, Authentic Cursillo, The Cursillo Leader.
- Looking Ahead.
- Taking the information and ideas back to the diocese and sharing them with the leaders there.

Who Leads a CLW?

Those who make up the leadership of the presenting team for a CLW have themselves already attended a CLW and are leaders from within the British Anglican Cursillo movement. Four people make up the team which includes a Spiritual Director.

The cost

If you feel that you would like to attend a CLW talk to Cheryl or Tim about it. If the Secretariat 'sponsor' you there will be no cost to you, York Anglican Cursilo will pay for you.

Dates in 2024

15 March 2024 to 17 March 2024

Shallowford House, Stone, Nr. Stafford, ST15 0NZ

17 October 2024 to 20 October 2024

Sheppards Deans, Riding Mill, Northumberland, NE44 6AF



November Nature - By Hannah Grace, our 12yr old Scottish correspondent

Rain off leaves, drooped with the weight of water.

Moss is fluffy - a rich, earthy green, filled with moisture.

Sticks crack under chunky walking boots, the bark roughly marbled,

Every detail is effortlessly swamped with perfection.

The earth, cool, rich beneath our feet, magically calm and still.

The thick air surrounding me feels wet and on-edge, but just steady,
although it could gracefully pour at any moment in front of me.

Everything is silent, only my polite footsteps explore peacefully.

Raindrops race down windows drawing shimmer on the glass.

The harsh wind tangles my hair, swirling somehow elegantly as it brushes past.

Proud trees tower over me, the sap drips with a clean, yet sweet smell.

The waterfall spills confidently, the water ripples like a clear, smooth sapphire gel.

Auburn leaves crunch, and damp dents in the ground fill with rainwater.

The earth beneath my feet is rough, yet so smoothly textured.

The air smells cool, relaxing and earthy - yet warmly fragrant.

So loosely at ease - a bubble of cosy and calm, the stresses of life vacant.



A MASSIVE THANK YOU

We cannot go without saying an enormous thank you to those who have stepped down from YAC Secretariat in 2023:

To our very own **Rev Jonathan Couper** who went above and beyond in his length of service as our Spiritual Director and for his guidance throughout the years.

To **Wanda Maciusko** who maintained contact with so many throughout the pandemic and kept membership and staff going.

To dear **Trevor King** who has swapped 4th day Cursillo Rep and other duties to support both his busy church needs and his wonderful family.

And to **Frank Tuffee** our Treasurer, who has studiously managed our finances throughout his term and now handed the financial paperwork over to David Fletcher.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your time, good works and service for which we are very grateful and we look forward to welcoming you to future Ultreys.

SECRETARIAT – CURSILLO COMMITTEE

Spiritual Director	Rev Tim Kelly	07539 429945
Lay Director	Cheryl Taylor	07514 281588
Secretary (including Membership & Sponsorship)	Margaret James	01377 288148
Treasurer	David Fletcher	07900 998378
Safeguarding Officer	Wanda Maciusko	07939 637257
Palanca Gofer	Veronica Govenlock	07305 296472
Bookings Secretary	VACANT**	
Resources Rep	VACANT**	
4th Day Rep	VACANT**	
British Anglican Cursillo Council (BACC) Rep	VACANT**	

Can you take one of these roles?

It would be a great help if you would offer to serve on the Secretariat. At the moment the existing committee members have to do two or three jobs to ensure that York Cursillo can keep going. Speak to Cheryl if you can help. So what's involved?

Bookings Secretary: Simply taking the bookings for our Cursillo weekends, and sending out information about the weekend to the participants.

Resources Rep: All the materials used on our Cursillo weekends is stored in plastic boxes kept at St Mark's church, Scarborough. The Resources Rep simply needs to make sure that all the boxes are in order, supplies topped up, and that the boxes get to the right weekend staff member when the time comes. (The boxes can either stay where they are in Scarborough or be moved somewhere more convenient to the new Rep.)

4th Day Rep: This involves working with the Lay Director to plan the dates and venues for Ultreys and other events around the diocese throughout the year, and helping to make sure that they run smoothly.

BACC Rep: They attend the national BACC meetings representing York Cursillo. These are held in November (currently on Zoom) and in May (the AGM and every other year the National Conference). Travel and accommodation costs are paid.

Please give it some thought and prayer. We really do need you, even if you are new to Cursillo.

Saturday 11th November is Armistice Day. You may not know the story behind the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey.

On November 7th, 1920, in strictest secrecy, four unidentified British bodies were exhumed from temporary battlefield cemeteries at Ypres, Arras, the Asine and the Somme. None of the soldiers who did the digging were told why. The bodies were taken by field ambulance to GHQ at St-Pol-Sur-Ter Noise. Once there, the bodies were draped with the union flag. Sentries were posted and Brigadier-General Wyatt and a Colonel Gell, both blind-folded, selected one body at random. The other three were reburied. A French Honour Guard was selected and stood by the coffin overnight of the chosen soldier overnight.

On the morning of the 8th November, a specially designed coffin made of oak from the grounds of Hampton Court arrived and the Unknown Warrior was placed inside. On top was placed a crusaders sword and a shield on which was inscribed: "A British Warrior who fell in the GREAT WAR 1914-1918 for King and Country".

On the 9th of November, the Unknown Warrior was taken by horse-drawn carriage through Guards of Honour and the sound of tolling bells and bugle calls to the quayside. There, he was saluted by Marechal Foch and loaded onto HMS Vernon bound for Dover. The coffin stood on the deck covered in wreaths, surrounded by the French Honour Guard.

Upon arrival at Dover, the Unknown Warrior was met with a nineteen gun salute, something that was normally only reserved for Field Marshals. A special train had been arranged and he was then conveyed to Victoria Station, London. He remained there overnight, and, on the morning of the 11th of November, he was finally taken to Westminster Abbey.

The idea of the unknown warrior was thought of by a Padre called David Railton who had served on the front line during the Great War. The union flag he had used as an altar cloth whilst at the front was the one that had been draped over the coffin. It was his intention that all of the relatives of the 517,773 combatants whose bodies had not been identified could believe that the Unknown Warrior could very well be their lost husband, father, brother or son...

THIS is the reason we wear poppies. We do not glorify war. We remember, with humility, the great and the ultimate sacrifices that were made, not just in this war, but in every war and conflict where our service personnel have fought to ensure the liberty and freedoms that we now take for granted.

Every year, on the 11th of November, we remember the Unknown Warrior.

"At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them."



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2023

18th November - Day of Deeper Understanding. This event has unfortunately had to be cancelled.

Friday 8th December 2023 – Christmas Dinner at WYDALE. As of Monday 6th November there are about 9 places left. The cost is £24. The food will be wonderful !! Please contact Margaret James to book your place.



2024

One of the delights is that Cursillo encourages us to travel and visit so many of the wonderful churches within our own Diocese. If you would prefer to host an Ultreya rather than have to travel do get in touch and we will be highly delighted to add you into the schedule for the year ahead, if you feel you would struggle to host an event we would be happy to arrange a team to assist you with refreshments, so please feel confident to raise your hand.

Our 2024 Ultreya dates have been set and, as always, we are looking for hosts for Ultreyas particularly for three of the later dates. Full details and maps will always be sent out to the membership prior to each event.

3rd February 2024	St Catherine's Barmby Moor YO42 4EF
13th April 2024	All Hallows Walkington HU17 8SH
27th April 2024	Sheffield Palanca Working Group – St Mark's Scarborough ++
4th May 2024	Authentic Cursillo held at Wydale YO13 9DG
10-12th May 2024	BACC AGM SWANICK CENTRE DE55 1AU
22nd June 2024	Looking for a Host.
7th September 2024	NATIONAL ULTREYA SHEFFIELD (Supported by Leeds & York)
21st September 2024	Looking for a Host.
25-27th October 2024	YORK 33 WYDALE
16th November 2024	Looking for a Host.
December 2024	Christmas Dinner at Wydale TBC

++ As YAC is supporting Sheffield with Palanca for the 2024 National Ultreya on 7th Sept there will be a workshop for the day run by Wanda Maciusko and Gail Card. Further details to come.

Cursillo

York 32



To be asked to lead a Cursillo can frankly seem terrifying and overwhelming and quite impossible to deliver. But when God helps you to gather together a team of people who give so generously of their time, energy, gifts and love to ensure our pilgrims had the best possible experience, it becomes not only possible but an enormous privilege to be part of yet another inspiring Cursillo weekend.

Tim and Eileen led the weekend for the first time but they provided a deeply spiritual and prayerful foundation and framework to the weekend with meditations, talks and worship which gave us much to reflect on. We had a very special candlelit service on Saturday evening which very gently gave everyone time for prayer and personal reflection and reconciliation during which we all felt God's loving and affirming Spirit touch us deeply.

The pilgrims were wonderful. They seemed to gel together very quickly and I'm sure we all very quickly felt as if we were friends and pilgrims journeying together through the weekend as they absorbed the teaching, prayer and worship which form the Cursillo experience. Our prayer is that they continue to take this with them as they continue on their journey and we hope we will see them at future Cursillo events.

Time is a big issue on a two day weekend. How do we squeeze most of the content of a three day weekend into two days without it seeming hurried, busy and pressured. I know many people regretted that creative work was sidelined just because there wasn't enough time and the opportunity to explore the beautiful grounds of Wydale was likewise missed. This is something to think about and address in the coming months.

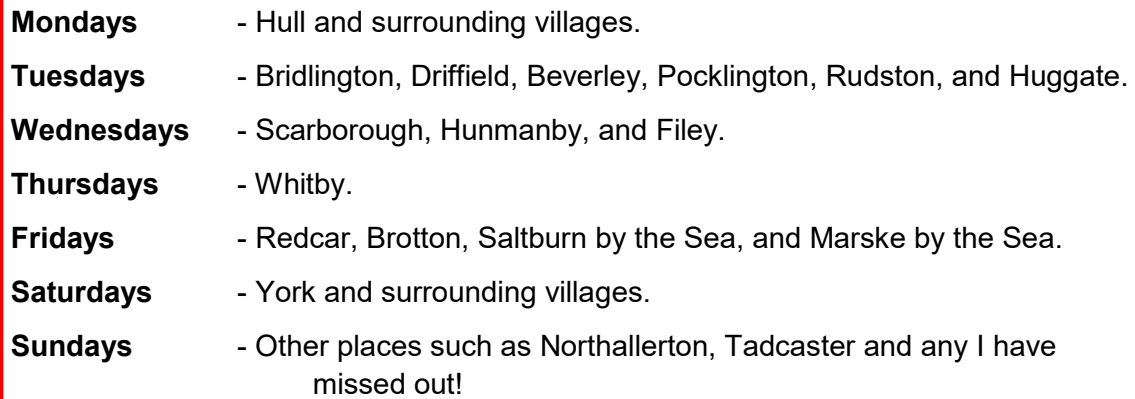
But overall the food, atmosphere, music and worship was excellent and we even managed – thanks to Jan – to sing a Silly Song, wear a Funny Hat and generally have a Good Time!!

The weekend ended with a wonderful celebratory Eucharist and thanks for Cursillo 32 and the Cursillo Movement to which we feel so privileged to belong.

Thank you Lord, for your love, generosity and grace which fed us, supported us, affirmed us and led us throughout the weekend.

Sue Pearson, Lay Rector

December Prayer Diary



Mondays	- Hull and surrounding villages.
Tuesdays	- Bridlington, Driffield, Beverley, Pocklington, Rudston, and Huggate.
Wednesdays	- Scarborough, Hunmanby, and Filey.
Thursdays	- Whitby.
Fridays	- Redcar, Brotton, Saltburn by the Sea, and Marske by the Sea.
Saturdays	- York and surrounding villages.
Sundays	- Other places such as Northallerton, Tadcaster and any I have missed out!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue of York Diocese Anglican Cursillo Newsletter.

The next issue is planned for the spring and items for inclusion should be sent to: trevorking3355@gmail.com to arrive not later than February 15th, 2021.

Please contact me with ideas for articles well before this date.

Trevor King, Editor: 07941 338466



York Anglican Cursillo is faith funded, so thank you to the increasing number of Cursillistas who support York Anglican Cursillo through Gift Aid donations, particularly by monthly standing order. Under Gift Aid, each £1 donated is worth £1.25 to York Anglican Cursillo, the extra 25p coming courtesy of HM Revenue and Customs. If you would like to start making monthly donations, please contact:

David Fletcher our Treasurer.

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