



## Greetings to all my sisters and brothers in Christ.

Well here we are and another New Year. As ever I start all my introductions with perhaps an over-used word but still for me a very meaningful description of how I feel as your Warden of Readers. It is a real privilege to serve you as your Warden, and I remain amazed and humbled at the wonderful examples of Reader ministry taking place in this Diocese. As I indicated to Diocesan Synod last October Readers do far more than 'just keeping the show on the road'!

So we move into this New Year reaffirmed in our ministry by both Bishop Paul and Bishop Richard who continue to declare and remind everyone how valued Reader Ministry is in this Diocese.

We have now, nationally as an organisation, entered into our 151st year of Reader Ministry in the C of E. Having said farewell to Bishop Robert last year, the ex-Chair of the Central Readers Council (CRC), we now welcome Bishop Martyn Snow, Bishop of Leicester as our new Chairperson of CRC.

This update contains important dates for your diary and events for you to come to or invite others along to. I will send more information over the course of the year but please book these dates now as all are designed to help us as we pray and minister together.

Yours in Christ

Spen Webster  
**Warden of Readers**

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**Breaking News - Bishop Martyn has accepted our invitation to lead the Bishop of Warrington's Annual Reader Conference 2017. (also in this bulletin there is an update from the Secretary of the CRC)**

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## Liverpool Reader Association News and updates

Supporting you in your ministry

**Sam Stanford and Debra Evans are now the contacts for ALL your Reader administration issues e.g. working agreements, annual returns, DBS information, MDRs, licence renewals etc. Contact details are Sam 0151 709 2106 & Debbie 0151 709 2130 or email both Sam and Debbie: [centralservices@liverpool.anglican.org](mailto:centralservices@liverpool.anglican.org)**

Reader Taster Session

**Please encourage people to come and find out more on a calling to Reader Ministry.**  
Saturday 11th February **2pm Liverpool Cathedral** [Details here](#)

Reader Candidates - Interviews and Selection Date

**These will take place** Saturday 13th May **9.00 – 12pm in St James House**

Summer Study Evenings 2017

20th, 27th June & 4th July **7.30pm at Select Stadium, Widnes**

**Preaching, Pastoral Care and Prophecy is a Post-Truth Age**

**Rev Canon Rod Garner has again produced an interesting study topic which is a must for every Reader to hear. Further information on the study topic and how to book will be sent out shortly to all Readers. Each evening will conclude with Night Prayer (Compline).**

**[Details here](#)**

AGM and Licensing 23rd September 2017

**Bishop Richard will be attending the licencing service. Last year we received a superb presentation from David Lawton Reader on his work in Ghana. If you are willing to share your ministry stories at the AGM please do contact me to discuss.**

Bishop of Warrington's Annual Reader Conference

19th November Select Stadium, Widnes

**Bishop Martyn will be in attendance and this is a rare opportunity to hear the Chairperson of the CRC. We hope that the conference will follow a similar format as last year's following the encouraging feedback from Readers who attended that brilliant day led by Rev Canon Paul Rattigan.**

Local Missional Leaders

**Congratulations to Reader Alan Buckley All Saints Southport on his appointment in January 2017 as LML. It is good to see Readers still hearing the call from God to this ministry whilst continuing their Reader Ministry. Have YOU considered this ministry as an extension/ partnership working in your church? If not why not discuss it with your Incumbent. We now have a considerable number of Readers who have been called to this ministry.**

Visist our Diocesan Reader web page

**Please visit [www.liverpool.anglican.org/readers](http://www.liverpool.anglican.org/readers) for key dates on events and news**

Reader Committee Dates for 2017

**6.15pm 3rd April & 6th September. Thank you to all Committee members for their commitment and support.**

Communication sub group

**Many thanks to all who responded to the survey at the end of last year. Work is progressing with the Diocesan Communications dept.**

**Transforming Wigan Project is still progressing. For further updates why not visit their website [www.transformingwigan.org.uk](http://www.transformingwigan.org.uk)**

## **Finally news from CRC**

### **Message from the CRC secretary**

There have been a lot of departures from our various CRC committees, for equally various reasons. Some replacements have already been made, but there is beginning to be a fairly serious imbalance between the northern and southern provinces. Specifically, there are already two (and may yet be more) vacancies on the Executive for "ordinary" Readers, and if you know of anyone in your diocese who might welcome involvement with Reader matters at national level, and hence might be willing to stand for election, please encourage them to give the idea serious thought. Anyone who wants to can contact me via [crcsec@hallaRN.com](mailto:crcsec@hallaRN.com) to find out more about the level of involvement that would be expected

*Thank you all for your continued prayers, personal support and encouragement  
Your servant in Christ,  
Spem*

### **USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS**

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Diocese of Liverpool website - [www.liverpool.anglican.org](http://www.liverpool.anglican.org)  
Central Readers Council website - [www.readers.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.readers.cofe.anglican.org)