

Published three times per year.

Next edition: WINTER: - 11th May 2015

SPRING/SUMMER: — 7th September 2015

AUTUMN: - 10th February 2016

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:

Lynn Mulley.....Phone (02) 4987 3249

**6 Watt Street,
RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324**

e-mail: benlouann@bigpond.com (NEW e-mail server**)**

We all have 50
much to share.
I'm waiting for
YOUR
contribution for
May Encourager?



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 **Encourager** contribution or ANY payment by **Direct Debit** these can be made to:
BSB 032501 A/C: 130926 **BUT YOU MUST** email our Treasurer Noline 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.)

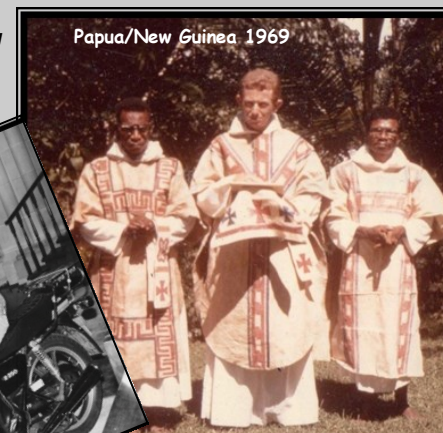


Print Post 100003354 FEBRUARY 2015—Number 90 - Magazine of the Newcastle Cursillo Movement

Fr Gary Parker—50 years Priest in the Diocese of Newcastle 1964—2014.....



'.....instrumental in encouraging the Newcastle Diocese to bring the Cursillo movement to Newcastle.....'



"...to ride his motor bike down the aisle of the Cathedral .."

Newcastle Cathedral 1992

Story page 15.....



AUTUMN 2015

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**SECRETARIAT MEET ON 1st
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@ St Pauls Beresfield.**

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Diocesan Spiritual Director

Stephen Niland - Men's 7, 1992 - Table of St Luke



I am very humbled to be writing to you as the newly commissioned Diocesan Spiritual Director. This appointment certainly came out of "left field" as the saying goes.

The Cursillo Movement continues to play a significant role in the life of our Diocese. The Diocesan Ultreya was a wonderful celebration of the ecumenical nature of our movement where we were joined by our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters. The sense of community came through very strongly in Nicole's witness talk and the image of an archaeological dig - with its many layers - connected well with what we are all about. We are all members of multiple communities - and these will only work if we take time to build, grow and maintain our relationships with each other. Armed with some basic biblical knowledge about the town of



Bethsaida, the location of the dig, Nicole joined a whole new community of people - drawn from all walks of life - on a journey that has become one of the important structural foundations of her faith and the way in which she relates to others. Notice how she began - respectfully and slowly - beginning to uncover things initially hidden from view. With patience - and time - and love - and care - and respect - she began to identify the structures being carefully excavated.

(Continued over page.....)

Every archaeologist's career is in ruins.

Nicole began to discover walls - ultimately constructed during different time periods - and a door. That's how it needs to be in our relationships as well - we need to be patient - take our time - and as our levels of trust and understanding begin to establish and grow between each other within community, we will give each other the privilege of uncovering things - at all different levels - that between us become part of each other's stories.

At the time of writing, we have just made it through an enjoyable, fruitful and fulfilling week of Christmas celebrations. Within Harrington -Coopernook parish we have enjoyed community Carols by Candlelight at both Coopernook and Harrington, a Blue Christmas service and a raft of Christmas celebrations across our parish centres which included a Baptism on Christmas Eve and another four baptisms just after Christmas. The predominant feeling across all of these celebrations was one of community togetherness through diversity rather than being dominated by one particular group.

As we look forward to what 2015 will bring, may we, like Abraham - as described in the letter to the Hebrews - look forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. The foundations and the structures upon which we all seek to build our lives of faith and our relationships, need to have God as an integral part. May God, through his loving grace,

JOURNEY
OF
Faith

bless you richly.

Fr Steve



Life is like an onion. You peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep.

NEWCASTLE ULTREYA dates for 2015.

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

Fri Jan 16 - Cathedral

Friday March 20 - MICA

(Easter is April 5)

Sunday May 17 Birmingham Gardens

Friday June 19 - Merewether

Friday July 17 - New Lambton

Friday August 21 - Lambton

Friday September 18 - Kotara South

(Synod in October?)

Friday 16 October - ANEW



The only true life there is springs from the cross.

DIOCESAN ULTREYA

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
Saturday 7th November 2015

LOVE LIFE
LIVE LENT
TRANSFORM YOUR WORLD



Jim Warland: "A HUGE THANK YOU to all who attended our **Diocesan Ultreya at Taree** on 1st November 2014! Many thanks to Fr. Keith Dean-Jones for extending the hospitality of his Parish & to Bishop Peter for his support. Also thanks to all those who assisted or participated"



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.

Belmont	27 th February	Friday night	Church St.
Swansea	27 th March	Friday night	Josephson St.
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 whilst Friday nights will be tea. Bring and share is expected at each venue.

CENTRAL COAST

Sat ... March 7th 2—4pm ****(BYO lunch 1pm)**
St Andrews UMINA

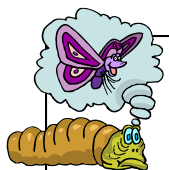
Sat .. May 23rd 10am-noon All Saints THE ENTRANCE

Sat .. July 11th 9am-2pm 4TH DAY Lakes Anglican KANWAL

Sat ... Sept 5th 10am—noon St Lukes TOUKLEY

Sat ... Nov 14th 10am—noon St Christophers BATEAU BAY

Enq: Bruce Fraser 4360 2231/ 0437602200



Shared before but I LOVE these words: "Like a butterfly coming out of it's cocoon may the resurrected and living LORD come to you in LIGHT and BEAUTY everyday.' Have a BLESSED EASTER.



Diocesan Co-Lay Director

Brian Walsh - Men's 35 table of St James at Morpeth in 2006.

I can still vividly remember my Cursillo experience and although it wasn't all that long ago compared to a lot of others it was a most memorable time of learning, reflection and joy and in many respects a time of consolidation. It remains a significant milestone in my Christian journey.

I never in my wildest dreams thought that I would ever be considered as a team member, then a Lay Director and now a Lay Diocesan co-director. I am humbled at the prospect and even though the immediate future is daunting I am quite excited at the challenge. I would never have even considered accepting this role if there was any doubt that I didn't have the encouragement and dedicated support of my fellow Cursillists and the ever present comfort of God's Holy Spirit.

I am absolutely delighted at the prospect of working alongside Helen Fraser who has already been a great encourager and mentor. Together I'm sure we can make good things happen to the Cursillo program. I'm also very much inspired by the encouragement of my predecessor Jim Warland who has also given me confidence and a promise of being a helping hand in the future. Thanks Jim.

I firmly believe that the Cursillo program remains an important part of our Diocesan outreach need and should be encouraged to the full by our 60 or so parishes.

To be able to enhance the Christian Journey of others is an awesome privilege and adds to the excitement of this opportunity. The Closures experience never ceases to inspire us.

I guess I should bring my past experiences and brief history with all its faults to the table as I commence this role, so at least we may get to know each other a little better.



I was born in Sydney in 1939 and have attended an Anglican church all of my life, and yes I am an old guy with a white beard and soon to have a similar coloured hair. In 1962 I married Judy and we moved to Cessnock at the end of 1969 as a requirement of my employment as a Technical Teacher which commenced in 1967 at Sydney Technical College. A time of country service was mandatory then and our call was to Cessnock. We settled into country life pretty well with our two children Suellyn and Peter and were soon joined by our next addition to the family, Naomi. We have enjoyed our time here very much and have met many friends and as a consequence elected to stay on after our time of country service was ended. After retirement from teaching, we moved to a rural environment for a time and after selling decided to move back into Cessnock for our twilight years where we are living now.

From the very first Sunday that we arrived in Cessnock some nearly 45 years ago we have been actively involved in Parish life. Except for holidays and unavoidable absences we have been regular members of the congregation and have both experienced pretty much most facets of church office with all its ups and downs. Judy and I ran the Alpha course at Cessnock for many years and have both since completed the Bishops Certificate and Diploma. Judy has been called to ordination as a locally ordained priest and I am a Eucharistic assistant and Lay Reader. I have business interests and enjoy a busy and productive existence with church and family life very much my prime focus.

If I was asked what particular area of concern would be my priority in this new administrative role for Newcastle Cursillo, I would have to say to bring more men into the Cursillo family. I know from first hand experience how difficult it is to bring together a group of men as candidates for a Cursillo weekend and perhaps it is time for us to consider new ways of doing so.

There are myths out there that need to be dispelled.

- It's a secret society and I want no part of it.
- We have enough going on without getting involved in more.
- Oh! for goodness sake, Cursillo has run its race and needs to be put to bed.



You'll never find a rainbow if you're looking down.

The garments Fr Gary wore on 21st Dec.2014 are the same ones he wore in 1964—he joked that he could still fit into them whereas most women couldn't still fit into their wedding gown!!!! @@@@

Hmmm, speaking of old past its! - Oops sorry, old Pastors.....!



As a priest who has spent half a century serving the people of Port Stephens and the lower Hunter, **FATHER GARY PARKER** has become a familiar face around the area. The affable Anglican priest, known to many for his operatic baritone style voice, **celebrated 50 years of service in December 2014**. He was ordained at Christ Church Cathedral in Newcastle on December 19th 1964, and celebrated his first Eucharist the next day in vestments, made especially for the occasion by his wife Benita.

Before entering the priesthood Father Gary was a secondary school teacher with appointments to Kogarah Boy's High School, Casino High and Gloucester High. He studied theology at St John's Morpeth in 1962-63. Apart from three years as a missionary in Papua New Guinea, Father Gary spent his entire ministry in Newcastle Diocesan parishes in South Lakes, Kurri Kurri, Hamilton, Charlestown and Raymond Terrace.. Although retired for 12 years, he still regularly does relief work in the lower Hunter and assists in the Clarencetown parish, celebrating the Eucharist, performs marriages, funerals and baptisms and is still active as Karuah RSL Chaplain."

On 21st Dec Fr Gary celebrated his 50 years in the priesthood at the altar in St Columba's, Karuah with the local congregation. For the first time in his ministry he had Benita, his wife, assist with the chalice. That must have been a special moment for both Benita and Gary. The R.T St Johners who attended the service had a wonderful morning- memories plus! He's still got it!

While in the parish of Charlestown Fr Gary heard about the "new" Cursillo movement and he and a parishioner, Geoff Rigby travelled to Bathurst Diocese to make their Cursillo, at Men's 15, 1989 at Wellington. They returned to the Diocese with only the enthusiasm that attending a Cursillo can give and were instrumental in encouraging the Newcastle Diocese to bring the movement here. Fr Gary has, over the years, been on team as Spiritual Director (SD) and at the time of his retirement he was Diocesan Spiritual Director. Benita and Bev (Rigby) attended the Women's Cursillo W14, at St Faiths, Dubbo that same year (1989) Fr Gary was also on team as SD for the first Kairos at Cessnock gaol.

On two occasions Benita and Gary did parish exchanges in England. The first was in Swindon in the Diocese of Bristol in 1993 and Stanhope in the Diocese of Durham in 1997. These were great experiences both for them and the parishes involved.

Finally he was possibly the only priest in the Diocese and maybe even Australia to ride his motor bike down the aisle of the Cathedral to illustrate the 'parable of the Good Samaritan' for the combined Diocesan GFS and CEBS Rally dressed in jeans, singlet, bandana and boots!! Yes, things have changed!!!

(Part story R.T. Examiner—Dec '14—thanks to Benita for extra info. & photos xoxox)

Sometimes I need what only you can provide: your absence." (I really do love Fr Gary (& Benita!) - this is pay back!! @@@@)

HEARD IN THE 'BUS (Story and cartoon Shared by John Willis—Men's 19)

"Oh, its good to sit down, Mrs Smith. Standing in that 'bus queue such a long time pays me out something cruel. But I must tell you about the Rector. We don't speak any more."

"Goodness me, Mrs. Brown, you don't say....."

"Yes, I do. He's that touchy, and I was only telling him for his own good. It's like this, I says, the trouble with the church is that most of the priests are too old, I says. Every pastor should be under forty."

"Quite right, Mrs, Brown, and what did he say to....."

"Well, you know how obstinate he is. He just looked at me in that funny way he does, and said, "And what do we do with the priests that are over forty, Mrs Brown?" but I refused to be drawn from the subject like that."

"Of course, Mrs Brown, as my husband used to say....."

"I'm not talking about the old ones, I says, I'm just saying that they should all be young and then there wouldn't be no old ones to worry about, and he didn't know what to answer to that."

"What would be the advantage of having them all under forty?" He asked, all simple like.

"Well, I says, that's obvious, I says. Then we could have car drives and dances and summer camps and outings on holidays, and such like. I says, and look at the difference that would make to the Parish."

"Oh" he says, quite uppish and nasty, "you don't want a priest," he says, "what you want is a paid youth organiser, and then you could wear out your shoes and your immortal souls at the same time", he says.

"Oh, I says, you don't mean to be reasonable when a lady speaks, so good morning, Rector, I says, and walked away."

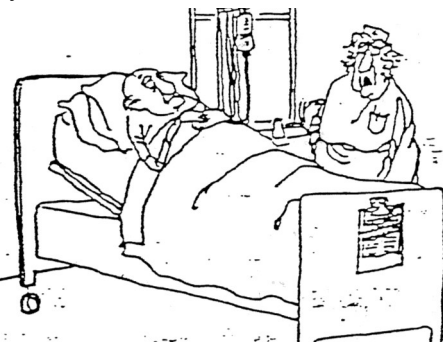
"Good for you, Mrs Brown, that's just what....."

"Well, this is where I get off. I'm going to change my doctor."

"What, that curly-headed young man that's been attending you?"

"Yes, Mrs. Smith, and that's why. Curly-headed he may be, but when it comes to a doctor, I've got no use for a young man what wins tennis tournaments. I like a mature man with years of experience watching over me!"

Author unknown. (Thanks John xoxox)



Good news, Father. The vestry has voted to pray for your recovery.....the vote was 5 to 4."

"If you can't see the bright side of life, polish the dull side."



I can't get time off work to attend.
It's too expensive and I can't afford it.
I don't need any more of this church stuff.
I'm not going unless I can go with my wife.
I don't have time to go.

From what I can see they are all old blokes. I can't go I'm too young.

I'm told it can be very confronting I'm not going if I'm going to be embarrassed.

And so on!!

This is not the time to address these issues but each one of these points has a simple solution as we well know. Perhaps it is now time to look at having a concerted effort to clear them up. Point number nine for example could be seriously addressed by offering a youth program to our senior school students??

Folks I'm delighted to be part of "Team Cursillo" at the decision end for Newcastle and with your support I look forward to making my contribution to a very worthwhile and proven program as a player in an already dedicated team.

Brian Walsh.



Alone we
can do
so
little.

Together
we
can do
so much.



TEAMWORK: The fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.



THE
CURSILLO
EXPERIENCE
BEGINS when
you say in
your heart,
"Here I am
Lord, send
me."

TEACHERS CALL IT CHEATING. STUDENTS CALL IT TEAMWORK!!!!!!

Special Prayers

Please pray for
LD's **Michael Marklew**
and **Noelene Lentfer**
in choosing their teams.
For the chosen teams in
their preparation and in
choosing Candidates.



M44/W44a - Teams Commissioning

Saturday 16th May—at Morpeth

M44/W44a CURSILLOS

27th—30th August—at Kurri Kurri Tafe.

M44/W44a WELCOME DAY

19th September—at Morpeth



Application Forms for 2015 W44A and M44 are now available to download from website or from Parish/Deanery Contacts & at Ultreyas. Please note "early bird" reduced fee of \$250.00 (to encourage as many candidates ASAP) but after 5th July 2015 the Fee is \$310.00. Please also note that Secretariat will subsidise anyone who is unable meet the cost.

IS THERE SOMEONE IN YOUR PARISH YOU CAN ASK TO CURSILLO? Please pray about it!



CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU.

Deanery Poppy Projects 2015

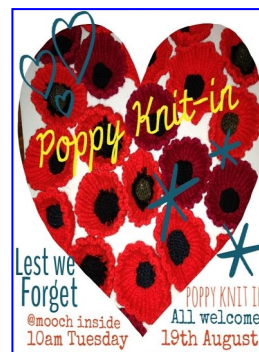
MANNING Forster/Tuncurry:

"Sticking poppies on strips of velcro loop to line the pathways for the war memorial rededication on 22nd Feb..... For ANZAC Day, we're using a pricing gun to attach the poppies to strips from large sheets. These can then be spread out over the slope behind the memorial at Tuncurry. It's taking quite a bit of time and uses up lots of poppies to cover the sheets. We've given 500 poppies to each of the small local places so have well over 8,000 now we're using for different things. People keep making them and we really do need lots to fill the area we want to cover in Tuncurry. Some small ones with brooch pins have gone to RSL members who wore them on Remembrance Day and other similar ones to school children going overseas this year to different places such as France"

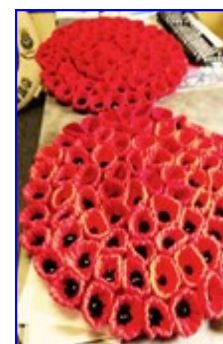


CENTRAL COAST Gosford:

The Gosford Poppy Project 2015 aims to create a field of handmade poppies to coincide with ANZAC Day 2015 and the 100 year anniversary of the First World War.... gathered together to form an enormous field of poppies in Rotary Park, Gosford. The field of poppies will be symbolic of community unity and our gratitude to all those that made sacrifices during WWI..



Kincumber: Primary



Hardys Bay: Pretty Beach School



CESSNOCK POPPIES FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY.

Quite a 'blooming' going on for WW1/Gallipoli Centenaries!
Thanks to all for this Apostolic Action of making friends with the community over the five years.
Your photos/articles about other Poppy Projects could be featured next issue.



CHANGES

- ☺ **Lynn & Tom Mulley**—e-mail address is now benlouann@bigpond.com (*what a mission changing that was!!*☺☺☺)
- ☺ **David Marsh** (Kincumber) has no landline; his contact is as under prayer vigil coordinator 0417 064 990.
- ☺ **Beryl Gilbert** is no longer a contact for Woy Woy.



30th Anniversary of Cursillo Movement in the Bathurst Diocese

“YOU HAVE CALLED MY NAME”

To be held May 1-3, 2015 at the Big 4 Parklands
154 Whylandra St, DUBBO

Book asap by 28th Feb for 10% discount for Indiv. \$175 couple/fam
\$350 robyndwyer@tpg.com.au accom list available

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

30th April—3rd May
2015—Bathurst

25th—27th
September
2015—Brisbane

SECRETARIAT

MEETING DATES: Please

remember to pray for our Secretariat.

March—3rd
April 7th
May—9th
June—2nd
July—7th
August—4th
September—1st
October—6th
November—3rd
December—1st (Dec. date may change)



I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it but by it I see everything else.

Michael Marklew—M38 Morpeth—LD for M 44

Dear Cursillistas,

I can not tell you how excited I am to be a part of Cursillo this year. When Jim called me inviting me to consider taking it on this year I immediately felt the Holy Spirit stir inside and I just had to say yes (I think he was a little taken back!). Please understand that it isn't normal for me to commit to something so quickly as I guard my time very carefully having so many commitments (work, family, church, youth group, study just to name a few) but when God calls (and I don't mean Jim, hah) who can say no?

The theme that immediately came to mind was that from 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 possibly because after my wife and I did Cursillo and were prayed over we became pregnant having tried for some 5 years before without success. It could also be due to the fact that I come to you in fear and much trembling or it could also be that my involvement is simply because God has demonstrated the power of his Spirit to me not just through Cursillo but through much of my life since. Whatever the reason you can be sure I will be praying daily for this Cursillo and believing for a demonstration of the Spirit's power come this August.

God Bless. **Michael Marklew.**



1Corinthians 2: 1-5. ***“When I came to you, my brothers, to preach God's secret truth, I did not use his words and great learning. For while I was with you, I made up my mind to forget everything except Jesus Christ and especially his death on the cross. So when I came to you, I was weak and trembled all over with fear, and my teaching and message were not delivered with skilful words of human wisdom, but with convincing proof of the power of God's Spirit. Your faith, then does not rest on human wisdom but on God's power.”*** (Good News Bible)

“Each year, Lent offers us a providential opportunity to deepen the meaning and value of our Christian lives, and it stimulates us to rediscover the mercy of God so that we, in turn, become more merciful toward our brothers and sisters. In the Lenten period, the Church makes it her duty to propose some specific tasks that accompany the faithful concretely in this process of interior renewal: these are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.”



My name is **Nicole Baldwin**, Women's 37, Table of Saint Cecilia. I live in Morpeth with my two teenage daughters, Catherine and Rebecca. I work in the banking sector and spend most of my day talking to people. It's great, I get paid to talk!!! I enjoy spending time with family and friends. I love being a part of the parish of Morpeth, where I am a youth group leader and involved in Baptism ministry, amongst other things. Being involved in parish ministries and

with a variety of age groups has given me a great appreciation of the value of community.

It is with a deep sense of responsibility that I accepted the invitation to become a member of Secretariat. I have accepted the position of **Servant Community and Palanca Co-ordinator**. In these roles I look forward to working with you, to enable and encourage members of the Cursillo community and those whom God is calling into the Cursillo community. I am passionate about building relationships; with God's help and your help, I know that we can continue to build upon the firm foundations that have been built over the years, and as we do so, we create a shared story and shared experiences.

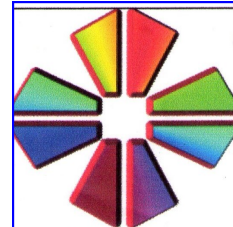
My personal journey with Cursillo began when a friend asked me if I was interested in learning more about our Christian faith. At that time, I was fairly new to church and was very interested in anything that would help me to grow and discover more about my identity as a member of God's family. Since then I have been encouraged to grow in my faith and Christian maturity by the support and friendship of so many Cursillistas. I have been encouraged to seek God and to share His love with those I meet.

May God, the one who knows our hearts, our hopes and our dreams, bless us each day. Amen



"Christians, keep the faith... But not from others!"

Don't be one to remember everything LENT, but forget everything borrowed.



**MAKE IT A
DATE !**

4TH DAY RENEWAL/ENCOURAGEMENT

WHERE, WHEN, WHY ???

21 February—Tea Gardens

30 May—Morpeth

11 July—Lakes, Kanwal

Renewal of a Cursillo 'boost'

Encouragement for our mission

Let's Get-Together—ALL WELCOME

Cuppa 9AM—Start 9.30

Bring lunch, Name tag

Notepaper, Pen & Bible



MEN'S BCF WEEKEND.

"AGAINST ALL ODDS: FAITH UNDER FIRE"

19th—21st June @

Tahlee Bible College

**ALL MEN
AGES
18+....**



Accommodation: Variety of accommodation available: Tents, Motor Home sites and Ensuites.
Cost: \$100—\$150 depending on accommodation type.

For registration forms please contact
David Beverley. 0411561866



For more information contact: **Chris Piggott 0408 561 211,**
Jim Warland 0408 291 395, James White 0400 482 088

Check out our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/758269617582558/> -updated regularly.

A blonde MAN spies a letter lying on his doormat. It says on the envelope "DO NOT BEND".
He spends the next 2 hours trying to figure out how to pick it up!!!! ☹☹☹☹☹