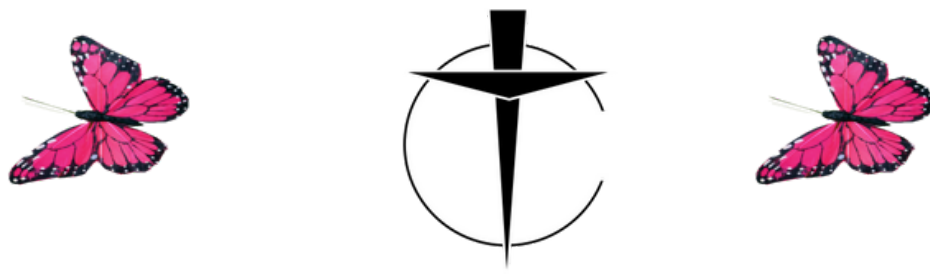


CHESTER CURSILLO®



Welcome to the latest Chester Cursillo newsletter...'back in business' as they say!



We are
created
to be
wonderful...



part of Earth's awesomeness
whisperers of God's grace
moving to the Spirit's heartbeat

This simple reflection came from a meditation held before Bible study. The meditation reminded us that when we marvel at God's creations how much we are part of the marvel. It becomes hard to celebrate humanity when we watch and hear every day the inhuman actions man is involved in. God celebrates each and everyone of us every minute of every day. To love God is to love all that God created.

Sue Lewis

Chester Cursillo is planning a servant community weekend October 20th to October 23rd, Carol and Tony have shared their thoughts on this and Chester Cursillo.

Hello

It's wonderful to be writing a letter for a newsletter again and on a lovely warm sunny day.

We've all been through such a challenging time, it's great to see the sun shining, it makes me feel more hopeful for the future.

I'd like to welcome Ruth Arthur as our new Treasurer and reiterate my thanks to Tony Fisher and Sue Lewis who came to the end of their terms of office at the AGM. We still need a new Palanca Secretary but Vicki our communication officer and her team are doing their best to keep things going for now and my thanks go to them.

Chester 61 led by Joan Clare in October was a wonderful opportunity to try out the new format of a 2 day Cursillo. I know a few people had reservations but it proved a resounding success. This was followed by a 3 day Cursillo in May with Janette Webster at the helm. This weekend had been postponed from May 2019. It was great to finally get that team together and hold the weekend.

I know from conversations I have had with Cursillistas around the Diocese that in spite of 2 successful weekends some 4th day communities are struggling. During the pandemic those people who were able to make use of technology such as Zoom were able to maintain contact through Church services, Group Reunion & Ultreyas but many people weren't so fortunate and felt very cut off. Restarting some of these communities, both church services and Cursillo groups, has proved difficult and it's for that reason that the Secretariat have decided to hold a Servant Community weekend in October. The idea was first proposed by those who attended the CLW weekend held earlier this year and was further confirmed by the attendees of the BACC conference in May. It will be an opportunity to reignite that Cursillo flame within all of us and to look at some of the things we do in Chester that maybe could be updated or improved. I hope you'll come along and be part of this exciting weekend. Don't worry if you can't, we'll make sure there's substantial feedback afterwards.

I hope this is the start of a regular newsletter so until the next one, I'll say

Ultreya!

**Carol Thayer
Lay Director**





I made my Cursillo back in 2,000. I was sponsored by an ex-Churchwarden, who wanted to get Cursillo going in York Diocese (where I was a Vicar). As a card-carrying introvert, I found the intense weekend pretty difficult, but I could not deny that God had been at work in our midst, and many of my fellow-participants went home with a renewed and deepened faith. So, I have stuck with Cursillo (more or less) since then.

When I retired in 2018, I was asking the Lord what I should be doing with my time, and a greater involvement in Cursillo was one possibility. But I was now in a new Diocese (Chester), and knew nobody; and meanwhile volunteering opportunities opened up in the local general and mental health fields. So, Cursillo stayed on the back burner.

Enter Irene Hinde!,,,,,,and in a few months I found myself as the new SD! So, I've learnt a lot in the past year. I've got to know lots of delightful Cursillistas; and, with Carol's gentle encouragement, I've been on a Day of Deeper Understanding, and a Cursillo Leaders Workshop (neither of which I'd even heard of before!)

So, a year into this ministry, I'm beginning to see a bit more clearly what Cursillo is all about. And the more I see, the more excited I get.....because I'm sure Cursillo is more relevant now than ever. In the post-Covid world, the Church is experiencing pressures as never before: we find ourselves increasingly weak and marginalised, with pressures on clergy growing steadily. Enter Cursillo! - a lay-led renewal movement.

In that context, the Secretariat decided to change the October weekend into a time for existing Cursillistas, rather than new participants. The vision is of a weekend when all Chester Cursillistas - however much or little you are currently involved - come together to rediscover and reaffirm our commitment to one another, and to the 4th. Day Community of our Cursillo movement.

This is exciting stuff.....and I hope to meet you there.

Yours in Christ's service,
Tony.



Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Servant Community Weekend

21st -23rd October 2022

Have the last 2 years of restricted living left you disengaged from Cursillo?

Or do you just want to experience living in the Cursillo Community afresh?

Then this is the weekend for you. It will be an opportunity to celebrate what is good about Chester Cursillo, discuss what we could do better and share in fellowship and worship with fellow Cursillistas in the beautiful surroundings of Foxhill retreat centre.

The weekend will start on Friday morning at 09:30 and will finish on Sunday afternoon with a Eucharist at 3pm

There will talks given by members of the Secretariat & guests, a chance to talk and share ideas, lovely music, provided by Linda Lewis and of course lots of good food.

If you would like to join us on this weekend please complete the application form and send it to Julie Brunt by email at weekend-coordinator@chestercursillo.org.uk. A £20 deposit will be needed to secure your place, this can be sent by cheque or transferred electronically.

The cost of the weekend will be as any weekend, a gift to you, however anyone who wishes to make a donation towards the cost can transfer it electronically or give a cheque to Ruth Arthur on arrival at Foxhill, the cost of the weekend to Chester Cursillo will be £200 per person.



Slow Walking

**When I was young I was a fast-walker
Eating up the miles to reach my destination,
Going fast, no time to waste,
Taking purposeful steps towards my target.**

**I power-walked along busy streets,
Strode out for miles across lonely hills,
Leaving behind the slow-walkers
Who plodded along and got in my way.**

**Now I am old I am a slow-walker,
Taking my time on my circular paths.
I have no purpose or destination
Other than wandering home refreshed and joyful.**

**Now I am old I have time to spend,
A lovely supply of moments I can use
To smell the flowers and listen to the birds
As I go slowly along my way.**

**Now I am old I have time to share,
Time to enjoy the conversations
With the other slow-walkers I meet
As we go slowly along our way.**

**The world seems so much better
As a slow-walker.**

Vicki Schofield



Dates for your diary

3rd September 2022 National Ultreya in London

Cursillistas of the Diocese of Southwark and London are jointly hosting the National Ultreya in the capital city of London on 3 September 2022.

www.anglicancursillo.co.uk follow link to UK Ultreya and book directly via the website.

21st - 23rd October 2022 Servant Community Weekend Foxhill Conference Centre

3rd December 2022 Diocesan Ultreya 10.00am - 1.00pm at St Paul's Macclesfield with our Diocesan Bishop Mark Tanner

27th - 30th April 2023 Cursillo Weekend Wistaston Hall Crewe