



Chichester CURSILLO®

Registered Charity No 1099668

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Affiliated with British Anglican Cursillo Council

SPRING-SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2008

Chichester Cursillo - the Spiritual Year 2007.

Some of you may know that I recently celebrated my 60th birthday and for once it was outside Lent thanks to the early Easter. The gospel reading for that day was the account of the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). We are all familiar with the story of how the two despondent disciples failed to recognize Jesus walking with them. It set me thinking just how many times we fail to recognize Jesus. These two disciples had to walk a long way with Jesus before they recognized him — and sometimes we do too. When we hear the Scriptures proclaimed in our worship, we can't just assume that we have received everything we need from them. It's so much better to listen carefully and try to imagine that we are there—in Galilee, in Jerusalem, or wherever— hearing Jesus speak to us. We should try to put aside any distractions, and listen to what Jesus may want to say to us personally.

We can rejoice that many of our brothers and sisters have experienced this journey in their Cursillo weekends this past year, not just in this diocese but all over the world. Every time I have the privilege of sharing in the weekends, in whatever role, I never cease to be amazed what Jesus can do to for each of us — he just walks with us and allows us to come to him in our own time. He never puts us under any pressure, but

We can also take comfort in knowing that the Holy Spirit is at work in each of us as well, pouring out the grace not only to help us hear the word but to make it bear fruit in our lives. He wants us to experience the fullness of God's love in every part of our being and to share it with the world. So listen carefully—and don't forget to ask for his help! I should like to thank all those who work so hard for the weekends and at other times — it is through these wonderful gifts that so many of you possess that Christ is able to use us to reach out to others. As Pentecost approaches, let our prayer be:

"Holy Spirit, help us to hear Jesus in his word. Touch, heal, comfort, and challenge each of us! Jesus, may your word transform us, so that you can use us for your glory!"

ULTREYA!

Father Norman.



Chapel at Wychcroft - photo by Philip Boobyer

Caritas 08 : 21st June '08. The Brighton Centre.

Hopefully you will all know about this day. The biggest gathering of Anglicans in Sussex for many years.

Do keep the day in your diary and remember to book your place. This will be a day to celebrate, to be renewed, inspired and encouraged. There will be all age worship, inspirational speakers, resources and more..

There is a link to Caritas from Chichester website if you want to know more.

SWEATSHIRT ORDERS

Cursillo Sweatshirts: Heather Fry is now the person to see to order garments embroidered with the Chichester logo. There is a catalogue with a variety of styles or you may like to provide a garment to be embroidered. Contact Heather for more details.
01903 610530 email heathsie.fry@ntlworld.com



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Newsletter April 2008.

I am writing this with the memory of Chichester Weekend #16 very fresh in my mind. You may be aware that the preparations and run-up to Chichester #16 were eventful! Les Rhodes had been commissioned to be Lay Rector, but a few days after Christmas Les rang me to say he could not carry on. He was in a great deal of pain and unable to walk. I visited Les and took over as Lay Rector, with just three weeks to the first training day and the team not complete! Without going into all the detail suffice to say that by the time the participants were due to arrive for Chichester #16 I had "lost" three more staff and two participants. Perhaps it's a good job I already have grey hair!! But, do we not have a wonderful and loving Lord? Throughout the preparation time I felt assured of His presence with us. I am so grateful for all the prayers and support from my cursillo friends. I am also grateful to the members of the "team" who worked together so cheerfully and willingly. Just as my "team" didn't let me down so we have a God who doesn't let us down. I was certain we would have a truly blessed weekend and so it turned out to be. The eight participants came with open hearts and minds, ready to give themselves to the "Cursillo experience", making it a truly memorable time for all. And Wychcroft in the snow is a beautiful sight.

For the staff there was the sadness of Les's death just three weeks earlier. A number of us had attended Les's funeral when he was remembered as a man of principles with a gentle heart. We dedicated the weekend to his memory and we continue to pray for Les's wife Margaret and their daughters.

Now we must look to the future. Please pray for Judy Pullin as she gathers her team and prepares to lead Chichester#17 in September. For a weekend to run we do need participants so please speak to people you think might benefit from a weekend and contact Carol Wood our Bookings Secretary for the necessary forms.

We like to offer a considerable subsidy to the cost of the weekend, this year it has been a little over 60per cent but we can only offer this if we have the funds. At the moment most of the giving comes from a small number of very generous people but if more were able to give a modest amount on a regular basis this would make our financial situation more assured. We wish to give a reasonable subsidy to all participants and would never want anyone to be prevented from attending a weekend for financial reasons.

Caritas at the Brighton Centre is on 21st June when we will share a day of celebration for the Diocese. A week later we have our annual picnic – at Latchetts, Danehill. This is a good opportunity to bring friends, whether Christians or not, to enjoy these beautiful and inspiring gardens. Please bring your own picnic; drinks will be provided and we will end with compline at 6.00pm. So let us pray for one another and for all those who do not yet know Jesus as their friend and saviour. May you have a blessed summer ,whatever the weather, as you walk the walk and talk the talk .

Ultreya. Ruth



Wychcroft in the snow - photo by Ruth Hitchcox

Our Next Weekends

#17 September 11-14 2008

#18 March 12-15 2009

#19 September 17-20 2009

2008/2009

Saturday 28th June
Saturday 6th September

Picnic
National Ultreya

Latchetts
Carlisle

Saturday 11th October
Saturday 15th November

Ultreya
Day of Deeper Understanding

St Luke's, Stone Cross
Ringmer

YOUR SECRETARIAT

Lay Director Ruth Hitchcox 01903 765157
Secretary Janice Lelliott 01903 504384
Booking Secretary Carol Wood 01903 248894
Fourth Day Rep Judy Lowe 01273 464488
Weekend Rep Susan Maund 01903 242105

Spiritual Director Revd. Norman Taylor 01903 693499
Treasurer Andrew Meredith 01403 733519
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