



Lincoln Cursillo
IMP SHEET
Issue #78
April 2014



Lay Director's Report

Most of you will be aware that my dear Mum died during February of this year. I should like to thank all those who have sent, and continue to send, messages of love and support to me, by text, email or snail-mail. A real example of Ultreya prayer palanca, which I really appreciate, bless you!

It has been a weird time since then - so many conflicting emotions; a re-evaluation of who I am; so much to do and to organise at a time when I have felt so lacking in energy. But through it all, a sense of the everlasting arms that I spoke of in my last Imp-sheet article - of being held, loved, supported, reassured, encouraged, and empowered. God is good, all of the time!

As I write, the sun has just broken through, on one of those days that have started with fog - quite symbolic actually! The sun is always there; just obscured for a while. And so with God, our Heavenly Father. I am learning not to panic at those times when the Lord's ways seem to be obscured, but to wait awhile. He will reveal himself in due season. All of the time, God is good!

It has been so encouraging that, since our decision to go ahead with our weekend #30, the number of Pilgrims has risen from four to seven! It would seem that God is honouring that decision, which is humbling in its affirmation! It is not too late for more people to book up! We now have a full team in place, and we like to think that there are at least five more Pilgrims who are coming, but perhaps don't know yet that they are! Please remain in prayer about whom to encourage, and to introduce to our Cursillo Community. Please also remember in prayer, by name, all the Team and all the Pilgrims as the Weekend approaches. The Palanca list will be distributed with this Imp-sheet.

Ultreya!
Yours in Christ, Liz

Facebook

A Facebook group CursilloLincs has been set up. This will allow members in the group to share thoughts, offers of lifts, friendship and prayer requests etc. In order to keep the information confidential this has been set up as a private ('secret') group. Membership will be by invitation by email. This will unfortunately take time to set up as names and addresses need to be collected and emails sent out.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away. 'Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rab-bo'ni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father, but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God. '

I have seen films, pictures and mimes of this wonderful encounter, the second and most staggering of Mary's 'gob-smackers'. In most of these presentations Jesus is standing like some product of the taxidermist's art, stiffly gesturing away a remarkably restrained Mary who has attempted to touch him in an elegant, saint-like manner. If it *really* happened like that let's all give up and go and become frog-worshippers. G.K. Chesterton made the point that believers and non-believers alike have great problems about genuinely accepting the fact that 'he became man'. The divine ordinariness of Jesus should be one of our greatest comforts. Instead, it's a serious stumbling block to many, perhaps because it brings the reality of God so close that we are forced to respond from the heart, rather than from bits of our minds.

Do you really believe that Jesus was *not* smiling broadly when he asked Mary why she was crying and who she was looking for? Do you really think that Mary *didn't* throw herself at her beloved friend and master after he said her name in a way that was specially his? And do you not think he would have chucklingly retreated with both arms extended as he warned her that she must not touch him because he had not yet ascended to his Father ('not cooked yet' as a small friend put it)?

How we need some of this Mary-style excitement in the modern Church, the kind of excitement that follows *real* meetings with this *real* Jesus who is more down-to-earth than many of his followers.

Can you see her running and leaping, her eyes now wet with tears of joy, on her way to tell the disciples?

A prayer

We want to be excited, Lord.

From 'When You Walk' by Adrian Plass

BACC Pages

This is available from <http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/bacc-pages.php>.

The Winter 2014 edition is now available and can be downloaded directly from <http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/BACC%20Pages/bacc-pages-winter-2014.pdf>

Five Finger Prayer

We were separated from God by sin (Romans 3:23). But because Jesus paid for our sin on the cross we now "have access by one Spirit to the Father," (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:18). Those who receive Jesus as their Saviour become "children of God" (John 1:12).

So even though God is "great and mighty in power" (Psalm 147:4), we are His children and He is always thinking of us, "How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!" If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand!" (Psalm 139:17-18)

He is always ready to bend His ear to hear our prayers and so we're encouraged to "come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

The Five Finger Prayer is a simple guide we can use when we pray.

1) Your Thumb is nearest to you.

So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C.S. Lewis once said "sweet duty." While praying for our loved ones is easy the Bible also tells us to pray for our enemies who, in a negative way, are also near us.

"Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. (Matthew 5:44) And again, "Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it." (1 Peter 3:9).

2) The next finger is the Pointing Finger.

The pointing finger reminds us of those who instruct so pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers. These men and women have great influence on society and we should pray that they display and teach godly principles in all they do.

3) The next finger is the Tallest Finger.

Our tallest finger reminds us of those who are in charge. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

When the king of Nineveh prayed to God he saved his nation from destruction (Jonah 3:6-10). We should pray that our decision makers repent and seek God's will as they lead us.

4) The fourth finger is our Ring Finger.

The ring finger is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

The Bible tells us that all who believe in Christ are "one body" (1 Corinthians 12:12) and that we are to "bear one another burdens". We should "pray for one another," James 5:16 tells us that, because "the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much".

Praying for others is a way of serving those around us and serving is what gives us purpose to life. "If you love Me," Jesus said, "feed My sheep." Praying for those in need is one way to feed Christ's sheep.

5) And lastly comes our Little Finger.

The smallest finger of all. This is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you." Your Pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself.

By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

When praying for ourselves we should first confess our sins because sin breaks fellowship with God and we don't want to be out of fellowship with Him. No matter how badly we've sin take heart and know that "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9).

Then we should give thanks for all the blessings we have been given, "Offer to God thanksgiving, and pray your vows to the Most High" (Psalm 50:14).

And finally we lay out what is on our heart, the good and the bad, and we pray that God's will be done in our life. The Father loves you very much and will always do what is best for you. Trust Him and He will lead you and cause all things to work together for the good of those who love Him. (Romans 8:28).

From Gillian Padley who found this in a Newsletter at a friend's house.

Pilgrimage To Santiago De Compostela

Tuesday 23 - Tuesday 30 September 2014

Canon Chris Lilley will be leading a unique pilgrimage to walk 65 miles to the Church of St James in Compostela in Northern Spain.

Pilgrims may choose either to walk or take a guided coach tour to see the stunning sights of the region. The two groups will meet up each night at the hotel.

The full itinerary and booking form are available from Chris Lilley on 01507 440039 or at c.lilley@btinternet.com

Lincoln Cursillo A.G.M. 29th March, 2014

28 Cursillistas attended the AGM in the Folkingham Village Hall This was preceded by Eucharist in St Andrews and a bring and share lunch which was enjoyed by all.

David Simcox was elected as the new treasurer and Angela Simcox the new 4th Day Rep. The post of Publicity rep was not filled and is now vacant. Afterwards Liz gave a 'thought for the day' on needing downtime in our lives. This was based on her dog Zoe's Puppy Tales entitled 'Downtime'.

Lay Director Report

It seems much longer ago that I took over from Piers as Lay Director for Lincoln Diocesan Cursillo! You may remember how nervous I was about taking on the post, especially because I find it so hard to think, and speak, coherently, on my feet! However, I have had a good team around me, and Praise God - much has happened over the last year. It is good that we should take stock.

At last year's AGM I tried to outline some of the things that God had placed on my heart concerning Cursillo. Chiefly was the conviction that the members of our present Cursillo community within the diocese needed to be built up and re-enthused, spiritually. Numbers at Ultreyas, Group Reunions and the summer and winter events had begun to dwindle. Nor had we attracted enough new Pilgrims to proceed with #30 that was scheduled for May 2013. I felt we were not being "successful" in this because we were not a strong body to draw people into. Well, thanks to a terrific retreat weekend, led by our Spiritual Director David, I think we are now much more vibrant. When we come together we are reminded and inspired to be "Faithful, Confident and Joyful," to quote our Diocesan Bishop, Christopher! Our summer event at Caythorpe and winter event at The Old Palaces, also, were better attended, and who can forget the introductory Myers Briggs session, that helped us understand a little more about where we come from individually, and also to understand why some people are so very different from ourselves!

My journeys around the diocese to visit the various reunion groups have been a blessing to me, and I hope, too, to those I visited. It was good to spend time with each group, different as they are, and seeing the various styles of living out the 4th Day. I am aware of some groups struggling still, but I feel encouraged that most groups now have re-established a regular slot each month to meet together. We are working at present to possibly establish a new group based on the Sleaford area.

And #30 is going ahead this May! I must admit that when it was decided at Secretariat in January that we should go forward in faith with this weekend, despite at that stage having only 4 Pilgrims, I had a bit of a panic because I had not opened that particular file for 10 months! However, a new team has come together, and we now have 9 Pilgrims booked in. Plenty of room for more! Being Lay Rector as well as Lay Director is complicated, but do-able, with God's strength and support. I would like to say how much I have appreciated all the personal palanca I have received for both roles.

Once we reach May 5th, and the mantle of Lay Rector has been handed on, I will be able to concentrate on the next steps of the journey that I envisage for our Cursillo community in this diocese. We need to address our safe-guarding responsibilities, and also, I feel, to untangle the differences between the Servant Community and the Secretariat within the Movement. We look forward to another Summer event this June, and further Myers Briggs sessions. Please keep in touch with what is happening through your Group Convenor or through the website. We wouldn't want anyone to miss out. We are here to support each other on our Christian journey!

So, keep on keeping on, my dear friends in Christ!
Ultreya! Liz x

Secretary's Report

When I started preparing for this meeting by drawing up the list of present Secretariat members, I was a little taken aback to realise that I will be standing down next year - it seems such a very short time since I sat here in March 2012 wondering if I'd be able to get through the next three years without making too much of a hash of things..... well there's still time for that of course! Many thanks to my fellow Secretariat members who have gently pointed out the glaring mistakes in my paperwork that have cropped up from time to time.

The Secretariat has met four times this year at Bailgate Methodist Church, latterly on a weekday evening as this has been easier for the current membership to attend than a Saturday daytime.

There has been a lot to discuss during our meetings, most notably making small but hopefully beneficial changes to the What Next? event, to the Pilgrim's Guide, tweaking job descriptions for 4th Day Rep and Group Convenors and wrestling with the challenges of accommodation and facilities at The Old Palace for the residential Retreat in November and of course Lincoln #30 this coming May, though most of the latter especially, fell on Liz' shoulders, bless her.

One of the most enjoyable items I was asked to minute was the discussion on Lincoln #30 and the unanimous decision to go forward in faith, with a push on publicity and prayer!

Ultreya! Judith

Cursillo Leaders Workshops

10 - 12th October 2014 at Wistaston Hall, Crewe, Cheshire

17 - 19th April 2015 at Shallowford House, Stone, Nr. Stafford

If you are interested in attending a Cursillo Leaders Workshops, please contact the BACC Rep Gillian Padley (see below) and she will make the necessary arrangements - please don't contact the venue direct.

Puppy Tales: Down-time

Last time I told you about my hydro-therapy sessions. They are still going well, and I am still having lots of fun. Amy makes me work very hard, and it makes me tired. I have a shower before I go in the water to stimulate my muscles and warm them up a bit ready for work. Then afterwards I have another shower and then follows a lovely "down-time." Amy wraps me in my towel and we have a lovely cuddle while she massages my muscles, and my bad hip joint is having a "pulse" sent through it by a machine. It's a curious but soothing sensation, and gradually I feel my eyes drooping as I fully relax. Usually I end up lying down and snoozing! Then I have a wonderful nap all the way home in the car!



Mum says it is important for people to have down-time too. If they fly round all the time and never relax they tend to get exhausted and stressed. They need time to relax and give themselves a chance to recharge their batteries. Even after going to a church service or event she says they need time out to reflect on what God has been saying to them and to respond. She says it is easy to rush on with the next thing without applying what they have heard to their own lives. It is good to spend time with God and allow him to speak to them personally. It is a process of "letting go" so that they can let God work in their lives.

So here's to down-time! It is not just an indulgence!

Zoe

Cursillo Weekends.

Below are some of the forthcoming Cursillo weekends.
Please support them with Palanca prayer.

Date	Cursillo
3 - 6 April	St Asaph #22
24 - 27 April	Blackburn #59, Durham #21, Norwich #6
01 - 04 May	Canterbury #52, Carlisle #34
02 - 05 May	Coventry #44, Lincoln #30, Hallam Diocese
08 - 11 May	Chester #48
15 - 18 May	London #27, Liverpool Archdiocese
22 - 25 May	Chelmsford #28
12 - 15 June	Shrewsbury Diocese
2 - 5 October	Clifton Diocese

The above Weekends have been sent a Palanca Poster from Lincoln Cursillo. Have reunion groups thought of having their own Palanca Poster to send to Lincoln Weekends or even other national ones?

Letter from Jan Watts CLW Convenor

Dear fellow Cursillistas,

A further week-end had been booked for next July, 2015, but sadly (as with so many at the moment) the Retreat House is having to close down. Paul Thacker, taking over as CLW at May's AGM, is currently looking for a replacement venue, so watch this space.

Just a reminder that BACC suggests that all new members of your Secretariat should attend a CLW and that, if at all possible, no one should lead a Cursillo week-end without having done the course. Any Lay Directors or Spiritual Directors who have not yet been on a CLW should book as soon as possible. Often LDs and SDs will say "I wish I'd done one right at the beginning of my time or even before taking up the post."

Don't forget, too, that it's recommended that people re-do their CLW every 5 or 6 years as there are changes in emphasis within the structure, Revd. Hugh Burgess's new thoughts about the Group Reunion is one example.

Money can often be an issue, but please don't feel that you are obliged to pay as a Secretariat for everyone who does a CLW. In some Dioceses folk pay for themselves and in others the Secretariat and delegate pay half each. Clergy can sometimes get a grant from their Diocesan training fund.

Don't forget too that you can book places for future CLW's even before you know exactly who is coming, and I will then hold them and contact you if the week-end is filling up. Even after May's AGM, when Paul takes over, I shall be continuing to do the admin. for the week-ends so you will still be able to contact me direct and send me your forms.

I'm now taking bookings on the next two week-ends. There is only one further week-end this year because of the Catch the Vision week-end, so if you need an observing Lay Rector to do a CLW before their role in 2015, then this October is their only opportunity!

With love in Christ,
Ultreya!
Jan

Lincoln #30 2-5 May

There are 9 pilgrims on the weekend

Usual arrangements at The Old Palace

Wake up breakfast at Wetherspoons on the Bradford.

CLAUSURA: 3.00 for 3:30 pm, Nettleham All Saints. Bring & Share Tea

SUMMER EVENT

21st of June

12.00

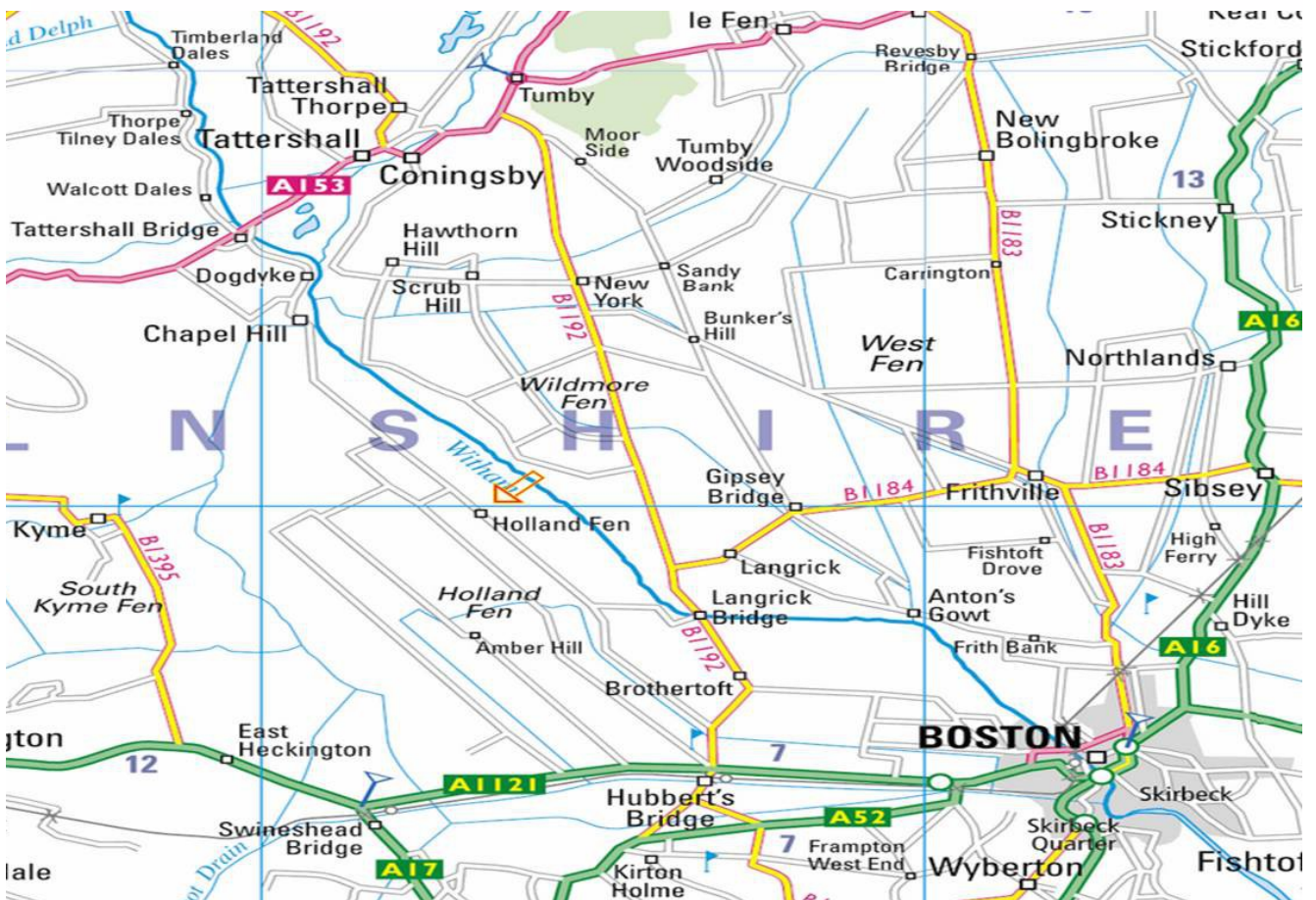
Holland Fen

All Saint's Church

Village Hall

All Saint's Church is behind the Village Hall which is to the east of the road between Tattershall Bridge and Hubbert's Bridge. Post code LN4 4QH

The event is still in the planning stage and please check the website <http://lincolncursillo.btck.co.uk/> for further details, including contact names and cost closer to the date



Lincoln Cursillo Dates

2014			
2 - 5 May	Lincoln #30		The Old Palace
5 May	Wake up Breakfast		Wetherspoons, Brayford
	3.00 for 3.30	Clausura	All Saints, Nettleham
17 May	9.00 for 9.30 - 12.00	What Next? #30	Bailgate Methodist Church
24 May	9.00 for 9.30 - 4.30	MBTI Event 2 - Stress	The Old Palace
30 May - 1 June	Catch the Vision Residential/BACC AGM		High Leigh, Herts
21 June	Summer Event		Holland Fen
17 July	6.45 for 7.00 - 9.00	Secretariat	Bailgate Methodist Church
30 August	National Ultreya		Canterbury
23 - 30 September	PILGRIMAGE to SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA		
9 October	6.45 for 7.00 - 9.00	Secretariat	Bailgate Methodist Church
10 - 12 October	CLW weekend		Crewe
22 November	9.00 for 9.30 - 4.30	MBTI Event 3 - Prayer	The Old Palace
2015			
17 - 19 April	CLW weekend		Stone, Staffs
23 May	9.00 for 9.30 - 4.30	MBTI Event 4 - Conflict	The Old Palace

Conveners for Reunion Groups		
Alford	Angela Simcox	01507 466824
Caythorpe & Claypole	Susanne Wills	01400 272777
East Wolds	John Pollard	01205 822958
Grimsby	Kathy Whitlam	01472 871669
Lawres	Paul Mabbott	01522 688737
N. Hykeham	Hetty Naylor	01522 681984
Scunthorpe	Stuart Duff	01652 652120
W. Norfolk	Bridget Everitt	01553 840527

Your Servant Community		
Lay Director	Liz Lilley	01507 440039
Spiritual Dir	David McCormick	01472 886654
Secretary	Judith Scott	01400 272974
Treasurer	David Simcox	01507 466824
Pre-weekend	Barclay & Janice Brader	01724 348595
Weekend Rep	Lesley & Stuart Duff	01652 652120
4 th Day Rep	Angela Simcox	01507 466824
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