



# Chichester CURSILLO®

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Anglican Diocese  
of Chichester

## Lay Director's Letter – November 2024

Dear friends

As we move towards the end of 2024 I thought it was time for a catch-up on what has been happening during another very busy year, and to let you know some of the things we have planned for next year and beyond.

So looking back over 2024

During the year we have held 3 Ultreyas

- in February at St Thomas à Becket, Pagham
- in May at St James the Less at Lancing, together with our AGM
- in November at All Saints, Findon Valley

Interspersed with these we are now holding regular Caminos, which are well organised and run by Maggie Williams. The idea of the Camino was very much Maggie's and we are very grateful to her for coming up with this idea and running with it. They are a great addition to our programme of events. These popular and less formal gatherings are a great opportunity to get together for fellowship, fun and of course singing, and if you haven't already tried one it well worth giving it a go.

During the year Caminos have been held at

- St Laurence's, Goring
- St Peter's, High Salvington
- St Peter's, Ardingly
- St John the Less, Lancing

We have one further Camino planned for this year - December 14<sup>th</sup> at St Symphotian's, Durrington, so why not come along and join in the fun.

At the end of April we held a weekend at Wychcroft - Chichester#34 with Southwark, which was led by Sue Bowman. This was a really successful weekend full of the Holy Spirit, love and joy and we have been able to welcome twelve new Cursillistas - Georgie Bond, Sandra Brett, Chris Buckenham, Michelle Elgood, Jeannette Frost, Ali Gompertz, Mo Hatzfeld, Nkasi Morah, Mary Pape, Liz Pratt, Maggie Sorton and Lisa Williamson.

In July we held 'Pilgrim's Progress 6' coupled with a 'Day of Deeper Understanding'. Many of our newer cursillistas, together with some of the more established, took the opportunity to further

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explore Piety, Study and Action, and to take further steps on their journeys of discovery, whilst enjoying the tranquility of Wychcroft

Also in the past year Maggie has organised and run a Craft Stall at her Church's Craft Fair. Donations for the stall were sought from cursillistas across the Diocese, but I know Maggie had been very busy creating items to sell. £157 was raised for Cursillo funds. A huge thank you to Maggie, and to all who contributed to another successful event.

So now to look forward to 2025.

I will start with our next weekend which be a Chichester weekend -

**Chichester#35 - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025.**

Training Days - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

Lay Rector -	Irene Adams
Oserving Lay Rector -	Annette Thomas
SA -	Helena Buque
Sa -	Michael Maine
Lay Rector's Cha Cha -	Maggie Willaims
Music Cha Cha -	Jenny Spurle
Palanca Cha Cha -	Trudi Kearsley
Chapel Cha Cha -	Jackie Harwood
Table Leaders -	Linda Pudney
	Sandra Brett
	Martin Roberts
	Jane Coan
	Dawn Phillips
	Mary Pape

Please pray for all the staff on this weekend and for Pilgrims to come forward. We were blessed with 12 Pilgrims on our last weekend and it would wonderful to be able to welcome a further 12.

Also of course for 2025 we have our **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**, taking place at Wychcroft **14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2025**. Details for this event have been circulated to all and bookings are being taken. Maggie Williams is co-ordinating this event with a small team of helpers, and preparations are well under way. If you have not had the information please contact me - [trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk) or ring 01243 263597.

We are hoping to set up a display of photographs from all the weekends and if anyone has any photos they could share we would be very pleased to receive them.

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Other dates for 2026 are:-

February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Ultreya at Holy Trinity, Cuckfield Camino at St Andrew's, Ferring
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Ultreya and AGM at All Saints, Findon Valley
July (tbc)	Picnic at The Church of the Good Shepherd, Shoreham Beach
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Ultreya at St Thomas à Becket, Pagham

Looking forward to 2026 we are planning to hold two weekends .. The first in May will be a two-day weekend, followed by a three-day weekend in October. For some time we have been discussing and considering following the lead of a number of other Diocese who have trialled a two-day weekend and feel that the time is now right for us to move this forward. It is hoped that this might prove more attractive to those in employment who find taking the time off work for the three-day weekend difficult. Also as prices continue to rise a two day weekend will offer a cheaper option.

At the AGM earlier this year Jackie Harwood completed her term of office as Fourth Day Representative. However as this post was not filled she has continued to act as the link with the Area Reps, sending out information throughout the year, for which I am very grateful. We continue to look for someone to fill this role.

The Fourth Day Rep plays a vital role as the link between the Secretariat and Area Reps enabling information to be circulated quickly to all. If there is anyone who would like to help us with this or would like more information about what is involved please do get in touch with me.

At the AGM next year our Treasurer, Sue Bowman will come to the end of her time of office and we will be seeking someone to take over. Please give some thought as to whether you might be able to take this on.

### **Cursillo funding**

The costs of our weekends rise every year. We have always tried to offer some level of subsidy to help with weekend costs. The full cost for a weekend at Wychcroft is now £291 per person. This year the Secretariat has decided to offer a subsidy of £91, which is line with what has been offered in previous years. Not everyone chooses to accept the subsidy. You will be aware that we rely on donations from existing Cursillistas, donations collected at Ultreyas and Caminos and fundraising via our Sales Table and from events such as the craft sale organised by Maggie, to allow us to continue to offer this valuable help.

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Sue Bowman, our Treasurer, has prepared some figures for us

- The cost of a weekend is in the region £7,500 for a full number of pilgrims and staff.
- Chichester Cursillo subsidise this by £3,000
- Each month a number of Cursillistas donate via a standing order. This raises £2,800. This also has to cover general expenses during the year such as subscription to BACC, hosting Ultreya's and Caminos.
- We rely on generous donations for Cursillistas to cover this subsidy.

Please consider whether you are able to offer any assistance. Our bank details are below if you should wish to consider setting up regular donations via standing order. And if you are a tax payer please ensure you have completed a gift aid declaration so that we are able to claim the gift aid. As they say - every little helps.

Bank details are:-  
Lloyds Bank  
Sort code 30-90-44  
Account 00329489

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those cursillistas who work so hard for the benefit of us all, to help to ensure that all our events and activities are spirit filled, joy filled and laughter filled. Thank you all.

I hope to see at least some of you at the **Camino on 14<sup>th</sup> December at Durrington**, but to those who will not be there I wish you all the joys of the coming wonderful season as we prepare to celebrate once again the birth of our saviour.

Ultreya

Trudi

Chichester Cursillo Lay Director

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