

The ENCOURAGER IS THE MAGAZINE OF THE CURSILLO Movement in the Diocese of Newcastle, NSW. -
Current circulation 830

Published three times per year.

Next edition: AUTUMN: - 10th February 2015
WINTER: - 11th May 2015
SPRING/SUMMER: — 7th September 2015

CONTRIBUTIONS

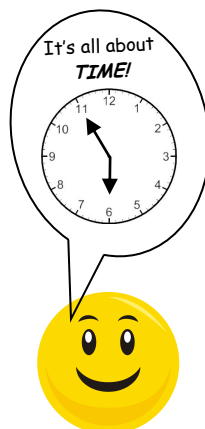
Happenings, poems, letters, photos are invited from Cursillistas. Articles should generally be a maximum 300 words, 1 page. If typing use simple formatting. If e-mailing attach in Word document or send as part of message. Please forward articles to the editor:

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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



Print Post 100003354 SEPTEMBER 2014— Number 89 Magazine of the Newcastle Cursillo Movement



SPRING/SUMMER 2014

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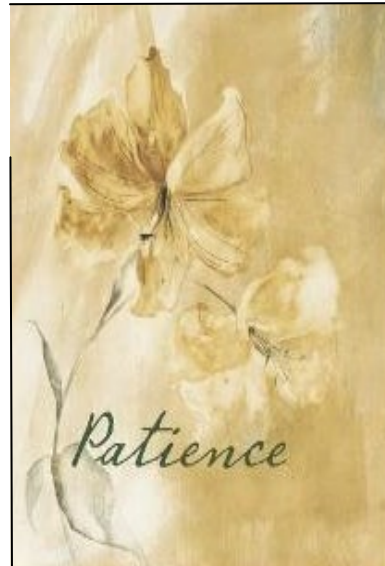
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## Diocesan Spiritual Director

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am writing to you with some sadness to say that I am leaving the Diocese of Newcastle and returning to Adelaide. It has been a privilege to be the Diocesan Spiritual Director for the past year and a Diocesan Spiritual Advisor before that.

Cursillo is such an important part of this diocese, so many of our leaders have made their Cursillo and would name it as the point at which things started to change for them in regards to taking their faith more seriously.

It is wonderful to know that this year, there have been more people who have gone on their three-day weekends and come out the other side looking at how they can serve God better. Taking people away to think about who Jesus is, was something that Jesus himself even did. (Matthew 16: 13-20) Jesus, took the disciples away to Caesarea Philippi away from their normal surrounds and asked them "Who do you say that I am?" This is the question that is at the heart of the Cursillo movement, from the weekend when we focus on who Jesus is and how we should be living out following him, to each and every fourth day. So I wonder, when did you last ask yourselves these questions. "Who is Jesus? What do I need to do in response?"

I believe when we ask these questions deeply, we will find ourselves seeking to live out God's will for our lives, sharing love and forgiveness and working for justice.

Thank you again for the privilege of being involved in the Newcastle Cursillo movement and please be assured of my prayers for you all into the future.

De Colores— Rev. Stephen Bloor.

**"Who do you say that I am?"**



Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.....

**Jim Warland wrote:** - Over the time that we have been associated I have felt a great affinity with Stephen and have valued his wise counsel. We will sorely miss him. However, we know that our loss will be a SA Parish' gain. Thanks Stephen for your input, your prayers & guidance, and your smiling countenance at our Secretariat meetings (and who will laugh at my jokes when you're gone?) Don't forget our emails - keep in touch - you could even subscribe to our website?



*It's farewell to our wonderful  
Co-Lay Director also.....*

## Be Encouraged - Onwards & Upwards

Well, it has been an incredible 3 years for me; a roller-coaster ride that has plumbed the depths and scaled the heights of Cursillo. Above all, it has been an enormous privilege to serve you all as a Co-Lay Director of Newcastle Diocesan Cursillo.

What have we achieved and where do we go from here? We have shared a journey through 'The Encourager', through our 'new' website, through Ultreyas, Three Day Cursillos and Encouragement Days together, but there is much more to be done.

Firstly, I would encourage you to support our Co-LD Helen Fraser, and my replacement (your new Co-LD & who shall remain nameless until the Diocesan Ultreya at Taree) in their task ahead. Being Co-LD is a very time-consuming yet rewarding role, but it does need your prayers, support and feed-back to function effectively - particularly your prayers.



Cursillo faces the same problems as the Church - an ageing membership and a sceptical society; and yet we are part of Christ's body here on earth. We can take one of two positions. (continued next page.....)

2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up [that which is] planted;

## CHANGES

- \* Southlakes Parish Contact is now Joe and Monika Barr—4970 5415
- \* Toronto contact phone number (only) changed—Bess Hunter—4959 2705
- \* **Note:** Changes made to back page re: **direct debit.**

## SECRETARIAT MEET ON 1st TUESDAY of EACH MONTH

@ St Pauls Beresfield. Meetings left for this year:-

- October—7th
- November—4th
- December—2nd or 5th (last meeting may change not decided yet!)



## PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL US.....

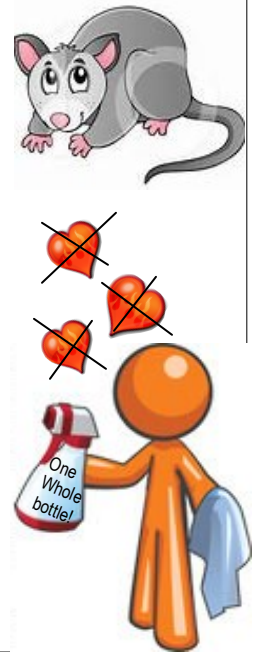
- ◆ If you have moved house recently.
  - ◆ If you have changed your phone number.
  - ◆ If you know anyone who is not receiving the Encourager.
- There is a need to constantly update our Cursillo Records and to do this we need your help.* Please email details to:  
[keithwatson@bigpond.com](mailto:keithwatson@bigpond.com) Thank you.

## A LITTLE RIDDLE FOR YOU. Once upon a time.....

They say.....when the 'cats' away,  
The mice (and others) do play!  
"Hmmm is there a *possum*bility I can fit through this little hole?"  
"Yes,!! I'm in", the furry friend did shout.  
"OOOOOps, oh no!—there's no way to get out!"  
Blissfully unawares the cats across Canada roam.  
And weeks later when they finally did return home,  
Back to winter and cool fresh air.....no, wait.....*Sniff, Sniff*.....  
Smells like something has died—well, that's a no brainer,  
Smell's coming from the **CURSILLO SHIPPING CONTAINER**,  
Seems lil' possum had a huge party when all was nice.  
Before his very unfortunate demise.  
The cats were full of *roth* & so not impressed.  
It took much hard work to clean up the damage & smelly mess.



Who are the 'cats' .....  
can you guess?



A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

Cursillistas And Transformed Souldis!!  
I poured Spot remover on my dog. Now he's gone.

2014 DEANERY ULTREYAS still to come...



**Central Coast Deanery**

Lakes Anglican Saturday 13 September 10am—12noon

**Newcastle Deanery**

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.**

\*Redhead\* Friday 26th September 6 for 6.30pm

@ Holy Name church, Hutchinson St, Redhead.

Toronto. Friday 24th October 6 for 6.30pm

**DIOCESAN ULTREYA**

**Saturday 1st NOVEMBER @ Taree**

**9am for 9.30am start**

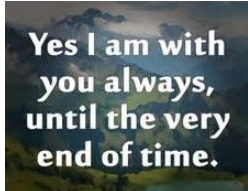


When things don't go according to your plan it doesn't mean that things are not going according to God's plan.

*"Someday everything will all make perfect sense. So for now, laugh at the confusion, smile through the tears, and keep reminding yourself that everything happens for a reason."*

"Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better and your better is best." ~ Saint Jerome

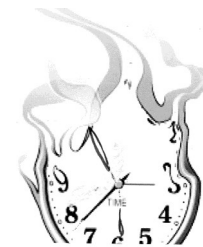
(continued from page 4....) On the one hand we can look pessimistically at our dwindling numbers and despair OR we can look for encouragement to the early Church... 12 Apostles... what could 12 human beings do that would in any way have an effect upon the world - and yet God transformed the world through them and by the sacrifice of His Son. "If God be for us, who can be against us." Romans 8:31.



Now, more than ever, our community needs an Ideal and Cursillo can help with this. Our problem is not a new one - it just manifests itself in new ways. I believe we are called to prayer and to action - not aggressive action but action as a Servant Community. We need to be following Christ's direction to Peter when He said "Feed my sheep" John 21:15-17.

To do this adequately we need open lines of communication with all Cursillistas. When we have several layers through which messages must flow, the success or failure of ventures relies absolutely on our Deanery & Parish contacts' ability to pass on information. To do this they need up-to-date addresses, phone numbers and email details (if available) for all Cursillistas. The effort to achieve this is a constant battle and can probably best be done by having update lists available for notation at Parish & Diocesan Ultreyas coupled with a regular yearly review by Parish Contacts. **You can also keep in touch by entering your email address in the "Subscribe Square" on our website at [www.cursillonewcastle.org.au](http://www.cursillonewcastle.org.au). You will then receive automatic updates when any new article is published.**

But ultimately the mission of Cursillo lies in our environments: in the Parish situation - in the workplace - in social or sporting groups - and in our every situation in life - to carry out Christ's Great Commission - "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20



De Colores & Ultreya!  
Jim

**"....go and make disciples of all nations...."**

**JESUS WALKED MANY MILES** sharing God's love and grace with all people. Now that Jesus no longer walks the earth, are his footprints deep enough for Paul to follow? [See Phillipians 1:21-30.] ... Paul, as a disciple of Christ, walked the journey of Jesus in his time and place. We, in our time and place, take up the journey. Jesus left footprints deep enough for Paul to follow, and Paul left footprints deep enough for others. Will our footprints be deep enough for future generations to follow?

*O God, we thank you for the footprints that your son, Jesus, has left and for the book that tells the story of his journey. Help us to leave footprints of care, love, and proclamation of Christ in our time. Amen. The Upper Room Disciplines 2014*



### "CURSILLO GATHERING AND SCATTERING" - W44

Ephesians 2: 19-22 speaks of the results of reconciliation through Christ; we are no longer strangers to each other but fellow citizens, members of his household with Christ as our chief cornerstone.

This Christian household of parish and diocese is intrinsic to the Cursillo Movement, and in our Newcastle Diocese we have just welcomed some new members into the broader family at a Three Day "short course", "a cursillo", at Hunter Valley Retreat.

*I repeat a thought I shared at the closing: This is not "Goodbye!" "Deep fellowship is built with confidentiality. In the safe environment of warm acceptance and trusted confidentiality people can and will open up their deepest needs, hurts and mistakes. What is shared in your group stays in your group. Also, deep fellowship is frequent. Frequent regular contact with your group builds genuine fellowship and requires the investment of time. REAL FELLOWSHIP TAKES EFFORT" (Rick Warren '40 Days of Purpose').*

The Fourth Day is the rest of our lives spent in the broad household of Christ as his servants, just as the Holy Spirit made us members of Christ's household, ideally, at our baptism. This Fourth Day spiritual discipline prepares us for wherever we are called in parish and diocesan mission.

Helen Fraser

3 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

### We are excited by the number of registrations for the National Ultreya,

So far we have 90 Cursillistas, from 10 dioceses, across 5 states, coming together for our weekend gathering, where we will enjoy fun and fellowship as we explore together the theme of "Connecting With Community".

If you haven't yet registered, we encourage you to do so as soon as you are able. Orders for National Ultreya 2014 tee shirts will close on Saturday 13 September. While registrations for the Ultreya will remain open, the planning team is hoping to have a clear indication of numbers by this date to aid in our final preparations.

Further information on the National Ultreya and the link to the registration page can be found here: <http://>

[coffsharbouranglicanchurch.org/cursillo-2014-national-gathering/](http://coffsharbouranglicanchurch.org/cursillo-2014-national-gathering/)

I look forward to welcoming you to Coffs Harbour

Love and blessings

Wendy Mabey

Team Leader

**REGISTER NOW!**

How did it get so late so soon?  
Its night before its afternoon.  
December is here before its  
June.



My goodness how the **time** has flown.  
How did it get so late so soon?

### Remember Bishop Ian's 4 questions from last Encourager?

Have you given them any thought?

- 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. (e.g Proclaiming the Gospel; Nurturing believers; Serving the needy; Standing for Justice; Caring for Creation...) Can you think of any?

## Grafton Diocese



looks forward to welcoming you to the Anglican  
Cursillo® Movement of Australia National Ultreya at Coffs Harbour.

**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**

These new veterans had a seriously hilarious *time* at W44 and we welcome them to the Cursillo Family.

Cate Ewin  
Rev'd Sue Ballard  
Barbara Flood  
Libby Archer  
Jane Johnson  
Beryl Rumble  
Janelle Tollhurst  
Jane Nicolle  
Kisten Westcott

Bateau Bay  
Lakes Anglican  
Terrigal  
Morpeth  
Raymond Terrace  
Dungog  
Nelson Bay  
Southlakes  
Southlakes



For new veterans of Womens 44 team and sponsors

### REUNION & WELCOME DAY

At St Johns RAYMOND TERRACE  
SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

9.30am COFFEE for 10.00am—3.00pm REUNION  
BYO LUNCH, MUG CARD, CROSS and TAG.

**POPPIES** are proliferating right across the Diocese; some were sent for the Cathedral Service marking the Centenary of the Declaration of WW1! Community and Church groups, school Mums, are busy knitting (100s) for the Anzac 2015 Commemorations at RSLs and School Services. Still time yet to learn to knit or crochet the famed Flanders poppy. Helen Fraser

Poppy class at Hardys Bay, Central Coast.



Time you enjoy wasting, was not wasted.



## WAMBO HALL OF FAME

(Re-printed from Singleton newspaper)

**Edward Butler**—inductee in Community Pride

Edward, known as Ted, was born and raised in Singleton and a third generation of his family to call Singleton home.

Ted's volunteer activities began as a young handy man at All Saint's Church.

### VALE TED BUTLER 6.1.28—5.6.14

In times past the ships in the port of Newcastle would synchronise their chronometers when the cannon report from Fort Scratchley sounded, precisely at 1pm, when the hollow steel ball above the clock on the Newcastle Customs House struck 1 o'clock. It was essential that the clock was to function without fail.

All Saints church at Singleton similarly has a clock by which the townsfolk set their routine, and it was the responsibility of Ted Butler to ensure the reliability of that timepiece. Every Wednesday for 49 years Ted would climb the circular stairway of the tower to wind up the clock and check that all was well. Should anything go wrong there was such a complicated procedure to set things right.

That dedication and reliability was ever a feature of Ted's life. Demonstrating a strong Christian faith, he gave his all for his beloved church and the Singleton community, and this was recognised recently in the Civic Centre, by his induction into the prestigious honour roll of the Wambo Coal Hall of Fame. (continued over page.....)



<sup>4</sup> A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;



## Wyoming Ulteya in May

### \*WHY GO TO CHURCH?\*

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church go-er wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them... So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this... They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"



\*When you are DOWN to nothing.... God is UP to something!

\*Faith sees the \*invisible\*, believes the \*incredible\* and receives the \*impossible\*! \*Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!\*

Thanks Jim for sharing above. xoxox

There is no wrong time to do the right thing.



Time is the best teacher; unfortunately it kills all of its students.

### When I say, "I am a Christian"

by Carol Wimmer (Shared by Jim Warland- thanks Jim xoxox)

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I'm not shouting, "I've been saved!"  
I'm whispering, "I get lost!  
That's why I chose this way".

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I don't speak with human pride  
I'm confessing that I stumble -  
Needing God to be my guide

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I'm not trying to be strong  
I'm professing that I'm weak  
And pray for strength to carry on.

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I'm not bragging of success  
I'm admitting that I've failed  
And cannot ever pay the debt.

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I don't think I know it all  
I submit to my confusion  
Asking humbly to be taught.

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I'm not claiming to be perfect  
My flaws are all too visible  
But God believes I'm worth it.

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I still feel the sting of pain  
I have my share of heartache,  
Which is why I seek His name.

#### When I say, "I am a Christian"

I do not wish to judge  
I have no authority...

**I only know I'm loved**



"If you are breathing God has a purpose for you. As long as you have breath somebody needs what you have. Your gifts, your talents, your love, your smile."



This is a special prayer shared by John Willis—M19.

Thank you John. xoxox  
God is with me now,  
Closer than breathing, and nearer than hands and feet.

God has made me for Godself.

I come from God,  
I belong to God,  
I go to God,

God has a use for me, now and forever.  
Amen.

5 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing.

(.....continued from page 7)

Ted was a volunteer *par excellence* and his work included provision and maintenance at the St Elizabeth's Girl's Home, holding numerous positions within the church, assisting his wife Betty as they ministered to the Kosova refugees during the Safe Haven period, the Samaritan Group Homes, Crossroads, and he willingly used his carpentry skills to repair toys, pieces of furniture, and did any restoration on church property that was needed.

Betty and Ted were regular participants at Diocesan functions, especially at the Bonhoeffer conferences, and Cursillo events, and he served on team. People warmed to them, and to Betty & Ted, friends became family.

A poem recently discovered, author unknown, has much to say of our appreciation of Ted's life.

### THE MEASURE OF A MAN

Not—how did he die? But—How did he live?  
Not what did he gain? But—what did he give?  
These are the units to measure the worth  
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

Not—what was his station? Not—what was his creed?  
But—had he befriended those really in need?

Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer,  
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?  
Not—what did the sketch in the newspaper say?  
But—how many were sorry when he passed away?

(Many thanks to Rev Sheila Bourne for above words about Ted xoxox)

Happy is the person who learns to wait as he prays and never loses his patience, for God's time is the best time.

SOME-TIMES you will never know the true value of A MOMENT until it becomes A MEMORY.  
Dr Seuss.



**Bill Plaizier - a Tribute**  
(Thanks to Rev.Sonia Roulston xxxo)

On Saturday August 30, we lost a great friend to many - **Bill Plaizier**. Bill is known to many in both the Cursillo and Kairos communities, was a parishioner at Raymond Terrace and then Morpeth, and has touched many people's lives through these communities as well as in his work with youth and adults in the wider community.

Bill was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1943 in Rotterdam, Holland, and he maintained a love of Holland throughout his life, he hoped to return there for a visit earlier this year, but a fast moving cancer diagnosis sadly made such a trip impossible.

Bill had clear memories of growing up during the Second World War in Holland, and experienced at first hand both the very real poverty and the fear that came from living in wartime Holland. His family moved to Australia when Bill was 11 - his parents, 4 brothers and sister - settling at Cardiff South. When they first came Bill saw an orange orchard, and having never seen so many oranges, many freely available, thought Australia to be a very rich country.

Bill began his working life as an electrician at BHP. He was involved in RYLA - the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards - which began his road to youth work. But it was an encounter with Trevor Waring, then at the Newcastle Youth Service, that led to this work being full time for him, and unlocked those gifts that helped so many people. Bill was a gifted youth worker, with a reputation for being the one to help people when no one else could. In recent times families and individuals have been able to tell Bill what a difference he made for them. In more recent years Bill has worked as a counsellor, and again shown great patience and wisdom in his area.

Bill met Robyn Carroll through both Cursillo and their parishes. They have been great companions for each other for 21 years, and we celebrated their marriage with them in April just gone.



6. A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;



Outside of work Bill loved soccer - and was both a talented player and coach. In July he and Robyn drove to his daughter's home in Swansea to watch the Netherlands play in the World Cup. Needless to say he was disappointed with the outcome (as were many fans) ... though he did enjoy the traditional Dutch breakfast with his family afterwards.

Bill was a very giving and generous man, who gave of himself totally for others in work and life. He was insightful, honest, loyal, kind, rational, caring, and faithful.

During the time of his treatment for cancer Bill and Robyn prayed daily, leaning on God for their strength. This became a treasured time of knowing God's presence with them in a very real way.

Bill is survived by his wife Robyn, son Bill, daughter Alison, son-in-law Anthony and grandchildren Max and Indra, and step-daughter Anna. Bill Plaizier was a good man - we meet few like him and we shall miss him.

7. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

**The Clock of Life**

by Robert H. Smith

*The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power  
To tell just when the hands will stop  
At late or early hour.*

*To lose one's wealth is sad indeed,  
To lose one's health is more,  
To lose one's soul is such a loss  
That no man can restore.*

*The present only is our own,  
So Live, Love, toil with a will  
Place no faith in "Tomorrow"  
For the clock may then be still.*

Robert H. Smith

At the **August Diocesan Convention** parish 'family groups' met to study "The Call to Discipleship" and the call to "Listen to Common Grace". Present beyond parish boundaries was the warmth of fellowship of the cursillo family, thanks to acceptance and support of both bishops and clergy. Romans 12: 5.6, 'in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each belongs to all the others, having different gifts according to the grace given to each of us.  
Helen.