



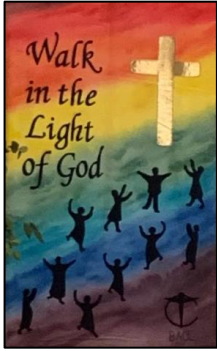
British Anglican CURSILLO News

June 2026

BACC website: <https://anglicancursillo.uk/>

Flying like eagles!

Jenny Moorby reflects on our recent Conference



THE Bi-Annual Conference this year was held in the lovely surroundings of Highgate House in Northamptonshire, attended by over 50 delegates from many dioceses, all eager to have fellowship together, to learn from each other and take shared ideas back to our own diocese. It was based on the words of Isaiah ch. 40 vs 31, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles", so waiting and listening were key to the whole event.

The sense of Christian fellowship was palpable from our first steps into the building: a warm welcome, a comfortable room and the anticipation of an exciting programme.

We began with food – of course – beautifully cooked and served. We then gathered in the Conference Room to worship and have Group Reunion.

Our worship was led by the amazingly talented Sally Mears with piano, cello and her glorious singing voice.

Saturday was our 'working day' - with four Workshops, looking at:

- **Getting the Message across** – sharing ideas about how this works in different dioceses – good communication is vital.
- **Working Together to Strengthen Cursillo** – how can dioceses support each other across boundaries?
- **Reinvigorating Cursillo** – a reminder that the unique thing Cursillo offer the church is the ongoing support structure – our Group Reunions and Ultreyas. A quote from the French Philosopher Simone Weil: "Nothing has such power to keep our eyes fixed more intensely on God than friendship with the friends of God" – a beautiful description of Group Reunion!

- **Refreshing Cursillo Leadership for a new Generation** – how can we become better at succession planning and handing over the reins to a new generation?

As on our Cursillo weekends, table discussions were at the heart of the whole weekend, and we all valued the sharing of ideas and having so many good ideas to take back to our own dioceses.

Of course, with so many joy-filled Christians, there was plenty of fun too – Saturday evening around the fire pits, singing and toasting marshmallows brought out the former Girl Guides and Scouts in the best of us!

We finished the Conference with a moving Eucharist, led by our National Spiritual Director, Michael Bolley, and after fond farewells to those Cursillistas so familiar to us over the years, and others who we had met for the first time, we went on our way home, eager to share all our blessings with those who couldn't be with us.

Like our Ultreya GB each year, the Conference is an opportunity for us to get that "shot in the arm" that comes with spending time with Christian brothers and sisters who are willing and eager to serve their Lord through this gift we call Cursillo.

We were invited to "Fly" – and we certainly took off! Huge thanks to all who were involved in preparing the Conference.

If you were unable to be there, please don't miss out again when the next Conference will be held in 2028 – I promise you too will "rise with wings as eagles"!

Ultreya GB 2026 in Chichester

Saturday 5th September 2026



CHICHESTER Cursillo Community is eagerly looking forward to giving a warm welcome to Cursillistas from across Great Britain travelling to Chichester, West Sussex, for Ultreya GB 2026 on Saturday 5th September.

Registration will be from 8.30am at **St Paul's Church Centre**, Churchside, Chichester PO19 6FT. There are some parking spaces available at the Centre for Blue Badge holders, on a first come basis. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided from 8.30am. The music group will lead us in singing as we gather for the **Ultreya Meeting** from 10am – 12.30pm. **Eucharist:** Is at 2.30pm in the Cathedral. While there will not be a procession through the town, it is hoped to do so around the grounds of the Cathedral before the service!

Friday Evening Entertainment: Beetle Drive and Fish and Chip Supper at St Paul's Church Centre at 7.30pm.

Further details including information about how to get there, parking, lunch and accommodation can be found at <https://chichestercursillo.co.uk/ultreya-gb-2026/>

See overleaf for how to book for Ultreya GB 2026.

Bookings: If you are coming, please make sure that you complete the online booking form (one for each person) so that the Cathedral can be advised of the numbers and other essential administrative tasks can be taken care of. The form can be found using the link on the previous page.

We hope to see you there!

Our new National Spiritual Director



AT our recent conference we commissioned our new National Spiritual Director (NSD), the Reverend Michael Bolley, to serve for three years in succession to the Reverend Sharon Guest.

Michael is married to Monica and they have two adult children and two grandchildren. Michael and Monica made their Cursillo together on Cursillo Cymru #5 in Llandudno in 1982 and they have both been active in Cursillo ever since.

Michael was ordained priest in 1993 and served his entire ministry in the Diocese of London, being Vicar of Holy Trinity Southall for 24 years until his retirement in 2023. He continues to be active in ministry in Hayes, Middlesex close to Heathrow Airport. Michael was Lay Rector of Southwark #3 in 1988. He was the inaugural Diocesan Spiritual Director of Cursillo in the Diocese of London and served BACC previously as NSD from 2001 to 2004.

Future BACC Events ... for your diary and for your prayers

BACC Standing Committee Meeting

Friday 4th September 2026

Ultreya GB 2026 in Chichester

Saturday 5th September 2026

Cursillo Leaders' Workshop at Pleshey

Fri 23rd to Sun 25th October 2026

BACC Standing Committee Meeting

Friday 6th November 2026

BACC Meeting via Zoom

Saturday 7th November 2026

Cursillo Leaders' Workshop at Wydale Hall

Fri 5th to Sun 9th March 2027

BACC Meeting and AGM

Saturday 8th May 2027

Ultreya GB 2027 in Bury St Edmunds

Saturday 4th September 2027

Cursillo Leaders' Workshop at Wistaston Hall

Fri 22nd to Sun 24th October 2027

British Anglican Cursillo Conference 2028

Fri 5th to Sun 7th May 2028 at Highgate House

Michael said, "My priority as NSD is to support the President and BACC Standing Committee in enabling British Anglican Cursillo to face up together to the challenges of the present time, and through prayer, study and action to navigate our way to a fruitful, flourishing and sustainable future in which the Church embraces and benefits from the gift which God has given us in Cursillo."

Are YOU the next BACC President??

OUR President Helen Taubman is now in the final year of her three-year term and we are looking for the person who will take over from her in May 2027.

We are seeking a lay person (not ordained) who has experience of leadership in the Church and in Cursillo, including having served as Lay Director in a diocese, and preferably with experience of BACC. They should be active in the Fourth Day and should have attended a CLW in the last five years.

They would need to have a passion for Cursillo, a desire to be a servant leader of the movement and the time to devote to the role, including being able and willing to travel and participate in events around Great Britain.

If that describes you, or someone you know, we would be delighted to hear from you. A full role description and application form are available on request.

Our policy is to have someone in place ready to take over a year ahead of time so that they can have some time shadowing the current President to learn the role. We weren't able to appoint anyone at the AGM in May as there were no nominations submitted in time, so our hope is to be able to make the appointment at the November BACC Meeting. **Completed applications need to be received by Saturday 19th September.**

Welcome to our new BACC Officers

WE are very pleased to welcome to new people to the BACC team as Secretary and Treasurer.

Duncan McCosh from Scottish Episcopal Cursillo took on the role of BACC Secretary in November 2025 and Dian Harrison from Southwell & Notts was appointed at our recent Conference in May. We also want to record our thanks to our previous Secretary and Treasurer, Beth and Paddy Gascoigne.

BACC Officers and how to contact them

President: Helen Taubman

email: president@anglicancursillo.uk

National Spiritual Director: Rev Michael Bolley

email: nsd@anglicancursillo.uk

BACC Secretary: Duncan McCosh

email: secretary@anglicancursillo.uk

BACC Treasurer: Dian Harrison

email: treasurer@anglicancursillo.uk