

The ENCOURAGER IS THE MAGAZINE OF THE CURSILLO Movement in the Diocese of Newcastle, NSW. -
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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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The colder winter months are a great time to write a contribution for next Encourager.



HAVE YOU MADE A CONTRIBUTION FOR 2014?

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 **Encourager** contribution or ANY payment by Direct Debit these can be made to: BSB 032501 A/C: 130926 **BUT YOU MUST** email our Treasurer Noeline Darcy n.darcy@bigpond.com with the details - thanks.*

Mail to:
Encourager Contribution
PO Box 174
Waratah NSW 2298

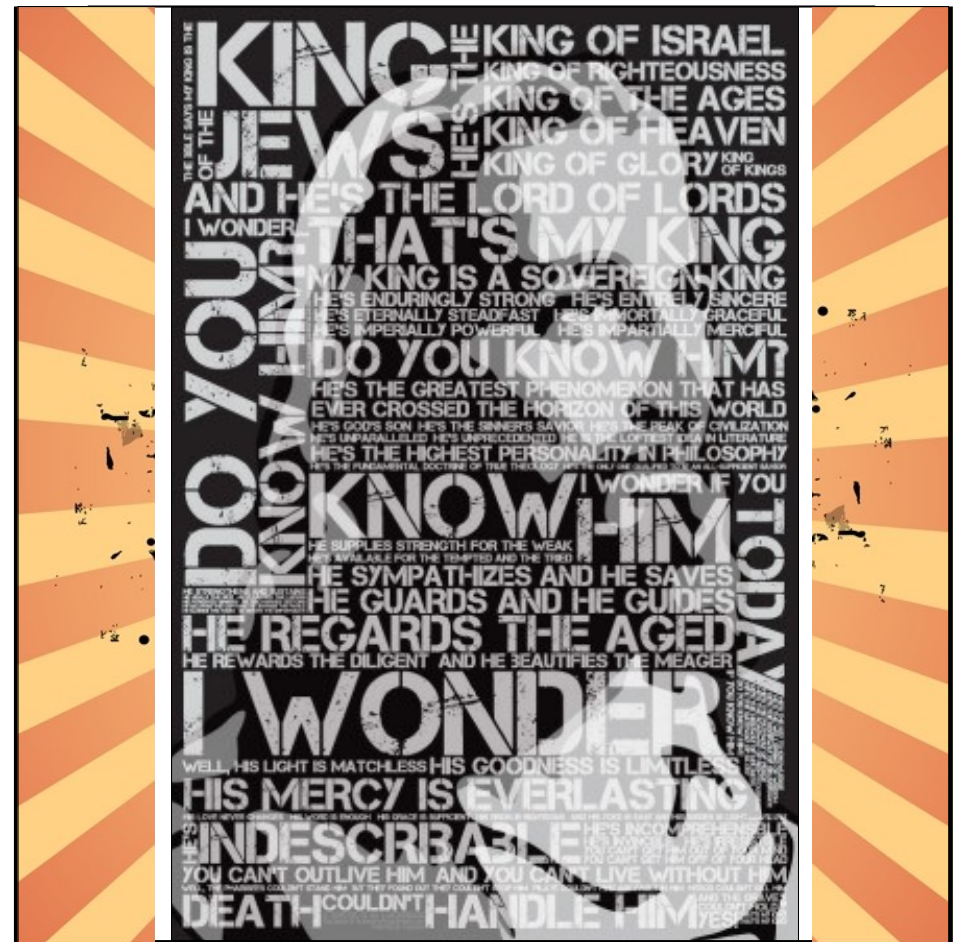
WEBSITE INFORMATION

Anglican Cursillo in Diocese of Newcastle (Including 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.) 20



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WINTER 2014

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SECRETARIAT MEETS ON
1st TUESDAY of EACH
MONTH @ St Pauls
Beresfield.



Please pray
 for
 Secretariat
 on these
 dates.

June—3rd
 July—1st
 August—5th
 September—2nd
 October—7th
 November—4th
 December—2nd

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**Swansea.**

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Please direct prayer requests through  
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Len and Jan Goff..... 6541 3230

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Valerie Morris ..... 4981 2471

### New Lambton.

Noelene Lentfer ..... 4956-1525



## Rev. Stephen—Diocesan Spiritual Director

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
Now that we are in the season of Easter, we think about new life and transformation. One of the things that fascinates me is the differences between Organisations and Movements. The way these two things operate in our world can sometimes look so similar and yet at their heart is something very different.

Organisations work on *rules and regulations*, they're about following the manual and the correct procedure, anyone can do the job as long as they follow the instructions. A Movement focuses on *values* and passing these on to those who come next, anyone can be involved but they must learn the values and the culture.

It is a trend in our society at the moment to be more of an Organisation than a Movement. We see this in how everything must have rules and regulations, but no one stops to correct poor manners. A society that has movement values, will together correct poor manners, or poor values in those around it.

It is interesting that the Christian Church always seems to go through the struggle between being Movement and Organisation. When in times of trouble, an Organisation aims for more rules, more regulations, and more reports. When a Movement encounters times of trouble, it goes back to its values: it goes back to who it is.

I believe that Jesus started a Movement, not an Organisation. It is interesting that when you build the church you sometimes get disciples of Jesus, but when we make disciples we always get the church.

Cursillo as a renewal movement of the church is, at the heart of it, about discipleship, about values. Yes, we have manuals and regulations, but who we are is about the values we hold dear. Cursillo is about the discipleship that we have been taught by those who went before us and called us to pass on. It is not just about our experience but about 'who do we now pass this on to?'

For God so loved the world he didn't send a committee.....

"Atheism is a non-prophet organization"

By the time you learn the rules of life sometimes you're too old to play the game.

St. Paul understood that it was values not rules that made the Christian and that these values needed to be held on to and passed on.

(2 Thessalonians 2:15)

*"So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter."*



De Colores,  
Rev. Stephen Bloor

*This organization is created to prevent you from going to hell. It isn't created to take you to heaven.*

### WHY WCOF?

### WOMEN CELEBRATING OUR FAITH 2014

Women hardly need something else on their bucket list. Women ARE involved with Family, Other Women, Men, Home, Work, Sport, Art, Craft, Politics, Study, da da, da da, dada!

What about Witness?

What about friends in the non-church/non Christian community?

What about no more War?

The achievement of Women Celebrating Our Faith 2014 seems to be community r. & r. with a spiritual sense of looking at how we might be Christians in the multicultural world. Through exploring "Spirituality in C21st" we could discover how God is present in his world.

The Leader, Val Shevells, and her Team produced a surprising array of challenging items on the programme including excellent guest speakers, Phil Ashley-Brown, Sharon Claydon, Lyn Porritt and Dean of Brisbane Cathedral, Peter Catt, who highlighted the theme of "Me, Us and Them" with

thought-provoking analogies and a "Listening Circle"



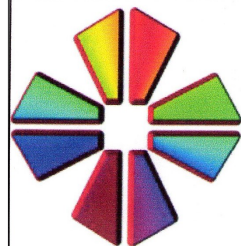
It was quite remarkable that a deeply connected yet diverse community of sisters in Christ should enjoy being together so much. This followed the trend of previous women's weekends, and will recommend us to bring more friends to the next one in 2016.

Great fun at Hunter Valley Retreat

The five separate fingers are five independent units. Close them and the fist multiplies strength. This is organization.

## DIOCESAN ULTREYA

### Saturday 1st NOVEMBER @ Taree! 'ray!



### RENEWAL/ENCOURAGEMENT DAY

21st June @ BATEAU BAY

Encouragement for one another.....

Let's get-together

**ALL WELCOME.**

Cuppa 9am—start 9.30am

Bring lunch, name tag, notepaper, pen & Bible.



(Q.) Why do flies chase garbage trucks? (A.) They love fast food!☺☺☺

### NATIONAL SECRETARIAT: "A Fly on the Wall" (Continued from page 10)

(4 Questions about Cursillo)

1. What is the core purpose of Cursillo?
2. If Cursillo ceased - would your Diocese be impoverished?
3. Where is your energy going to be in serving the Kingdom of God in the next 3 years?
4. List 4 practical ways a National Pilgrimage to the Red Centre might fulfil the Mission of the Church. (i.e. Proclaiming the Gospel; Nurturing believers; Serving the needy; Standing for Justice; Caring for Creation...) Can you think of any?

And, of course, more important to us flies - there was plenty of good food about! Of course it depends on what sort of food we are talking about & that's food for thought, isn't it?

THERE'S NO FLIES ON (J)HIM!!



### The Fly



## De Colores

may the colours of God's Love go with you

## 2014 DEANERY ULTREYAS



### Central Coast Deanery

|                |                       |             |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Wyoming        | Saturday 24th May     | 2pm—4pm     |
| Terrigal       | Saturday 26th July    | 2pm—4pm     |
| Lakes Anglican | Saturday 13 September | 10am—12noon |

### Newcastle Deanery

|                     |                  |        |
|---------------------|------------------|--------|
| Birmingham Gardens  | Sunday 25th May  | 2.30pm |
| Mayfield/Carrington | Sunday June 29th | 2pm    |

(Mayfield has 90th Anniversary previous week)

|              |                    |            |
|--------------|--------------------|------------|
| New Lambton  | Friday July 18th   | 6 for 6.30 |
| Lambton      | Friday August 15th | 6 for 6.30 |
| Kotara South | Friday Sept. 19th  | 6 for 6.30 |

SYNOD 24th—26th October @ BTAC

### Maitland Paterson Deanery

Raymond Terrace Sunday Oct. 12th 12.30pm lunch  
Bring and Share lunch—Ultreya begins at 1.15.

### Lake Macquarie Deanery.

|                                             |                       |              |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Charlestown.                                | Sunday 25th May       | 1.30 for 2pm |
| Windale.                                    | Sunday 22nd June      | 1.30 for 2pm |
| Morisset.                                   | Friday 25th July      | 6 for 6.30pm |
| Cardiff.                                    | Sunday 24th August    | 1.30 for 2pm |
| *Redhead*                                   | Friday 26th September | 6 for 6.30pm |
| @ Holy Name church, Hutchinson St, Redhead. |                       |              |
| Toronto.                                    | Friday 24th October   | 6 for 6.30pm |

**\*\*Please note: In last Encourager the September Ultreya at Redhead was not included.**



## W44 TEAM

|                                             |                                      |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nicole Baldwin (LD)                         | - Group Reunion/Ultreya & Fourth Day |
| Lyn Carter (Proctor)                        | - Joy of Giving                      |
| Debbie Gilbert (Proctor)                    | - Joy of Giving                      |
| Barbara Slade (Musos)                       |                                      |
| Rev'd Ann Watson                            | —Sacraments 1 & 2                    |
| Rev'd Judy Walsh—Faith & Obstacles to Grace |                                      |
| Jan Baihn (Gopher)                          | - Grace                              |
| Laurel Mitchell (Gopher)                    | - Christian Living                   |
| Kristy Gallacher (IT)                       |                                      |
| Patsy Carpenter                             | —Laity                               |
| Kate Dornan                                 | —Study                               |
| Jeanie West                                 | —Community in Action                 |
| Chris Plumridge                             | —Ideal                               |
| Elizabeth Walter—Changing the Environment   |                                      |
| Roseanne Gaut                               | —Leaders                             |
| Val Morris                                  | —Piety                               |
| Deidre Peebles                              | —Apostolic Action                    |

**Theme: 'GATHERED TO SCATTER'**

**Theme scripture:** "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... And remember I am with you always"  
Matt 28.19-20.

**Theme Song:** 'Teach me to Dance'



Nicole wrote: *Our theme took shape as I considered what it means to be a part of the community of Cursillo and what I hope that W44 would achieve as part of the ministry of Cursillo. It also says something about who I am, the journey of faith that I am a part of, and what I believe to be the critical message of Jesus; that is, to share God's love with all people, by living life confident in God's presence with us and focussed on others.*

**\* W44**  
**CURSILLO**  
28th - 31st  
August @  
HUNTER  
VALLEY RETREAT.

**\* W44**  
**Welcome**  
**Day**  
27th Sept  
2014  
Somewhere  
really nice TBA.

## GUESS WHO?



It's No. 88 for Encourager and No. 44 for W. Cursillo. Just noticed that and thought I'd share it!

**DAVID MARSH Prayer Coordinator:**

**Mens 18**

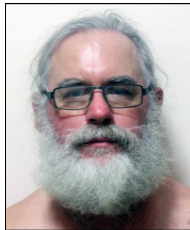
I reside in the Parish of Kincumber, on the Central Coast.

I work for Gosford City Council in the bitumen Seal Crew.

I enjoy doing photography, gardening and building lego models in my spare time.

I attend the 8.00am, 10.00am and 5.00pm services on a Sunday, doing various activities at each service. I have attended church all my life and have performed many different roles within the church.

I have been on team for Cursillo 4 times, servant community, currently parish contact and now I am on secretariat in the position of prayer request/vigil co-ordinator.



What is the centre of gravity? The letter V.



Did you see the recent LEGO Movie? The message was **'YOU ARE/WE ARE ALL SPECIAL.'**

Being part of God's family is like being in a LEGO family—we are all different colours, shapes and sizes but when we all work (fit) together—things happen!!

**Fourth Day Care/ Applications Coordinator:**

**CHRIS PALMER**



My Cursillo story began in the 1990's during a discussion at a Diocesan day of learning. We were asked to share in groups the answer to the question, "What things have impacted greatly on your journey of faith?" Someone in

the group said Cursillo. Other heads nodded in agreement. I said "What's Cursillo?" When invited to attend a W14a Cursillo weekend in 1995 I said yes. I went with a sense of wonder, thinking, "I wonder what God has in store for me". I went looking for a sense of direction in several areas of my life. Two experiences that I still remember quite clearly that had a huge impact on my life were the Emmaus walk and the healing service.

**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**

**Air:** Qantas & Virgin Blue operate regular flights into Coffs from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, with convenient connections to all capital cities. Hire cars and taxis are available at the Coffs Harbour Regional Airport.

**Road:** Coffs Harbour is approximately 7 hours from Sydney and about 5 hours from Newcastle and 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.*

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

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



## 5000 POPPIES APOSTOLIC ACTION

Red wool, red felt, red anything that will make a 6-7cm (2.5-3") flower, and thousands upon thousands, with black-centred contrast, is a means of drawing our Australian multicultural community together in a project to recognize how the World War of 1914 – 1918 affected not only the European continent, but the African, American, Asian and Australian.



Until a few months ago 5000 Poppies Projects were only happening in other places - Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand, (google 5000 Poppies!) but St Albans Forster saw the possibility of good community building in Newcastle Diocese and began their own in partnership with their local RSLs.

In August this year Bishop Greg would like to embrace the project throughout the Diocese as a Centenary Service of remembrance is held in the Cathedral commemorating the British Declaration of War. If your parish craft group or groups of individuals would like to start their collection, partner with their Returned Soldiers contacts, and make their own "Field of Poppies" you will find poppy patterns for knitting, crocheting and more on our *Cursillo website*, the *5000 Poppies website* or from your *Deanery and Parish Contacts!*

One simple pattern is 10 rows on 60 stitches of 2 plain/2 pearl rib, decreased K2 together all along the 11<sup>th</sup> row, slip 2 Knit and pass slip stitches over all along 12<sup>th</sup> row and gather 10 remaining stitches together with tail of yarn. Sew ends together. Stocking stitch 8 rows on 8 stitches of dark green or black yarn and gather into a ball with plain side out to sew into the centre of your poppy. You can stitch a small memorial in the name of a relative or friend underneath.



Pray as you stitch, to **"MAKE A FRIEND A POPPY AND INVITE THEM TO CHURCH"** to help Australia remember the sacrifice of the Son of God, as well as the sacrifice of world citizens in war.



### HOW DID THE POPPY BECOME A SYMBOL OF REMEMBRANCE?

Flanders/Belgium saw some of the most concentrated and bloodiest fights at the first world war . There was complete devastation. Buildings, roads, trees and natural life simply disappeared. Where once there were homes and farms there was now a sea of mud, a grave for the dead but where some men still lived and fought. Only one other living thing survived and that was the poppy, flowering each year with the coming of the warm weather, their red colour an appropriate symbol for the bloodshed of trench warfare. **The poppy brought life, hope, colour and reassurance to those still fighting.**



LIFE is like an ice-cream cone—the minute you think you've got it licked.....it drips all over you.

Sometimes good things fall apart so better things can fall together.

In 1998 I was asked to do a Witness talk for Nelson Bay Ultreya. In a Lenten bible study I was doing at the time, David Bowden said, "The next time you are asked to do the impossible, don't automatically decline the invitation. Take a closer look to see whether this is an opportunity to learn more about yourself, others and God himself...just by being available". I said yes.



In 2000 my husband Lewis went to M25 and has since been asked to be on team twice. I remember him saying, "If you ever get a chance and are asked to be on team, say yes". In 2012 I was asked to be on team for W42 and I said yes.

It was like revisiting making my Cursillo through the eyes of someone older and wiser and more able to focus on others rather than self. It gave me a much larger picture of the Cursillo movement and how it impacts on people's lives. Now I say to others what my husband said to me, "If you're ever asked to be on team for Cursillo say yes".

In 2013 I was asked to join Secretariat as Fourth Day Care/Applications Coordinator. In keeping with the rest of my Cursillo journey I am ready to see what God has in store for me. The story continues.

When someone today says, "What's Cursillo?" I hope I'm ready to share as well as my brothers and sisters did back in 1990. **Chris Palmer**

**THE EMMAUS ROAD** story teaches what *accompaniment* means: walking together, sharing in conversation about what really matters, extending hospitality to strangers, breaking bread together. Companions trust that Christ joins us on the journey, reveals God's love for us in the Word and Table fellowship, and fills us with good courage to go forth in his name. We serve others most profoundly not by giving them things or by doing things for them but by accompanying them on their way.

Don C. Richter *Mission Trips That Matter: Embodied Faith for the Sake of the World.* From page 97 of *Mission Trips That Matter: Embodied Faith for the Sake of the World* by Don C. Richter. Copyright © 2008 by Don C. Richter. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Upper Room Books.

## CHANGES

• Belmont North will be holding an **Ultreya** on **Friday 26th September** at the **Holy Name Church, Hutchinson Street, Redhead** at 6.00 pm. (This was missed from last Encourager)

• **Jack Lloyd** will be replacing **Jenny Friend** as **Gosford Parish Contact**. Phone **4343 1512**. email [jlloyd@australia.edu](mailto:jlloyd@australia.edu)

• **Cessnock Parish Contact** has been changed from **Lynn Dunncliff** to **Neville Whittaker**—14 Mountain View Road, Kitchener—Phone 49915729

• **Note:** Phone number change for **Chris Palmer** & phone number and email change for **Julie Roth**—see page 2—Secretariat contacts.

• **Note:** Changes made to back page re: **direct debit**.

## GUESS WHO? . . . . .(from p.5)

Yes, you might recognise them a bit better from recent photos below... Before they moved to Queensland, **Jim & Cheryl Cooper** celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary at Nelson Bay with their Parish congregation and friends. Unfortunately the occasion was marred somewhat by an injury that Cheryl suffered.....(see story on page 9)



*The first thing to come to my mind when I saw this BIG FOOT photo of Cheryl was (not the pain and suffering she must be going through) but—'that's very appropriate , for Cheryl (well, Jim also!) leave BIG FOOTPRINTS in the heart of everyone they meet. Ed.*



Cheryl always has a smile on her face! ☺☺☺☺☺

HAPPY 40th ANNIVERSARY with many more happy ones to come. xo.xox



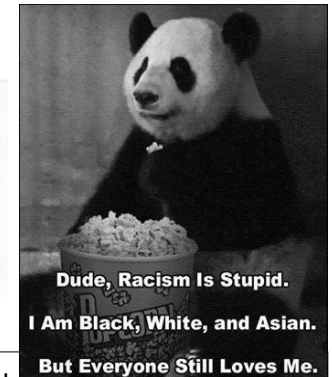
## Across Borders

One of the joys of the fourth day in the Cursillo movement is that it crosses borders and diocesan boundaries. I was introduced to Cursillo at my local parish in Charnwood, ACT by David Smith, who suggested that I should attend the short course on a three day weekend. When I left Canberra before completing one, he became my sponsor at Men's 68 held at the James Byrne Centre in Toowoomba, Queensland. One of the Team members was Alan Gray who had moved to Mount Lofty in Toowoomba from Long Jetty on the Central Coast of NSW. Alan and his wife, Sharon suggested that I make contact with other cursillistas when I moved to Gosford. Since arriving, I have been able to attend an Ultreya at Christ Church in Gosford. Through listening to an inspiring talk from Vernon Wildy of Kincumber, I have been able to join his active group reunion which meets weekly. Through skype this group maintains contact with a former member who now lives deep in the Hunter Valley. It is a blessing to share our experiences of Apostolic Action, Piety and Study. Friendships made through Cursillo transcend distances.

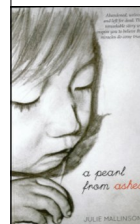
De Colores.

Jack Lloyd, Cursillo Contact, Gosford. (Thank you Jack. ☺ xo.xo)

Jesus is for life, not just for Easter



**"A PEARL FROM ASHES"** was a great recommendation from Cheryl Cooper last year. I have loaned copies of this book to family and friends. My daughter said how well the embodied Bible quotes suited this compassionate story of Pearl, who with HIV+ was rescued, from a short life in a Chinese orphanage and certain early death, and adopted by author, Dr Julie Mallinson and husband. They now live in this Diocese. I agree with my daughter and urge more readership. Helen Fraser





From page 11.....

It is sad, that for some, this is the first time in their lives that they are able to receive without a demand for something in return, or put away the masks and just be themselves.

The team, who has a background in Cursillo or similar programs, spent considerable time team building over a 12 week period of preparation training. The program is followed up with regular "Journey Meetings". These occur twice each month for an evening session.

We do not know what seeds have been planted. However, we all trust in God's love and desire; and pray earnestly that the germination will indeed provide hope for the future. The hope is that the young men will move toward saying "There is a better way". Our hope – my hope – is that it will be a future that will embrace a friendship with Jesus. But we all travel at our own pace on this journey!

God is indeed good.

(Fr. Chris Bullock)

**You may not like me but Jesus thinks I'm to die for (:**



"Life teaches, Love reveals"

Jesus is the light in the tunnel



Please remember to pray for next Kairos #8 at St Heliers Muswellbrook –9am Monday 26th May until 3pm Friday 30th May. Join the Prayer vigil.

GOOD THINGS HAPPEN EVERY DAY. WE ONLY HAVE TO NOTICE.



Mr and Mrs Bill Plaizier

**BIG congratulations to Bill Plaizier & Robyn Carroll** who were married on 26th April at their beautiful home in Maitland. Robyn (W19) and Bill (M17) said the day was 'just perfect'.

How wonderful! (I love these friends. (Oh!.....I love you too!@@@))

Please hold both Bill and Rob in your prayers and thoughts during this time of Bill's illness and treatment.

They are so very aware of the power of prayer.



...the greatest of these is LOVE.

**And now.....some news from the photogenic couple themselves.....(thanks J & C for this up-date. xoxox)**



### Farewell from the Coopers

*Hello to all our Cursillo friends in Newcastle from Jim and Cheryl Cooper.* Some of you may be aware that we have left the state and moved to Collinsville in Queensland.

Jim has taken a job with Glencore as the Safety Manager. We intend to live up this way for about 5 years.

Jim is enjoying his job, it is good to see him tired but happy doing what he is trained to do. Jim has 7 weeks of University exams left then we can settle into country life.

I would like to thank you all for your prayers. I fell and broke my ankle in 3 places in the mini cyclone that hit Nelson Bay a month before we were to move. God provided some very kind friends who have helped both at Corlette so Jim could start work and others who travelled to Collinsville to unpack and set up our new home. God has truly blessed us with such amazing friends and family.

I spent about 10 days with my sisters and mum and dad in Forster before staying with each of our children in and around Newcastle.

Recovery is slow and we travel to Townsville to visit the Orthopaedic Dr which is 3 hours away.

I am still in a boot and walking with the aid of crutches.

We have joined the church family in Collinsville. We are small in number which is about 7 people but we make up for that with such a loving and welcoming environment.

There is no minister but we have a lay person leading our services who is lovely.

Yes we have been asked to assist with Lay Ministry and I was asked if I would go to Synod in July. Not sure as I don't know what my mobility will be like at that time.

I will see you in October at the National Gathering in Coffs Harbour. I am excited as the Bishop from North Queensland will be attending.

Jim and I would love to see anyone who is travelling our way to the Cape or Cairns we are on the way. We have spare beds and room to park a caravan or 2, it is a big yard.

If you need an address please contact us on email: [jimcheryl@bigpond.com](mailto:jimcheryl@bigpond.com).

Blessings to you all in the Cursillo family and may God continue to bless his work throughout the Diocese of Newcastle.

Love Cheryl and Jim Cooper  
De Colores and Ultreya.



**THANK YOU**



My very excited 6 year old grand-daughter, Shae, recently went on holidays to Queensland with her family to visit the theme parks. She caused much laughter by informing everyone she talked to..... "We are on holidays in Queensland but we really come from AUSTRALIA? Ed.

Isn't it wonderful that Christians never say 'Goodbye' for the last time?

## " A Fly on the Wall" at National Secretariat :

*Friday evening:* Shsshhh... Here we are at National Cursillo Secretariat in Melbourne...

Let's see if we can observe what happens in the 'corridors of power'...

Wow! They are talking about Newcastle's questions raised about Cursillo last year! "What is the original purpose of Cursillo?" Have our ideals changed over the years? How can we best serve Christ in the future? Big questions...

Some Diocese suggest side-by-side Cursillos; others mixed Cursillos; or multi-cultural Cursillos; Shortened Cursillos... But we fly on...

*Saturday:* Boring stuff like Treasurer's Report; proper Governance; how often will we hold our Secretariat meetings (apparently 6 every 4 years - starting with 2 next year - this is too complicated for any fly to understand...)

Wait a minute- our Episcopal Adviser (Bishop Ian Palmer) raises issues like 'who should be invited to Cursillo?' Only regular Anglicans? or anyone interested? That's a bit radical - sounds a bit like the stuff Jesus was on about! That will never fly ???

But back to the Agenda - our NLD wants each Diocese to have a Palanca Co-ordinator who scans the net for interstate & overseas Ultreyas & events & receives & sends Palanca... (*I think we could use a new Spanish word for the position - Navegador {means browser}*) - just joking, of course...

On to the National Gathering which is no longer a "Gathering" but is now called the **National Ultreya** at Coffs Harbour. It is all go!!! Get to the website & register - don't be a fly on the wall - that's **my** job!



DLD Jim with his NOAH play.

*Sunday:* There seems to be a lot of praying going on - & yes... There goes the white smoke! They have elected a new National SD - Revd Susan Allen - from Bendigo, of all places... She was spoken of very highly - Let's hope there is still gold in them there hills!

Meanwhile back at the ranch... Bishop Ian has set us 4 questions about Cursillo....(continued page 17)



New Cursillo Nat. Episcopal Adviser Bp Ian

## Kairos Torch

Some comments following the recent course at Baxter Juvenile Detention Centre, Karing. By **Fr. Chris Bullock**



I had participated in Kairos at St Heliers previously, but this was my first time with Kairos Torch – Kairos with a focus on young people. It goes without saying, I was somewhat tentative; and that probably applied to the boys as well!

The Kairos Torch program is the way Kairos reaches out to juvenile offenders, saying "There's a better way."

The Kairos Torch program encourages young offenders to realise their potential through creating a safe environment, allowing them to learn what life can be like in a loving, caring and trusting community.

The goals of Kairos Torch are:

- \* To provide a safe place for exploration (emotionally and spiritually);
- \* To offer unconditional acceptance;
- \* To encourage the sharing of life journeys and help troubled youth realise there is a potential to stop the cycle before they get in too deeply;
- \* To foster personal growth in all its forms; and to promote participation in the long-term mentoring process that is a core part of the **Kairos Torch program**.

All of this has the overriding goal of enhancing positive self-esteem, promoting constructive life choices, developing relationship and community and stopping the spiral that can only lead to further trouble.

Our program took place over 2 days. We had 18 boys – young men – and ourselves, a team of approx. 25 that included both men and women. The Chaplain, Rev'd Ramsay Nuthall, is to be warmly thanked for his key role in establishing and facilitating our program. It was not long before the table communities settled into some deep discussion – as many profound ideas were placed on the table to talk about. One young man told me that they talked about stuff in their group that they would never have spoken about outside of this company, certainly with others inside.

We – the team and the boys – are very grateful to those who committed to prayer for the duration of the program. It is difficult to estimate the impact on the boys of knowing that they were surrounded by prayer throughout the whole time. Most of the participants do not have a "community of support" around them. To have people not personally known to them interested in them is almost beyond belief. The agape letters dig deeply into this new understanding about a love without demands for "pay back". Continued over page....

Looking on the bright side of life will never cause eye strain.