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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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e-mail: benlouann@comcen.com.au



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR 2013?

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

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

If you wish to pay your *Encourager* contributions by Direct Debit please email our Treasurer Noeline

Darcy n.darcy@bigpond.com for details. Please remember this option is only available for

CONTRIBUTIONS PAYMENT for the Encourager publication."

Mail to:
Encourager Contribution
PO Box 174
Waratah NSW 2298

WEBSITE INFORMATION

Anglican Cursillo in Diocese of Newcastle (Including Application Forms)

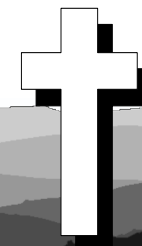
www.newcastleanglican.org.au - Resources—Diocesan Groups.

Anglican Cursillo in Australia has it all (featuring national events, contacts)

www.anglicancursillo.org.au

The

ENCOURAGER



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Only Jesus can turn.....

a **MESS** into a **MESSAGE**,

a **TEST** into

a **TESTIMONY**,

a **TRIAL** into a **TRIUMPH**

a **VICTIM** into

a **VICTORY.**

(He is worthy to be praised!)

SPRING/SUMMER 2013

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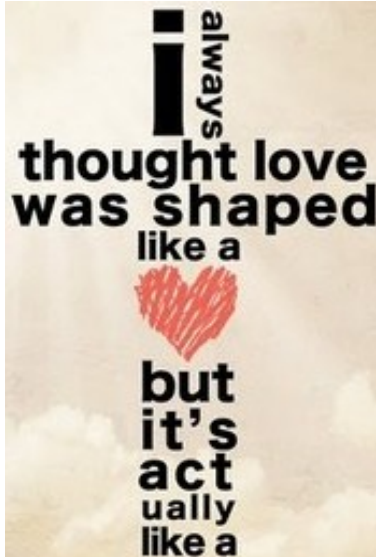
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"Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out they've got a second."

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Recently on Father's Day, my children gave me the DVD "Cliffy", a story about the 61 year old Victorian potato farmer who won the Sydney to Melbourne Ultra-marathon. In preparing for the race he had to try and manage to get his distance per day up to something like 125km. I don't know about you, but I think the greatest distance I have ever run has been about 13km, in the Senior Cross Country, when I was at school. It was completely exhausting! I can't even imagine what it must be like to run 125km in a day, not to mention the whole 862km, as it was then to Melbourne. It makes one weary to even think about it!



At around the same time I have also been reading a book by that title, "Weary" which is a biography of the life of Sir Edward Dunlop. As a Prisoner of War in WWII, first in Java and then on the Thai-Burma railway, his race was of a different nature. It was a race to stay alive and keep others alive. As he battled as a doctor amongst his troops with cholera, vitamin deficiency, malaria, not to mention the wounds inflicted by both harsh conditions and an often intolerant captive force with very slim supplies is an amazing story. It is a very detailed account of those times, and so takes quite a bit of getting into, but very well worth the effort.

Why am I raising these little snippets of 'running the race' you may well ask? To answer that is to realise that all of us in one way or another are involved in a race. The analogy of using a race to describe life is often a very apt one. There are often many priorities, busy lifestyles, urgent action that requires our attention etc. How important it is to realise Christ at the centre of all that has to be done and needs to be done in the course of a day, a week, a month, a year. Grounding this race in prayer and realizing Jesus presence with us as we meet the challenges is a vital one. Christ through his Holy Spirit can also help us NOT to miss what is important as we continue to run the race. As it is written in the Letter to the Hebrews (Heb 12:1a - 2a)

***"Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."***

De Colores,

**Fr Ian—Diocesan Spiritual Director**



**WE HAVE A NEW BISHOP !!!** Bishop Greg Thompson will be consecrated in the Cathedral as the 13th Bishop of Newcastle on February 2nd 2014. Pray for him & his family as he prepares to come to Newcastle to exercise this Ministry among us.



**“I am the vine you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit because apart from me you can do nothing.”** John 15:5

This year has brought much challenge for the Cursillo family. We have tried to engage as many people as possible with Regional Renewal Days. Our aim was to encourage people to bring new prospective Cursillista’s to these days. I encourage you to think about this when they are advertised again next year. God is calling us to be part of the vine and bear much fruit. Cursillo is the branches in so many parts of our Diocese. I look at how Cursillo has been used to further God’s kingdom in the past 23 years in our Diocese. *Jeremiah 29:11* **‘For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.’**



God does have a plan for each of us and that is exciting. I pray that God will give us strength and courage to continue the Cursillo motto. **“Make a friend be a friend and bring that friend gently to Jesus.”**

2014 will be an exciting year with Grafton hosting the National Gathering in October at Coffs Harbour. I know so many people were disappointed they could not travel to Perth last year for the National Gathering. Grafton are already taking bookings so get in early. It will be their 30<sup>th</sup> birthday and combined 100 years for the Diocese. There are lots of good things planned. I ask that you support Grafton in this huge year of celebrations and make the journey to Coffs Harbour on 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> 2014 October. Let’s show our colours for Newcastle Cursillo in number.

The end of the year is fast approaching I look forward to seeing you all at the Diocesan Ultreya in November at the Cathedral.

May God keep you all safe and close to him always.  
Blessings De Colores

Cheryl Cooper  
Co-Lay Director.

**It's not the years in your life that count.  
It's the life in your years.** ~Abraham Lincoln

**Please see  
PAGE 17 for  
more  
information  
on the  
NATIONAL  
GATHERING.  
24-26th  
October  
2014**



**Grafton Diocese**  
*looks forward to welcoming you to the*  
**Anglican Cursillo® Movement of Australia**  
**National Gathering**  
**24 - 26 October 2014**  
**In**  
**Coffs Harbour, NSW**  
**Theme: Connecting with Community**



Long term goals keep you from being frustrated by small term failures

**Air:** Qantas, Virgin Blue and Brindabella operate regular nights into Coffs from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, with convenient connections to all capital cities. From Sydney, there are over 40 flights to Coffs per week, and the flight time is just over 1 hour. Hire cars and taxis are available at the Coffs Harbour Regional Airport.

**Road:** Coffs Coast is approximately 7 hours by car from Sydney and 5 hours from Brisbane via the Pacific Highway. Coffs is serviced by coaches and taxis, and there are many car hire companies.

**Rail:** Countrylink runs two train services daily from Sydney and Brisbane to Coffs Harbour. From Sydney, the trip takes approximately 8.5 hours

**Free Transport :** to and from airport, train station and coach terminal can be arranged. Please provide details on the registration form.

**Accommodation:** There is a full range of accommodation options available, from luxury resorts to budget motels, caravan parks and B & B's. Local billets may also be available.

*If you would like to be kept up to date with planning for the 2014*

*National Gathering please email [stjohnscoffs@bigpond.com](mailto:stjohnscoffs@bigpond.com) with your contact details.*

**2014: Celebrating the Centenary of the Diocese of Grafton**

DID YOU KNOW.....in the BIBLE the WORDS 'DO NOT FEAR' are written 365 times! One for each day of the year.....I haven't counted them but this is what I read. Why can't I remember this?

(Shared with permission from **SPECTRUM**—  
Melbourne Cursillo Magazine. Thanks Dianne xo☺)

**CHRISTIAN-IT-(GEN)Y 2020**

**VICAR:** Praise the Lord.

**CONGREGATION:** Hallelujah!

**VICAR:** Can we please turn our tablet PC, iPad, cell phone, kindle Bibles to 1 Cor. 13:13. And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon..

**VICAR:** Let us pray, committing this week into God's hands. Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook and chat with God.

**VICAR:** Please have your credit and debit cards ready as we shall now take tithes and offerings. You can log on to the church Wi-Fi using the password Lord909887.

Sides people, circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshipers.

Those who prefer to make electronic funds transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church and those who prefer to use iPads are allowed to flip them open.

Those who prefer telephone banking are allowed to take out their cell phones to transfer their contributions to the church bank account.

The holy atmosphere is truly electric as the cell phones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!

**NOTICES:**

This week's meetings shall be held on the various facebook group pages where the usual group chatting take place. Please don't miss out.

Thursday's bible study will be held live on Skype at 1900hrs GMT. Please don't miss out.

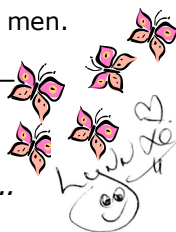
You can follow your Vicar on Twitter this weekend for counselling and prayers. Thank you.

One machine may be able to do the work of fifty ordinary men.  
No machine can do the work of **ONE** extraordinary man.

*Have a blessed CHRISTMAS, & a HAPPY NEW YEAR—I will catch you all via these pages in FEBRUARY 2014. Get your contributions in early. Love you all, God bless.....*



It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity. **Albert Einstein** ??? What would he think today?



**Report from National Secretariat held in Mackay on the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21 July 2013**



The National Secretariat meeting for this year was held in Mackay at St Charles Church. Three members of our secretariat attended Rev Ian Howarth, Cheryl Cooper and Jim Warland.

There were 35 delegates from around Australia gathered together to discuss the issues of Cursillo.

Friday evening was a "meet-and-greet" and we were well provided for by Dianne Catto & the local Parishioners National LD Diana Smith welcomed members and visitors to National secretariat and on the Saturday Vince Cooney the LD from Bunbury presented statistics for an Air Fare Equalisation Scheme to spread the cost of attending National meetings more evenly over all Dioceses. There was quite a bit of discussion about this but nothing was resolved as each solution seemed to bring its own problem.

Some highlights from the other Diocesan Reports are as follows:

**Brisbane** – Organising a Pilgrimage in Toowoomba; Hold a Cursillo Sunday show your colours; Looking at setting up a moving "Cursillo Van" to visit areas

**Bunbury** – Held a Parish Contacts Workshop

**Highveld** – Running their first independent weekends – very successful

**Melbourne** – organising workshops for Parish Co-ordinators; a Women's Retreat; a Spiritual Refreshment Day

Most Dioceses are holding regular Ultreyas

**General Problems** felt in many Dioceses were:

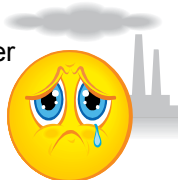
- Spiralling Costs
- Difficulty with shortage of numbers
- Difficulty with venues
- Communications – getting the message through
- Sponsorship Follow-up
- Late Applications

We were all invited to share the vision of a **National Pilgrimage to Darwin or Alice Springs in 2016**. Quite a few expressed enthusiasm for this – but some expressed concerns as to how it could be organised in those two places as there need to be "feet on the ground" to get it together and both venues are very light-on with personnel. (Continued over page.....)

**\*\*\***  
**Are you part of the Inn Crowd, or are you one of the Stable few?**

Everybody gets so much information all day long that they lose their common sense.

The resignation of Bishop Keith Slater as our Episcopal Overseer was accepted with deep regret. A list of names was put forward for our new Episcopal Overseer. These are to be consulted over and then we are to vote on his replacement as soon as possible.



**Dates and Venues for future meetings:**

**2014—9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May, 2014** – Melbourne – Secretariat meeting at Holy Cross Templestone

**23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> October, 2014** - Coffs Harbour (Grafton Diocese)  
National secretariat followed by 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> October- National Gathering, 30th Birthday and 150 years of Diocese .

**Manual Review**

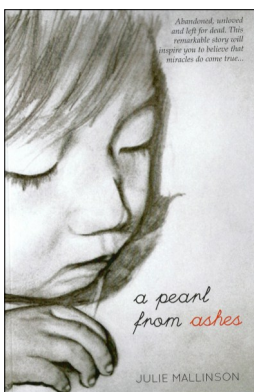
The updated ACMA has been made available and has been downloaded. We will make arrangements for printing in a similar format to previous manuals.

**Palanca Co-ordinator**

The role of the Diocesan Palanca Co-ordinator was discussed at the request of Diana. Her understanding of the role is that the Co-ordinator should send to and receive Palanca from other Dioceses & liaise with the National LD. In our Diocese this is done by the Co-LDs and we will discuss this at our Secretariat Meeting. {Our Diocesan Palanca co-ordinator is Lorraine Phillips who does a great job - Thanks Lorraine!}

**Bishop Bill Rae** celebrated Holy Communion on Saturday evening and a final Eucharist on Sunday. Our thanks go to the Diocese of North Queensland for being wonderful hosts.

**De Colores from your Co-Lay Directors Jim Warland and Cheryl Cooper.**



**A Pearl from ashes**

Author -Julie Mallinson's.

A Pearl from Ashes is the story of how God cares for both the fatherless and the alien.

**The fatherless** little pearl was found abandoned outside an internet cafe in central China in spring of 2008. At sixteen months she weighed a meagre six kilos and continued to deteriorate over ensuing months following admission to an orphanage. Upon discovery that she was infected with HIV, she was isolated and had no

hope or future. **The alien:** Julie Mallinson's life has been transformed through countless experiences, including orphan camps, earthquakes and sleepless nights, to not live in China but to survive the arduous (over)

**Diocesan Ultreya 2013**



WHERE: Christ Church Cathedral Newcastle

WHEN: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013

TIME: 9am for 9.30am service

DAY CONCLUDES: 1pm

THINGS TO BRING:

Bring your lunch, a cup, your Cross, name tag

Mission Praise

and your best singing voice.

Contributions of \$20 for The Encourager will be collected on the day.

The days of the week  
**WITHOUT GOD**  
SINDAY  
MOURNDAY  
TEARSDAY  
WASTEDAY  
THIRSTDAY  
FIGHTDAY  
SHATTERDAY

**7 days without God makes one weak.**

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Hello to you all,  
I am the new Spectrum Newsletter Editor for the Melbourne Anglican Cursillo.


I made my Cursillo in 2004 W27 in Melbourne and have been on team a number of times.

I look forward to sharing our experiences via the newsletter and will be happy to share content if you are interested.

Please email me with any requests and after checking with the author of the article(s) I will send you the article as an e-copy.

Please note: the [spectrum@melbourneanglicancursillo.com](mailto:spectrum@melbourneanglicancursillo.com) email will be redirected to my home email address.

Many thanks  
De Colores  
Dianne Jones.



## 2013 DEANERY ULTREYAS still to come.

### Lake Macquarie

This year Ultreyas will be held on Friday nights, at 6 for 6.30 and Sunday afternoons, at 2 for 2.30. Contact Chris Plumridge 4976 2144

|               |                |              |              |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Belmont North | 27th September | Friday night | Ntaba St.    |
| Toronto       | 25th October   | Friday night | Brighton Ave |

### NEWCASTLE DEANERY

The dates for the Ultreyas for the year in Newcastle Deanery are as follows:

|              |                |              |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Kotara South | 20th September | Friday night |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|

**October - Vacant (Synod is 25th-27th October)**

### CENTRAL COAST DEANERY

|                  |                         |             |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Toukley—St Lukes | Saturday 28th September | 10am—12noon |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|

### MAITLAND-PATERSON DEANERY

|                   |                |                     |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| * Raymond Terrace | 13th October   | Sunday 12.30pm      |
| Singleton         | 29th September | Sunday 1.30 for 2pm |

(To be held in the Flory wing at All Saints, High St, Singleton)

**\*\*Please note\***

Raymond Terrace Ultreya on Sunday the 13th of October (*date has changed from last Encourager*) will start with a bring and share lunch at 12.30pm and the Ultreya will start at 1.15.

Jim Cleland is the Lay leader on the day.



**EVERYONE is welcome at Ultreya.**

Why not invite a friend or a family member to next one you attend? See you there!

and sleepless nights, to not live in China but to survive the arduous adoption process.

This is an honest account of the struggles—and joys—faced by missionaries living abroad and how amidst the fears and cultural challenges, God shows himself as both loving and good.

Finally, this is the true story of the 'great and awesome wonders' that were witnessed by many as the fatherless and the alien were united as family, and the first HIV positive Chinese child was adopted into Australia.

This is an awesome story, I highly recommend it to you as proof of what our God can do when people fully serve him.

The cost of the book is \$15. If anyone is interested please email me and I will arrange copies for you.

Great Christmas present?

Blessings and De Colores Cheryl Cooper.

**Note:** *Our beautiful Cheryl Cooper knows this family and has taught this little girl. ☺☺☺ Ed*

### DIARY DATES still to come for 2013

September 20th-22nd—NSTM Learning Weekend & OLM Retreat, HVR

November 9th—NSTM Learning Day Three, BTAC

November 12th—Clergy Professional Development Day, St Johns R.T.

November 30th—St Andrews Day Ordinations, Cathedral

### CHANGES — NEW CONTACT for SOUTHLAKES.

Roy Fitzpatrick  
email—[royfitz6@hotmail.com](mailto:royfitz6@hotmail.com)  
PHONE NUMBER 49801574



### VERY IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!!!!

## **WOMEN CELEBRATING OUR FAITH**

will be held 2nd-4th MAY 2014 at the beautiful Hunter Valley Retreat at Quorrobolong.

**THEME:** *Spirituality C21st - Me, Us and Them*—WATCH THIS SPACE and your PARISH PEW SHEET for further updates.

**Enquiries: Val Shevels (02) 4952 7701**

# CONGRATULATIONS to the TEAMS & CANDIDATES of W43 & M43

Women's 43 Team ← → Mens 43 Team

5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2013

SIDE-BY-SIDE CURSILLO Kurri Kurri TAFE



## Sue Royal

Ann Dendle  
Julia Roberts  
Canon Sally Gero  
Rev'd Janet Killen  
Shirley Patmore  
Lynette Shrubbs  
Yvonne Hinde

\* TABLES

Wendy Seddon \*  
Helen Bednar\*  
Wendy Tillott\*  
Billie Baillie\*  
Glenda Grono\*  
Julia Roberts  
Debbie Gill\*  
Carol Johnston\*  
Lynette Shrubbs  
Karen Sullivan\*

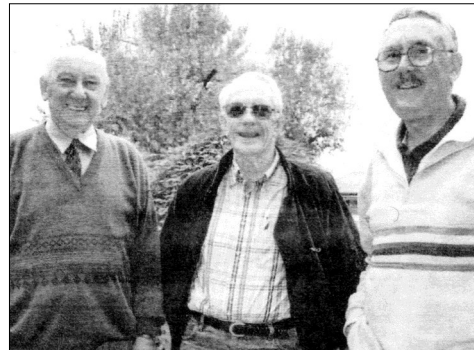
← LD →

Proctor  
Proctor  
Spiritual Advisor  
Spiritual Advisor  
Muso  
Gopher  
Gopher  
Ideal  
Grace  
Laity  
Piety  
Study  
Apostolic Action  
Leaders  
Changing the Environment  
Christian Living  
Christian Community

## Brian Walsh

John Francis  
Brian Taylor  
Ian Howarth  
Michael Birch  
John Davidson  
Michael Howlett  
Bill Nicolle  
Bruce Fraser\*  
Bill Nicolle  
Vernon Wildy\*  
John Francis  
Bob Royal\*  
Michael Sinclair\*  
Garry Roth\*  
Barry Cox\*  
John Davidson  
Bill Baillie\*

Quote from W43 (team) : 'Having M43 along side was interesting, men operate differently than women (nothing new), but it added another dimension.'



**Kairos 7—June '13.** Pictured L-R, Hank Ruigruk, Tony Farmer, Noel Boyce. (Glenda & Bill (Nicole) & Ian Stephens were also on team.)

**GIVING HOPE TO INMATES.** BRINGING the word of God into the hearts of prison inmates might seem like a challenge too great to achieve. But for three Singleton men, it is something they do as part of the Kairos Regional Committee at the St Helier's Correctional Centre in Muswellbrook and their experience is one of great success.

It is about helping bring rehabilitation to the incarcerated through the possibility of hope and positive choices.

The 1000 Kairos volunteers now working throughout Australia tell the inmates that they have a choice. Volunteers reach out to family and friends of those inmates by saying they are not alone and offer juvenile offenders the positive message that there is a better way ahead.

"At Kairos, we know we can't fix their problems or solve the causes, as people have to be allowed to make their own decisions, but we can help them to recognise, choose and live new lives," Mr Ruigrok said. "It also makes a difference to the wider society by helping to reduce the recidivism rate & therefore reduces the cost of further imprisonment."

"Kairos is making a difference to individuals, families and friends with whom we come into contact and it also makes a difference to the environment of the correctional centres we access and to the next generation as they experience a change in the family members who begin and therefore model, a lifestyle without crime," he (Hank) said. "It also makes a difference to the wider society by helping to reduce the recidivism rate and therefore reduces the cost of further imprisonment."

\*\*Today, Kairos is active in more than 400 prisons worldwide. ....  
\*\*In Australia Kairos is operating in 23 Correctional Centres....

(The above photo and story was in Singleton newspaper on 23rd May this year, I tried to scan article to share but the print was too hard to read so have shared bits and pieces of story. Ed)

ROCK BOTTOM became the SOLID FOUNDATION on which I rebuilt my life.



**"Bowed Down – Lifted Up"**  
Philippians 4:13



**"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."**

1 Peter 5:6-7







### "I was in Prison and you visited me" Mt25:36

My name is Rod Thomson and I am the Lay Leader of the next Kairos at Cessnock Correctional Centre.



Kairos 20 at Cessnock is well under way. We have about 30 people from most denominations, both lay and clergy, training together at the Anglican Church hall at Beresfield on a fortnightly basis. Our training requirements of about 35 hours are spread over 7 training days. The Kairos Course is being ably assisted by Prison Chaplains, Reverend Di Langham (Anglican) and Major David Prigg (Salvation Army)

Much of our training focuses on learning about the need to obey the strict security measures within the Prison. We also learn about Prison Culture and some of the forces at work inside the walls. Kairos 20 is being held from **15 to 18 October**. There will be 18 inmates as guests (candidates) and 4 inmate servants (gophers). The team tries to help the men feel a sense of family, by demonstrating the Love of Christ through our interactions with them. That's why we stay together as table communities for the 3.5 days.

**You can support us with prayers, letters and more prayers, biscuits and more prayers and perhaps small cash donations and of course more prayer.** For details on the special requirements for biscuit ingredients and suggestions for the wording of letters please 'phone.

- \* Maria Page (Catholic Cursillo) Agape coordinator 4987 6046
- \* Rod Thomson (Men's 10 Armidale) 4975 4762
- \* Stuart Bell (Men's 4 Newcastle) 4943 1924
- \* Bill Nicole (Men's 2 Newcastle) 4975 2134



(Introduction to story on next page.) 'Of all the programs one would expect to see happening in a correction centre, there is one that probably won't come immediately to mind. A team of men and women of all religious denominations are regular visitors at correction centres around the world. Here in Singleton three men are among the team of 30 who regularly provide hope and faith to the inmates at St Helier's.'

Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have. - Margaret Mead

Quote from W43 (team) : 'We had 4 husbands and wives, 2 couples on team and 2 couples were candidates.' (How GOOD is that?)

## WELCOME CANDIDATES of W43 & M43



- Robert Marsh - Tea Gardens
- George Davis - Cessnock
- Fr James Cooper - Cessnock
- Robert Southcombe - South Lakes
- John Archer - Nelson Bay

- Terri McInerney- Belmont
- Helen Edwards - Belmont
- Rosemary Allen-Merewether
- Maureen Marsh-Tea Gardens
- Kim Roberts—Stockton
- Helen Tucker. -Mallabula
- Marilyn Webster-Cockle Bay
- Judy Harris. -East Maitland
- Beth Adey - South Lakes
- Elizabeth Cooper-Cessnock
- KerryAnne Martin-Wyoming
- Mary Horn. - Gresford/Paterson
- Beverley Lewis -Kotara
- Wilma Holmes -Muswellbrook
- Crystal Passfield -Wallsend
- Sharon Whitehead - Stockton
- Julie Pyke - Stockton

# Welcome

**You Are Invited to a REUNION AND FOURTH DAY WELCOME**  
Come and share with everyone involved in

**Men's and Women's 43**  
New veterans, sponsors and the teams.

**St Augustine's Merewether SATURDAY**  
**19th October 2013**  
**9.00am – M/tea/chat.**  
**9.30am to 3.00pm:**  
Welcome Day Program

Lots of singing, remembering, encouragement and information from Servant Community to help you in your Fourth Day

**Please Bring:**  
Your own mug, lunch, cross, name-tag, group reunion card and "Mission Praise" (if you have one) and a gold coin donation.  
Tea and coffee will be provided.

## Women's and Men's 43

Kurri Kurri TAFE 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Women's and Men's Cursillo 43 celebrated a wonderful time of companionship at Kurri Kurri TAFE on the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of September. This was a side-by-side weekend with both teams at the same campus for the weekend but in different areas of the TAFE.

The weekend was a great success with 17 women and 5 men attending and the support from our Servant Communities was amazing! The final Eucharist was celebrated by Bishop Peter who has always been a great encouragement to Cursillo in our Diocese.

A big **WELCOME** 😊 to candidates of M43 and W43 for 2013!!!

Continued from page 10)....The attendance by our fourth day community was overwhelming with numbers of about 200 across both gatherings. Everyone said that the venue and setting of the TAFE was beautiful with birds and kangaroos roaming the vast land area - and 1<sup>st</sup> class accommodation.

However "the best plans of mice and men" often go astray and on Sunday the team and candidates had an unexpected event!!! They were put into **lock-down** for around 2 hours as there was an escaped prisoner on the loose. (No - it wasn't one of the Lay Directors!) It is amazing what God can do to make sure it is a closed community.

All was good - the dogs were sent out with no results so it was safe to come out of lock-down. (We didn't have to send out a raven or a dove...).

We have an amazing God who wants us to share His love with all we meet and He has given us the Cursillo method to help do this. His presence during the 3 days (and particularly on the Sunday) was awesome!

So, in the coming months let's pray and then start preparing for our 2014 Cursillo 3 days. We need to start talking about Cursillo (not in Spanish) and Share our vision with others. **I... YOU... WE...** have a mission!

*"Make a friend be a friend bring that friend gently to Jesus."*

**Blessings Cheryl and Jim Co-Lay Directors**



**WE ARE THE BIBLES THE WORLD IS READING;  
WE ARE THE CREEDS THE WORLD IS NEEDING;  
WE ARE THE SERMONS THE WORLD IS HEEDING.**

Billy Graham

**Sue Royal shares an extract of her W43 talk with us.....**

*"Our theme this weekend is Bowed down, Lifted Up, from 1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. **Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.**"*

*We humble ourselves, to seek, to discern and to do God's will, and it is not in our strength or wisdom, but God's hand upon us at the right time and place. God wants us to bring our concerns to Him and give us a purposeful life." (Thanks Sue xo☺)*

**A few comments from Candidates of W43 & M43.** (Thanks `nise xo)

\* Came a bit cranky but Cursillo has been one of the most humbling experiences I've ever had. I had lost faith in the laity but this has put me in my place and liberated me at the same time. \*Want to bring family/friends into this community.....

\* Felt the gentle love of Jesus. \*Inspirational.

\* I've laughed a lot, cried a lot, ate a lot and shared a near death experience 'with a spider'. Gained a bigger church family. \* I am not alone...

\* Came wanting to see the face of Jesus, to hear His voice and to know a bit more about heaven. I saw His face in everyone here. I heard His voice. It was just like heaven.

\* Cursillo is like community on steroids!

\* Overwhelmed—enjoyed the laughter, fellowship, food. Felt God touch me in the chapel. It was like a waterfall that took away my pain.

• Have been in pain for many years and unable to sit for more than an hour—I have sat all weekend.

• **THANK GOD FOR CURSILLO**



**PRAY for SYRIA**



**NEED AN ARK? - I NOAH A GUY!**