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CONTRIBUTIONS

Happenings, poems, letters, photos are invited from Cursillistas. Articles should generally be a maximum 300 words,1 page. If typing use simple formatting. If e-mailing attach in Word document or send as part of message. Please forward articles to the editor:

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I'm just writing my contribution for the next Encourager. Why don't vou write one too?



HAVE YOU MADE A CONTRIBUTION FOR 2015?

Your \$20 contribution goes towards Cursillo expenses for current year.

If you have not - please send your name address and \$20 to address below. (Please make cheques payable to 'Newcastle Anglican Cursillo)

If you wish to pay your contribution or ANY payment by Direct Debit

these can be made to:

BSB 032501 A/C: 130926

BUT PLEASE

you must email Noeline Darcy n.darcy@bigpond.com (Treasurer)

with the details - thanks.

Mail to:

Encourager Contribution PO Box 174 Waratah NSW 2298

WEBSITE INFORMATION

Anglican Cursillo in Diocese of Newcastle (Including all Application Forms)

http://www.cursillonewcastle.org.au/- Resources-Diary- News-Encourager—Secretariat—On our website we also have Links to other Dioceses and to our National Cursillo website (featuring national events, contacts etc.)



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Above banners, beautifully made by Cursillista Nettie Sullivan, are displayed in the Ministry Centre of St Johns Raymond Terrace. (read more on bottom of page 9)

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Please pray for SECRETARIAT, MEETING 1st TUESDAY of EACH MONTH @ St Pauls Beresfield.

May—5th June—2nd
July—7th August—4th
Sept—1st Oct—6th

Nov-3rd Dec-1st

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please direct prayer requests to Prayer Co-ordinator through Deanery Contacts listed at back.

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Spiritual Adviser—Rev Val McDonald

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, With Lent and Easter just past, along with the Centenary of the Anzac landings at Gallipoli I am very aware of the deeply contemplative reflections we have undergone during this time.

Lent is, of course, the time we intentionally set aside to reflect on our earthly journey with our God. Many of us are involved in group Bible studies during this time, with the focus on our beliefs surrounding the sacrifice of Jesus and how we live these beliefs in our lives.

Anzac Day places our focus on the sacrifice of those who have lived and died to demonstrate their beliefs in freedom and justice. It is a time when much of the world shifts its focus to those rocky cliffs in Turkey where so many of our young men, and the young men of New Zealand and Turkey, fought and died, very graphically demonstrating their beliefs.

I am sure we have all read many of the very moving accounts of those days, with many of our young people engaged in in-depth study of the circumstances surrounding the encounter. I hear them expressing how much these accounts have changed them and made them reconsider the patterns of their lives.

This in turn leads me to question how we tell our Christian stories, showing our communities how these accounts have changed the way we live and work. God has provided us with the necessary stories and framework to make a huge difference in the world – No, to change the world completely! Are we happy to tell our stories and show our deep beliefs in the way we live, work and show regard to all others? Do we **really** acknowledge our beliefs?

My Parish is deeply involved in the plight of Refugees. I receive emails and hear expressions from others (who consider themselves Christian) showing little regard for the abused, alienated, disenfranchised in our world – including the Refugee. Of course we are led along this path by our Civic Leaders (many of whom consider themselves Christian), but how do we justify this stance when we look at the life and teachings of Jesus? This article is from the April 1 issue of The Sydney Morning Herald Digital Edition by Elizabeth Farrelly and has given me much to think about, and I include an excerpt for your contemplation.

"The bleak but beautiful Russian film Leviathan has been reviled by religious



The Encourager-Winter 2015

leaders as "an odious slander of the Russian church". It tells of an innocent, Kolya, methodically destroyed by an Orthodox priest who covets his land for a church. (Continued on page 6)

Vacant

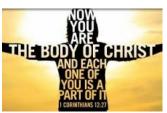
Diocesan Co-Lay Director

Helen Fraser. Women's 26, Table of Monica, at Junee C/G Diocese, 1990.

'We will no longer be infants, instead speaking the truth in love we will grow to become in every way the mature body of him who is the head, Christ; joined and held together by every joint and ligament supplied and working properly to grow and build itself up in love.' Eph 4:14-16



As always, the Cursillo Movement, its members and programmes, only succeed by the strength supplied by God. In this issue you will see how he has led us this 25th year in grass roots Group Reunions and Ultreyas, in the first Fourth Day Encouragement Workshop at Tea Gardens and in drawing together the teams and venue for the men's BCF event and for Men's 44 and Womens 44A Cursillos. By his good grace we will see his hand in the next two Renewal/ Encouragement Days at Morpeth and Lakes Anglican, May 16 team commissioning and training for service for the Three Day Cursillos at Kurri Kurri TAFE in August, and growth in love at the Men's BCF Weekend at Tahlee Bible College in June. Our forward vision of Newcastle Cursillo towards the 30th year in 2020 is an unknown adventure with Christ at the helm, so we are challenged to keep praying for your continuance of good sponsoring, especially of younger Christians for the future life of Cursillo, and of praying Christians for the strength of Cursillo, in making friends, being friends and bringing those friends into Christ and his body, the church of God. The sacrifice and resurrection of our Saviour and the abundance offered through the Holy Spirit have also recently



been reflected in the centenary remembrances of sacrifices made for us THE BUDY OF CHRIST by our people at 'home', at Anzac Cove, and in other arenas of war.

Ultreya! and De Colores, Helen

NEWCASTLE ULTREYA dates for 2015

Thank you to all who help in making arrangements for the Ultreyas.

Friday June 19 - Merewether

Friday July 17 - New Lambton

Friday August 21 - Lambton

Friday September 18 - Kotara South





DON'T FORGET OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CURSILLO IN NEWCASTLE DIOCESE! **CELEBRATE TOGETHER AT**

2015 DIOCESAN ULTREYA

IN CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL 9 for 9.30 Saturday 7th November **HEAR WITNESS OF CHRIST'S WORK** MEET OLD FRIENDS WELCOME NEW VETERANS

ANNUAL SUBS WELCOMED

St Augustine once said, "Every friend is a gift from God".

In effect he says you may think it was just a coincidence the way you met each other and your friendship developed but the truth of the matter is that it was not a chance event but a providential ordering of your circumstances to be at the right place at the right time. So treat each other as divine gifts. For Augustine an integral human life would have been impossible without friendship. For him, and me, one is less a Christian if one has no friends. (Shared by our beautiful Betty Butler. Xo)

LAKE MACQUARIE DEANERY ULTREYA DATES 2015.

This year, we will hold Ultreyas on both Friday nights at 6 for 6.30pm and Sunday afternoons, at 1.30 for 2.00 pm.

Toronto	24 th May	Sunday	Brighton Ave.
Windale	28 th June	Sunday	Merrigum St.
Morisset	24 th July	Friday night	Newcastle St.
Cardiff	23 rd August	Sunday	Thomas St.
Redhead	25 th Sept.	Friday night	Hutchison St.
Charlestown	30 th October	Friday night	St.Alban's Cl.

Sunday afternoons will have an afternoon tea, Friday nights will be tea.

Enquiries: Chris Plumridge 4976 2144

CENTRAL COAST ULTREYA dates for 2015.

Sat May 23rd	10am-noon	All Saints THE ENTRANCE		
Sat July 11th	9am-2pm 4 TH	DAY Lakes Anglican KANWAL		
Sat Sept 5th	10am—noon	St Lukes TOUKLEY		
SatNov 14th	10am—noon	St Christophers BATEAU BAY		
Enquiries: Bruce Fraser 4360 2231/ 0437602200				

Bring and share at each venue..

'Commensalism': vb to be, feet under the table together!

NOTE:

Parish contact for Muswellbrook is now vacant. Nicole Baldwin is parish contact for Morpeth for time being.

New Look Directory

We hope you will find it more helpful communicating within and around your Deanery to have, instead of parishes being alphabetically listed, the contact details grouped together. Look at pages 18-19. See what you think and use it to keep in touch!



YOU RAISE ME UP (to be more than I can be)

Hi fellow Cursillistas. My name is Michael Sinclair, Men's 16, Morpeth, 1995, Table of John.

I live with my lovely wife Jane in Raymond Terrace where I also work in the Finance

Section of Port Stephens Council where I have been employed for twenty eight years. We have three children each, two daughters and a son, who are all in their twenties. When the last of them left home around two years ago we have taken advantage of our newly acquired independence and bought ourselves a little caravan which we make the most of by getting away one weekend each month. We love our van and are having a great time travelling around but because we both still work we can't travel too far from home. It's amazing how many great places there are to spend a weekend within two or three hours from home.

We worship at St John the Evangelist Parish, Raymond Terrace where we play in the parish band, Noah's Wife, at the 10:00am service every Sunday. I play guitar and sing and Jane plays piano and keyboard. Over the last five years or so Noah's Wife has provided the music at a number of Deanery Ultreyas, Diocesan Ultreyas and the 2010 National Convention in Newcastle. We always get a thrill when we play at the Diocesan Ultreya at Christ Church Cathedral.

I guess you could call me a retread. I first became a member of Secretariat in 2008 and held the position of Treasurer for the next three years. This year I commenced a three year term as Secretariat Proctor. My duties include attending monthly Secretariat meetings, to manage and maintain resources, which includes ensuring Cursillo functions are adequately resourced, and to liaise with Weekend leaders to ensure they have the resources they need.

The Newcastle Cursillo Movement owns a trailer which is used to transport materials and other resources to Cursillo functions as required. The trailer is stored in the Cursillo container (over page)

which is kept at what we affectionately call the "Roth's Estate "in Medowie. Garry and Julie Roth have kindly allowed the container to be stored on their property for some years now.

My personal Cursillo journey commenced in mid-1995 when my then parish priest, Rev John Dring enticed me very gently, but persistently to attend a Cursillo Weekend. So off I went one Thursday night, standing in the loungeroom of the Morpeth Conference Centre with around forty other men that I did not know. I asked myself "what am I doing here?" Well, I got my answer...... I was there because that's where God wanted me to be. Since then I have been on five teams, led M38 weekend as Lay Director and have just accepted Michael Marklew's invitation to join the team for M44. I keep saying I am going to have a break but God just laughs and gives me another nudge.

In closing could I ask that we all pray regularly for our Cursillo Movement asking God to use us as instruments to share His love with others. And remember to "make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend GENTLY to Jesus. De Colores

(From page 3) But *Leviathan* is more interesting even than that. For the victim, fly-trapped in a web of power, is himself a Jesus figure, refusing to do what it takes to save himself from priestly evil. *Leviathan* is a parable of the church's war on Christ.

This is what we should remember at Easter. Not just the bouncy rites of spring, the bunnies and chickens, the rebirth. Not just the despair that necessarily precedes it, nor even the deliberate mangling of good by evil; the Easter chiaroscuro. The real story, like *Leviathan*'s, is yet more complex. It's an attack by the masculine virtues embodied in the hierarchy – certainty, strength, power, reason – on the feminine ones embodied in Christ – love, compassion, self-sacrifice and unreasoning trust.

These attacks are driven by fear that the apparently weaker virtues are, paradoxically, stronger. The fear is well based. It is a common mistake of those in power – be they squarehead politicians or bratty children – to see love as weakness, and to exploit it. But in the only slightly longer term, might cannot win."

De Colores, - The Reverend Val McDonald

Fourth Day cont:

A Cursillo member's card is a guide only to the nature of Group Reunion and Ultreya. The sharing which begins as soon as possible after the weekend, if not already begun, should be characterised by the particular missional nature of the home parish to meet the objectives in place there.

However, "the process of becoming a friendship group will progress from reunion relationships to environmental group reunion relationships .. and their active apostolic lives overflow into their life situaion ...the commitments made in the reunion/ultreya process is not because we are Cursillistas but because we are Christ's disciples."

The quotes used here are from the international Cursillo Handbook, and are just small sections of a very inspiring method of evangelising the world, starting where we are.

Cursillo Workshops 4TH DAY RENEWAL/ENCOURAGEMENT 30 May— Morpeth 11 July— Lakes Anglican

Come to one or all: Bring your own lunch, note pad, pen, Bible, cross and tag, for an inspiring and useful day of discussion and listening and renewed passion for understanding the methods, values and purposes of the Newcastle Cursillo Movement for the growth of the Church of Newcastle Diocese. 9 for 9.30 start, finish by 3-ish



Give THANKS unto the LORD, call upon His NAME make known His DEEDS among the PEOPLE. Chronicles 16:8

Pre-Cursillo:

Our challenge is to awaken and grow the hunger for God.

As we accompany our candidates in friendship as sponsors, we, too, are renewed in our capacity to grow more deeply in each of the three encounters: Pre Cursillo—Three Days—Fourth Day."

The objective of the Precursillo is not to "take" someone to a Cursillo, but to "bring" them, so they can come to "know" Jesus Christ.

The Pre-Cursillo should preferably be the Apostolic Action of a community (a group reunion or an ultreya). The best approach is to help the candidate come into contact with a dynamic community and when they return from the weekend they already have a sense of the Church and of Christian community. "They have a new inheritance, a new family."

The Three Days:

The Three Days is experienced differently by everyone.

"Each person who comes to Cursillo is unique, possessing some very personal circumstances that are substantially different from those of others who will become an integral part of Cursillo...some individuals feel uncomfortably self -centred, like little islands in the crowd. Hopefully, the vital link of being rooted in Christ begins to form." In the humility of understanding that there can be both joy and fear, your friendship and listening ear can help make a good transfer to Fourth Day growth in service and spirituality, energy and witness for Christ. "The weekend Christian community begins to have an impact on the individual, shaping his own thinking."

Fourth Day:

Community of Group Reunion

Community of Ultreya Fourth Day growth means that the Three Day experience has not been a wasted time, and the community developed there transfers by means of the community of Group Reunion and Ultreya to the community of the parish and our own particular environments which exist around our parishes which need to be transformed by coming to know Christ. "The Pre-Cursillo and the Cursillo weekend are only preliminary steps.. The restlessness brought to life on the weekend is continually leavened and sustained with the Gospel spirit."

KAIROS OUTSIDE FOR WOMEN - HUNTER REGION

Well where do I start, I have just finished a wonderful rewarding weekend at Myuna Bay with Kairos Outside for Women No 19. God was certainly in charge from the moment at the beginning when I agreed to lead this special time, through to the finish of the weekend. From the moment I asked Him to send the special quests He wanted there. I felt 15 ladies would be great, however, just seven days before the start we only had four and it looked like the weekend would be cancelled? But no, through prayer in just three days, we ended up with the 15 special guests that God selected. Even to the forecast of heavy rain for the weekend which never eventuated; if it had rained, we would have had massive problems as there were times when we needed to move a distance from one venue to another. But no, praise the Lord, the rain was delayed until Monday and we ended up with a totally fine weekend. So, was the weekend a success? Definitely yes, because at the closing, the majority of quests expressed very positive comments of trust, friendships, unconditional love and new beginnings. Apart from the team, who put in a lot of time, money and effort into the program, there were so many other people outside the team who were critical to it's success. They were involved in the making of a special cake, the corsages and let's not forget the musician, who came and played at our special dinner and the massive amount of little hand made agape (love) gifts. All these contributions made a huge impact on our quests. So, as you may guess, I have been very busy writing thank you letters to these special people. This program is so valuable in showing that our guests are very worthy strong women and God loves them unconditionally and invites them to a new start in life with Christ as their friend. Kairos is really about putting our Apostolic Action into practice and doing what Christ commanded of us. So, don't just "talk the talk" but I invite you to join us and "walk the talk". I can assure you, you will experience God's "Love in Action" if you attend either the "Lighting the Way" ceremony or the

"Closing ceremony" of our next weekend which will be held in September; details will be advised closer to the weekend.

Billie Baillie (Leader kowh 19) -W34 Table of Elizabeth - Canberra/Goulbourn 1993

FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS **2015 CURSILLO TEAMS**

Noelene Lentfer Lay Director Michael Marklew Proctor Bill Nicolle Denise Brown **Lorraine Phillips** Proctor Michael Thompson Glenda Grono Gopher Lance Phillips Jane Conway Gopher Russ Cooper Michael Sinclair **Dorothy Priestly** Muso S.A. Rev Jan Deaves **Rev Steve Niland** S.A. Rev Jenny Foley Rev Roger Zohrab

Noreen Robertson I.T.

Table Members

Ideal *Noel Herbert Sue Royal Michael Thompson Cate Ewin Grace Lance Phillips Julia Roberts Laity *George Davis Jane Johnson Piety *Bruce Fraser Dawn Holland Study Gail Illes Ap Action Bill Nicolle Rosemary Menhenick Leaders *Michael Sinclair Sue Cook Cha Envirmt Russ Cooper Sylvia Deering Chr Living *Keith Harding Jacqui Sorby Chr Community *



Page 8

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE. The word itself says I'M POSSIBLE.

Support: M44/W44a Teams Commissioning

Saturday 16th May—at Morpeth 9 for 9.30

Serve: M44/W44a CURSILLOS

27th—30th August—at Kurri Kurri TAFE

Sustain: M44/W44a WELCOME DAY

19th September—at Morpeth 9 for 9.30



Anzac Poppy Displays 25/4/2015

The Poppy Project for the centenary of WW1 1914-18 and the Anzac landing at

Gallipoli 1915 caught the interest and imagination of a great number of community groups to think more about what Sacrifice means. Herin lay the opportunities for apostolic action: to share what the Sacrifice of our Saviour means to us.

PARISH OF KOTARA SOUTH:

The parishioners and friends of the Church of the Good Shepherd Kotara South spent the early months of 2015 knitting and making hundreds of red poppies. The red poppy has become a symbol of remembrance of the sacrifice made by those who have died in war and peace-keeping initiatives.

It has now come to also symbolise the hope of peace.

This initiative was inspired by Cursillo, and communities were encouraged to make poppies in remembrance for the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.

The poppies were made into three banners which were hung on the front of our Church as part of our community involvement. A large wooden cross was also decorated in red poppies for the inside of the Church and will remain there until Pentecost.

Our Rector, the Revd Doctor Fergus King, has used the sacrifice implicit in the ANZAC message, our Street Notice Board and Church services to remind us of Christ's sacrifice and victory over death, and the challenge to share this message of hope with our community.



I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

News

National Secretariat Dubbo 30th April 2015

"I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU"

Some of the discussions:

- 1. Confirmation of authentic relationship of Cursillo with Anglicanism.
- 2. Reassurance of co-operative role of Diocesan Secretariats, meeting three times every two years.

Next National Meeting: BRISBANE September 2015

National Ultreya Dubbo 1-3 May 2015

30th Anniversary of Cursillo Movement in the Bathurst Diocese

"YOU HAVE CALLED MY NAME"

- 3. Deanery Contacts/Parish Contacts and their role as Care Persons in quality support of candidates through sponsor person/s. Care Persons Regional Workshops.
- 4. Secretariat Proctor and role as Resource Co-ordinator.
- 5. Prayer support promised for Bishop Ian Palmer and Bathurst Diocese in court against CBA plaintiff.

Secretariat meetings with Bishops Greg and Peter

- 6. Celebration programmes commenced for 25th and 30th anniversaries at Diocesan Ultreyas in 2015 and 2020.
- 7. Mission Action Plan; Pastoral Plan 2015-2020.
- 8. Regional programmes for Servant Community Workshops.
- 9. Prayer for involvement with Anew and CEY ministries and the development taking place in young adult ministry.
- 10. Prayer for three retiring and appointment of 2016-18 Secretariat members

Each time I have read, or typed, things about the MENS BCF weekend I am reminded that it was at a girls camp at Tahlee Bible College, when I was around 12 years old, that I asked our Lord Jesus to come into my heart. What a life changing camp that was! I can remember almost every minute of that day like it was yesterday (sometimes now I can't remember what happened yesterday, like, the day before today - how does that work?) May God's love warm you through the colder months ahead.

Love you all.....

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Noelene Lentfer Women's 10 Morpeth — LD W44A "Come, Listen, Live"

Dear Cursillo Friends.

What a wonderful privilege even though a little daunting to be Lay Leader for Women's 44A Cursillo this year.

I pray each day that being led by the Holy Spirit this will be time of many blessings -for myself as I leave behind a very busy life with family and church, and for my Team as we minister to each other and prepare for the candidates that will attend.

I feel very inadequate in myself as I meet the tasks of preparation, but I know our Loving Lord has his hand on all I am doing in His name guiding and directing me giving me a sense of His Peace.

The Theme "Come, Listen, Live" from Psalm 95 Verse 1 'Come let us praise the Lord! Let us sing for joy to God who protects us,' will focus us on coming together to listen to God and each other, and grow in faith so that we may go out and live our lives in love, praise and thanksgiving under God's protection.'

May God bless all we are doing in His Name.

<u>Looking back</u>: **COME**, **LISTEN**, **LIVE** was the theme chosen for the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit and Mission to the Diocese in July/August 1997. The artists' commission was to bring a creative and artistic dimension through the theme to transform the venues in which each event was held. 24 banners, 6 sets of 4, were made using screen-printing, machine applique and embellishment. The banners are 2.75 x 1.1 metres and used 130 metres of fabrics and 20,000 metres of thread.

<u>Looking forward</u>: As mentioned above **COME**, **LISTEN**, **LIVE** is the theme Noelene has chosen for W44A.

Please remember to pray for Michael and Noelene as they prepare their themes for training and for the new candidates.

Biennial Cursillo Men's Event

MEN'S BCF*

For all men 18 and over

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" Prov 27:17

"AGAINST ALL ODDS: FAITH UNDER FIRE" Key Speaker: Rev Nathan Killick

19th—21st June 2015

@ Tahlee Bible College via Karuah
Accommodation & Cost:

Tent and Motor Home sites, Cabins and Ensuites. \$99—\$180 Pension and Student Concession available.

RSVP QUICKLY! 15th May, Final payment by 29th May

Optional extras:

Golf at Hawkes Nest 12 noon from \$21/head Welcome BBQ by Cursillo at St Andrews Tea Gardens 5pm **Registration** at 'Tahlee' 7.30pm

Contacts:

James White 0400 482 088 jamesandmiriamwhite@gmail.com Chris Piggott 0408 561 211 cspiggott@bigpond.com Jim Warland 0408 291 395 jbee@bigpond.com David Beverley 0411 562 211 dbeverley@bigpond.com

Full details on application to David Beverley (contact as above) or via www.cursillonewcastle.org.au * 'BIBLE CAMP FELLOWSHIP' - don't miss it!

My needs were supplied by my brothers from Macedonia' 2Cor 11:9 Our prayers before and after this event will surely strengthen the MAN power of our Diocese and its Regions.





On Sunday 19th April St James Morpeth said farewell to parishioner, cursillista and our dear friend ROBYN PLAIZIER. Rob has accepted a job in ALICE

SPRINGS. She began work on Monday 27th April and will be in charge of a 90 bed hostel for indigenous Australians. This is a big change in her life and we wish her all the best, lots of love and prayers.

'Newcastle Cursillo congratulates our Men's BCF Leader, James White and Miriam on the birth of their first child, Eleanor on 22 April.'

CHRISTIAN STAND V

CALLED UP TO BE FAITHFUL

FROM SECRETARIAT: 'Love and sympathy to Bev Rigby and family.

We remember Geoff as a good friend, and for his part in the formation of Newcastle Cursillo and his years of continued faithful service.'

NETTIE SULLIVAN WRITES: Geoff Rigby was one of nature's gentlemen, and a great source of enthusiasm and down-to-earth practicality in the heady days of establishing Cursillo in our Diocese. He served on Secretariat and was Lay Director of Mens 3, and had a wonderful deep faith that shone through his whole being.

He was a man of prayer, and so often when Secretariat meetings were confounded with a problem, Geoff would say, "Let's pray". After prayer, individual members would offer a solution, which would be verified by others. They were indeed mighty days of God's anointing, and it was a privilege to serve with Geoff in this mission.

I know heaven has rejoiced with Geoff's arrival and I am sure the Lord would say, "Well done, good and faithful servant". Vale, Geoff. You have completed your Fourth Day.

