



Readers Bulletin

July 2014



Summer Greetings!!!!

This is my second newsletter this year!!!

It is written the day after the news from General Synod concerning the appointment of Women Bishops. A momentous occasion for our church, and all who are members. The newsletter is also written against the background of preparing to welcome Bishop Paul Bayes in November as our new Bishop of Liverpool, also three of our Readers celebrating 50 years Reader Ministry, and the first appointment of a Reader as 'Local Missional Leader'. We have much to offer our thanks to God as He continues to guide, inspire and empower His church nationally and locally.

Since my last letter it has been an extremely busy time for many people in our Association. Reader Taster evenings have come and gone, the Diocesan Reader Summer Study evenings have come and gone, interviews held for new Reader Candidates have come and gone. In addition to these successful events there have also been many national and local meetings to attend, meetings Deanery Reader Chapters, and support to individual Readers.

It is a great privilege to work on your behalf. I do really thank the Bishop of Warrington, staff in SJH, and you for your support and prayer for my role, and also for that of your committee.

This newsletter will summarise what's happened so far this year, as we thank God for guiding and blessing our work and also to pray for what lies ahead of us for the rest of this year.

January – July

- Many thanks to Garth Raybould for volunteering to become temporary vice chair until the AGM.
- Two 'Taster' evenings held. As a result 17 candidates interviewed and accepted for training.
- Four Summer Study evenings which were well attended, new format of presentation followed by Q and A session for each evening. Huge thanks to Rev Canon Rod Garner, the Cathedral Bookshop staff, Wendy Pooley and to all those who attended the evenings.
- Work continues on reviewing the Association's constitution, the 'Guidance for Readers and Incumbents' document, and our website. The draft constitution will be submitted to the AGM in September for consideration and hopefully approval by members

- **Central Readers AGM & National Conference.** This two day event included a bible study, led by Father Nicholas King on 'Roots of Unity'. How timely this is for the church locally and nationally. The focus leading us to continue to focus on Jesus, which means looking at the Father and listening to the Paraclete. The conference business considered the National Website, Reader Magazine, Training, and Lay Ministry.

August – December

- **10th September Diocesan Readers Association Meeting.** Please do support your local representative on the committee
- **17th September Training Event. How to conduct a good funeral.** 12.30-3.30pm All Saints Church Old Swan. Contact margaret.short@liverpool.anglican.org. The programme for the afternoon and further information can be found at the following [link](#) to the web page.
- **26th September** Reader Candidates who are due to be licensed are on retreat. Please do pray for them, their families, churches and Life Long Training Officers.
- **27th September 11.30am. AGM/Licensing/Celebration of 100 years of Reader Ministry in our Diocese.** Please make every effort to attend this great occasion! More details to follow soon.
- **23rd October 7.30pm Reader Taster Evening** Hope Academy Newton le Willows. Please consider approaching members of the congregation to come to this event.
- **15th November 3pm Installation of Bishop Paul Bayes, as Bishop of Liverpool**
- **16th November Bishop's Diocesan Readers Day Conference.**
Speaker Dean Pete Wilcox Liverpool Cathedral. More details to follow.

Finally, a summer prayer by Jim Manney, a member of the Ignatian community

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer! Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation. Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to You this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence and light my path with Your Word and Counsel. As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You. Amen.

Your servant in Christ

Spew Webster, Warden of Readers