

CURSILLO IN THE DIOCESE OF LONDON

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 June 2008

Secretariat Members (including Trustees *)

Mrs Monica Bolley	(Lay Director)*
Revd Alison Tyler	(Spiritual Director) *
Mrs Tatiana Goldsmith	(Secretary) *
Ms Jennifer Neve	(Treasurer) *
Mrs Helen Pye-Beraet	(Pre-Cursillo Rep & Bookings Secretary)
Mrs Paula James	(Weekend Rep)
Miss Jacqui Barrow	(Post-Cursillo Rep)
Mr Gareth Bevan	(BACC Rep to 24 November 2007)
Mr David Hudson	(BACC Rep from 24 November 2007)
Mr Mick Shaw	(Publicity Rep)

Registered Charity No. 1082984

Principal Address Holy Trinity Vicarage
Park View Rd
Southall
Middlesex UB1 3HJ

Governing Document Constitution dated 9 October 1999

Objects of the Charity

The objects of Cursillo in the Diocese of London ('the Objects'), are to advance religion in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of England in the Diocese of London and specifically to renew Anglican Christians in their Christian commitment and to develop the practice of Christian principles in their everyday life so as to help others discover and achieve a Christian way of life, by various means including the provision of short religious education courses.

Independent Examiner Mr Peter Green FCCA

Bankers HSBC Bank plc
69 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5EY

Review of Activities and Achievements

Membership:

At 30 June 2008 there were 194 Cursillistas on the London list from 30 different parishes.

Secretariat:

The Secretariat has met 4 times between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2008.

In 2007: 15 September, 24 November (before the AGM);

And in 2008: 19 January, 12 April

(The pattern has recently been to have fewer meetings, and to cover more business at each.

The Secretariat meeting held on 15 September was part of the annual All-Day meeting. This was held at St James church, Clapton. The Secretariat shared 'our experiences hopes and dreams', and new Cursillistas from St James, Clapton and Holy Trinity, Dalson gave their responses to questions including 'What are you hoping that Cursillo will add to your Christian life?'

The input on the Day led to the formation of the following targets to be aim for during the coming year, and which were read out at the AGM:

- 1 Group Reunions: to strengthen these in the Diocese
- 2 Weekends: to aim for all of these to be full
- 3 Clergy Tasters: To run two of these during the year
- 4 Finance: to raise the level of giving by Cursillistas
- 5 Website: We aim to have our website up and running in 2008
- 6 DVD: That we produce a simple DVD of Cursillo in London to tell more people and parishes about us

Ultreyas and Days of Deeper Understanding:

Two Diocesan Ultreyas have been held in the period:

2007: 24 November, at St John's church, Stanmore (on the occasion of the last AGM)

2008: 12 April at St Lawrence's church, Eastcote

In addition, a local Ultreya has been held about every 6 weeks in Southall, attended by visitors and Cursillistas from the parishes of Holy Trinity, Southall; St Barnabas, Northolt Park; St Joseph the Worker, Northolt, and St John, Southall. It was a pleasure to welcome the Archdeacon of Northolt at one of these Ultreyas during the year.

A Day of Deeper Understanding was held on 2 February 2008 at the church of All Hallows-by-the Tower in the City. This focused on the role of Cursillo in the Church and the London Challenge. The Archdeacon of London, the Ven Peter Delaney, was the main speaker. He inspired us as leaders of Cursillo in London to be caught up and energized by vision and in the work and life of the Holy Spirit.

Other Cursillo Events:

The Cursillo group at St John's church, Pinner arranged an evening service on 25 May 2008, on the theme 'Promises – God's promises to us, and our promises to him'. The service provided an opportunity for reflection, prayer and singing. The Lay Director, Monica Bolley gave the address. The service had an attendance of over 70 from St John's, Pinner and a number of other churches.

Weekends:

We have held two weekends at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine, in the year under review, in October 2007 & March 2008, with a total of 31 participants. The messages of prayer support received from the Bishop of London and from others have been greatly appreciated. Two training events have been held prior to each Weekend. These have been valuable in preparing the staff team both practically and spiritually. On the October 2007 Weekend, the Lay Rector was Sylvia Daniels (St John, Stanmore) and Spiritual Advisers: the Revd Alison Tyler (Spiritual Director) and William Kearns (Reader, St Catherine, Neasden). On the March 2008 Weekend, the Lay Rector was Jacqui Barrow (Holy Trinity, Southall) and Spiritual Advisers: The Revd Canon Hall Speers (St John the Baptist, Barnet) and the Revd Rosémia Brown (St James, Clapton).

The Royal Foundation of St. Katharine.

We continue to appreciate the Royal Foundation of St. Katharine at Limehouse, which in many ways has proved to be an ideal venue. A serene and peaceful oasis in the heart of our city, it provides a comfortable, welcoming, well-organised setting for our Weekends.

Servant Community:

Our Servant Community is organized in four groups: Pre-Cursillo; Weekend; Post Cursillo/4th Day & Publicity, and the leader of each is a member of the Secretariat.

This year has seen the development of the Post Cursillo/4th Day group, to which representatives from different parishes have been recruited. The main task of the group has been to work towards Target number one of the secretariat, namely, to see to strengthening Group Reunions in the Diocese. As an important step towards achieving this, a system has been put in place for parish co-ordinators to be appointed to 'Cursillo parishes'. Their tasks include seeing to the smooth running of Group Reunions in the parish, and keeping in contact with the parish priest on matters relating to Cursillo.

Publicity:

The London Cursillo magazine, *Cursillo4London* was issued in Autumn 2007 and Spring 2008 in its new form shaped on the Prayer, Study, Apostolic Action format, which are central to Cursillo, and which form the basis of Group Reunions. In addition to this, a summer newsletter will also be produced.

Website:

Our 5th target is to have a London Cursillo website up and running in 2008, and this is on track. We are immensely grateful to the Cursillo group in Pinner, who funded the design expertise of Howard Lush at an 'auction of talents'. A website group has been formed to carry out the necessary work. The members of the group are Monica Bolley (Chair and Lay Director), the Revd Alison Tyler (Spiritual Director), Mick Shaw (Publicity Rep), Ann Fuller (St John, Pinner), Mark Arnold (St John, Pinner) and Howard Lush (Designer).

Clergy Taster:

The first of the two Clergy Taster Day events took place on 9 June 2008. The previous residential overnight programme was adjusted to fit inside a day to run from 9am to 5pm. We are most grateful to the Archdeacon of Hackney, the Ven Lyle Dennen for allowing us to use St Andrew's Courthouse, Holborn as our venue free of charge, leaving us only lunch and refreshments to pay for. The 9 June event proved to be highly successful, in spite of low numbers attending. The following comments were received in the feedback forms:

On the overall programme..... 'Very good – it gave a good overview of Cursillo'

On the venue..... 'Excellent. Good venue and good food'.

To the question: Did the conference meet your expectations?..... 'Yes, it met my expectations. And I will encourage members of our congregation to attend the Weekend course.'

'The day has helped me to see that Cursillo would be well suited to a parish like mine.'

Another event is planned for 18 November.

Links with other Dioceses:

We have enjoyed welcoming staff from Canterbury, Oxford and St Alban's Dioceses to serve on our weekends, and from Ely and St Alban's as participants.

Our prayers and good wishes are conveyed regularly to those holding weekends in other dioceses. When possible we attend the final Eucharist of their weekend. London Cursillistas have served on the teams of Southwark and Oxford Weekends.

Cursillo UK/world wide:

Meetings of the British Anglican Cursillo Council (BACC) are held in different parts of the country. Monica Bolley, Lay Director and Jennifer Neve (Treasurer) attended the meeting held in November 2007 in Kippax, Leeds. The 'Catch the Vision' conference, which included the AGM, held in Durham, was an inspiring event. This was attended by the Revd Alison Tyler, Spiritual Director,

Monica Bolley, Lay Director, David Hudson, BACC Rep, and Chris Hoppett, BACC Standing Committee member.

Several Cursillistas from London traveled to Canterbury in September 2007 to attend the Ultreya GB. This was a splendid event and was enjoyed by all.

Ultreya GB 2012:

The British Anglican Cursillo Council (BACC) agreed to our request to host the Ultreya GB in 2012. This is a challenging, but also an exciting prospect. A working group has been formed to plan this event.

Group Reunions:

It has already been outlined above under Servant Community, the steps which are being taken to support, encourage and promote the use of Group Reunions in London. The format of the London magazine *Cursillo4London*, which follows the 'prayer', 'study', 'action' format, is also aimed at promoting the use of Group Reunions. Group Reunions provide an opportunity for the regular sharing of our Christian journey, in a safe, supportive, small gathering. From this fellowship, much support and encouragement can be received. Sponsors are reminded of their role in assisting participants in being placed in a Group Reunion, and participants are themselves encouraged to join a Group. Christians who have not attended a Cursillo weekend are also welcome to join a Group Reunion.

Review of Financial Affairs and Activities

Finance:

The Financial Statement for the year shows a surplus of £2429.18 compared with last year's deficit of £430.31. This is largely due to gift aid received of £4194.93 for the years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. The regular giving has not increased to counteract the cost of the weekends.

Reserves policy:

It has been agreed by the Secretariat that it is necessary to maintain funds for subsidising places for participants on weekends, to meet expenses resulting from any cancellations that might occur and to fund publicity. The amount of funds to be held in reserve will be reviewed annually.

Weekends:

The cost of the two weekends this year including consumables was £10231.24. The participants or their sponsors contributed £2850.00; the rest was covered by donations (mostly gift aided) by the staff and others and by regular monthly giving by bankers order. We continue to encourage those attending weekends to contribute as much as they are able to.

Gift Aid:

A claim received for the year 2005-2006 was £2075.87 and another claim 2006-2007 was £2119.06 a total claim of £4194.93. A claim for 2007-2008 has been sent. This will be part of the reserve fund.

Thanks to all the Cursillistas who give their money and their time to Cursillo, and importantly, offer prayers for Cursillo in London to be used by God according to his purposes in the furtherance of his Kingdom.

'We give you thanks almighty God, for all the benefits you have given us, you who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen'

ULTREYA!

On behalf of the Secretariat

M. C. Bolley

Monica Bolley (Lay Director)

Date: 27/09/08