



The Diocese of  
**Canterbury**

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

**CANTERBURY  
DIOCESAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
READERS**

Warden of Readers: Hilary Richter  
Honorary Secretary: Nigel Collins

# Newsletter



**Spring 2008**

## Editorial

David Kemp has decided to stand down as Newsletter Editor largely due to pressure of work. I am sure you will agree that he has been an outstanding Editor and we owe him a debt of gratitude for the legacy he's left us with.

David will be a hard act to follow, but as Honorary Secretary I felt that I ought to take on the role of Editor from him, at least for the time being.

I shall endeavour to produce four issues each year in January (Winter edition), April (Spring edition), July (Summer edition) and October (Autumn edition) with the deadline for submissions in the preceding month.

This edition is already just over a month late, but the next edition should be circulated in July, so I would welcome any articles you might have by 4 July.

I hope to include some regular features including: News from the Warden, Comings & Goings, Spotlight on a Reader's Board member and a Resource section.

I would welcome news from individual Readers, Deanery Reader groups and any other relevant articles that you'd like to share. It would also be good to include books, other resources or websites that you've found useful.

Enjoy!

*Nigel Collins, Honorary Secretary/Editor*

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<b>NEWS FROM OUR WARDEN</b>	Hilary Richter Reader, Folkestone Trinity benefice
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Talking to Margaret (Hawkins) and Terry (Wright) after the recent Reader training selection day again it was clear that, as you are aware already, our individual influence in our churches is immense. We are sometimes the only examples of Reader ministry our congregations know. This observation is made not to daunt us but rather to encourage us to take time to reflect on our public ministry.

Here's a question, are we seeking to resource and refresh ourselves so that we offer the best we are able in God's service? Resource and refresh ourselves we must, following Jesus' often recorded instances of withdrawing in order to be alone with God in prayer and reflection. What works for you in terms of spiritual refreshment in an often busy life? What sustains you in the darker days?

Time for reflection is essential to a lively public ministry. Are you allowing yourself that time? (Assistance is available if you do not like the answers that are coming back, please be encouraged to be in touch)

Working on the idea that each of us may hand the baton to someone else to 'run the great race' as the hymn says, have you someone in mind?

<b>NEWS FROM THE READERS BOARD</b>  Getting ready for 2020...	Nigel Collins Honorary Secretary
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The Reader training course has to be moderated every 5 years and much attention has been devoted to re-writing the course. The Board seized the opportunity to consider what shape Reader ministry ought to have in the diocese.

The Board set up a working party and over some time fine tuned the criteria for selection to meet the needs of the Diocese and then the course was written to match need.

Much credit must go to Revd Christopher Race for his outstanding work in re-writing the course. Our thanks must also go to the students who have been on the receiving end as some of the changes have been introduced. The result will be an excellent and improved course.

Our attention then moved to the various paperwork and policies that should accompany this work. To that end we are about to produce a new promotional leaflet to replace the outdated 'Blue Scarf'. We are also working on a revised Diocesan Readers handbook to be circulated to all Readers and those in training.

It is hoped that the new handbook will be ready for next year's AGM. This may seem a long time, but please bear in mind that the National Report on Reader Ministry in the Church of England will be published later this year and we will have to consider the impact of the Report and any recommendations. Having attended the Central Readers' Council (CRC) AGM where Bishop Graham Dow gave us a resume of the 30 plus recommendations there will indeed need to be some work for us to consider.

Also in the pipeline is a similar handbook for all clergy outlining the role of Readers in the Diocese and providing them with practical information and good practice. It may be that the Reader handbook will suffice, but my initial thoughts are that a handbook written for clergy may be received better if it is personalised as much as possible.

We are about to consider the role of Readers alongside the recently published Diocesan *Growing Forward Together Towards 2020* leaflets.

We have also set up a working party to consider ways of improving the annual Cathedral service. We have already decided that it will be known as the annual *Celebration of Reader Ministry service*. 'Celebration' will be at the heart of the service.

We've also arranged a Residential weekend leading up to the Celebration service. The intention is for Saturday to be a lively and informative day with Sunday being a Quiet Day prior to the Celebration service. All trainee Readers will be in attendance which means that there are only limited spaces for accommodation. A letter from our Warden will be sent to you shortly with full details.

The Questionnaire we circulated at the start of the year is being analysed but so far we've had fewer than half of them back. Please complete it if you have not yet done so and return it to our Warden by the end of June (a copy can be found as an annex to this Newsletter).

## 2008 AGM

This was well attended and took place during the Readers Day at Harrietsham. We elected two members to fill the Maidstone Archdeaconry vacancies: Pat Tatchell and John Graves. We also agreed to create the new posts of Assistant Warden, one for each Archdeaconry.

### Members of the Readers Board 2008/9:

#### Appointed members:

Chairman:	Bishop Graham
Warden:	Hilary Richter
LMTS Principal Tutor:	

#### Co-opted members:

Selection & Admissions:	Margaret Hawkins & Terry Wright
Deanery Adviser:	Rosemary Walters
Youth/Children Adviser:	Ted Hurst

#### Elected members:

Canterbury Archdeaconry:	Robert Grieve & Margaret Hawkins
Maidstone Archdeaconry:	Pat Tatchell & John Graves
Honorary Secretary:	Nigel Collins
CRC Representative:	Christo Thiaradt
Trainee Reader Rep:	Alex Finlow

<b>CANTERBURY DIOCESAN READERS DAY Saturday 12 April 2008 Harrietsham</b>	Theme: <b>“Whole-Life Discipleship”</b>  Honorary Secretary
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The day was attended by over 70 Readers and Readers in Training.

It was an excellent day led by Tracy Cotterell of the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICCC) where she is Director of the Imagine Project. Tracy guided us and opened our eyes to the whole concept of 'Whole-Life Discipleship'.

We were all given an 'FTCW' badge and as the day progressed we realised that we are all 'Full Time Christian Workers' and so are our congregations.

Tracy helped us to see the potential and positive aspect of there being 4.5 million people in the UK that go to church at least once a month. Each of them meet with at least 20 to 30 people each week who don't know Jesus. As they meet with them just like forensics a trace of Jesus' presence is left with them. What opportunities and what potential!

We were told that 47% of Christians say the teaching they receive is irrelevant to their daily life - and the weakest areas are our work lives and our home lives. This certainly challenged me to consider the content of my own preaching and teaching. Reader ministry is a 'bridge ministry' and I would have thought that we are ideally placed to be at the frontline of preaching from the context of our daily lives at home and at work.

Each week we may spend 10 hours directly engaged in our church life but what about the other 110 hours (not including sleep) of the rest of our life each week? Tracy encouraged us to consider what difference the 10 'church' hours were making in the other 110 hours.

How 'Whole-life' are we now? The answer: possibly not very. So how can we change the culture of our thinking and our churches? The answer is to work at making 1<sup>o</sup> shifts and Tracy encouraged us to think about the 1<sup>o</sup> shifts we could make now.

After lunch and our 'express' AGM it was story time. Tracy read us 'Once upon an Ordinary Day'. It was an interesting story about an ordinary boy and his encounter with a teacher by the name of Mr Gee who had a profound effect on the ordinary boy. We were asked who has been a Mr Gee to us in our own life stories and then we were asked to whom we might be a Mr or Mrs Gee?

Our opening and closing worship was prepared and led by our Readers in training. It was very appropriate to the theme for the day and was well led - thank you to them all.

The day was possibly one of the best we've had in a long while. It was very challenging and thought provoking. We owe much to the insights that Tracy left us with.

If you would like a copy of the handouts Tracy gave out I am able to email a copy to you if you'd like. I can arrange for a hard copy if you would prefer.

*The Imagine project can be found on the LICC website: [www.licc.org.uk](http://www.licc.org.uk)*

<b>“Comings &amp; Goings”</b>	Honorary Secretary
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**Rupert Bristow** retires in May after 13 years as Diocesan Director of Education. We wish him well in his retirement and in the ministry he exercises as Reader in the Folkestone Trinity benefice.

**David Kemp** has stood down as Newsletter editor. We thank him for the legacy he leaves behind.

**John Crowley** stood down as Director of Reader Selection and Training at the December 2007 Board meeting. We thank him for his dedication and commitment in support of Reader ministry in the diocese. **Margaret Hawkins** and **Terry Wright** have stepped into his shoes and formed a formidable team with responsibility for Reader Selection and Admissions.

**David Kemp** and **Judy Darkins** stood down at the AGM as Maidstone Archdeaconry Representatives on the Readers Board. We thank them for their commitment and contribution to the furtherance of Reader Ministry in the diocese. **John Graves** and **Pat Tatchell** were elected to the Readers Board as Maidstone Archdeaconry Representatives. We thank them for their willingness to serve.

**Revd Christopher Race** retires as Principal Tutor of the LMTS and from ministry at the end of the academic year. We owe him a debt of gratitude for the excellent course he has written from scratch.

<b>MAKING THE MOST OF OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Robert Grieve Reader, St John the Baptist, Folkestone
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To train???

All of us are on a journey of faith and just as we need refreshment stops when walking or travelling, so we need support, encouragement and refreshment on our spiritual pilgrimage. We are always learning something new from God and I believe He wants to teach us new things through learning and training opportunities provided by the diocese. From my own experience (and many others) I have found CME to have been a great blessing and have enhanced my ministry skills.

So - how and where can we take advantage of such benefits?

Here are just a few suggestions:

- Do consider joining Readers nationwide at the National Readers' Conference at the University of Wales in Bangor on 12-14 September. Full details can be found in the latest edition of *The Reader*.
- Why not attend the Resource & Refresh course for Readers at Ridley Hall, Cambridge from 2-4 September? Details from last year's course were outlined in the last Newsletter. The 2 main topics this year are: The Gospel of Mark and Mediating God's Presence in ministry. Further information can be obtained by contacting Ridley Hall or by visiting their website [www.ridley.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ridley.cam.ac.uk)
- For something sooner, have a look at May's edition of *Outlook*. On page 9 Growing Forward Together offers a variety of interesting courses, including All-Age Worship workshop, Preaching workshop, Refreshment morning for lay ministries and Greek in a Week!
- Have you ever been on a Retreat or a Day of Refreshment? There are wonderful conference/retreat places near you! For instance, Cautley House in Hythe, Aylesford Priory near Maidstone and Crowhurst Healing Centre near Battle. All of these offer short and longer courses or you can just stay and do your own thing.

I do earnestly invite and encourage you to at least take one opportunity this summer. You really won't regret it.

By the way, there are funds available to assist all Readers with expenses. So do contact our Warden, Hilary, about grants for Reader training. Also, I'm sure your vicar and PCC would be happy to help fund any training you would like to undertake. Your ministry is greatly valued and appreciated. You deserve further training and God will bless you.

<b>LEADING YOUR CHURCH INTO GROWTH</b>	Maureen Collins Reader, Sandwich: St Clement
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This is a four day course for clergy and lay leaders held in various parts of the country. In February it was held at Walsingham. Over 60 of us were there, united in a common purpose, a longing for growth in our parishes. We soon

relaxed into the ten sessions which were laced with great humour. The worship was superb.

We went as the Ministry Team and each of us has come back inspired, affirmed and bubbling with enthusiasm for the possibilities in our parish. It was an excellent course, certainly the best I have been on.

For four days we were encouraged to be positive. 'The power of positive thinking is one of God's laws of health and achievement.' We were encouraged to 'use what we already have' and to 'work for small gradual growth.'

We were reminded of our vocation, 'of our original call under God. We are recognised and equipped to fulfil this calling and God is with us in it.' I liked the suggestion that we should 'prepare and prioritise for going back to our parishes. And so 'turn a course into a journey.'

Certain phrases remain with me. Speaking of the big attitude change needed to move from maintenance to mission we were to 'make new Christians by making Christians new.'

Turning our churches into places of welcome, belonging and acceptance for everyone, a Beatles song, Eleanor Rigby was quoted. 'All the lonely people, where do they all come from?'

'Belonging precedes believing' and 'believing precedes belonging.' It is not either/or but both. We proclaim the Good News of the Gospel and welcome people into the family of the Church.

Jesus is our example in all things.

He was focussed and worked with a small group.

He searched for individual searchers among the crowds (eg Zacchaeus), and called for a decision.

He proclaimed the Good News, healed and drive out demons.

He led people on a gradual but directed journey from 'interest', to 'come and see', to 'follow me', to 'go'.

Among all of this, something we know but often neglect, Jesus was empowered by getting away from all the busyness and spending time with his Heavenly Father.

In reminding us of our own calling, three New Testament evangelists were used as different models.

Philip was an itinerant, charismatic and used signs and wonders. 'He proclaimed the Good News.' (Acts 8:5-8)

Timothy was rooted, persistent and patient. Paul tells him to 'do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.' (2 Timothy 4:1-5)

Mary Magdalene was a person of passion, her call came from an encounter, she was an apostle to the apostles. 'I have seen the Lord.' (John 20:10-18)

I found this encouraging and reassuring. Here were three very different people, each with different ways of being an evangelist. All are valid, all bear fruit. A reminder that God uses the gifts he has already given to each one of us.

If you get the opportunity, do go.

<b>SPOTLIGHT ON...</b> The Readers Board members	Sharing our journeys of faith
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Name: **Nigel Collins**  
Readers Board Role: **Honorary Secretary**  
Parish/Benefice: Dover Deanery  
Admitted & Licensed: 15 July 1998  
Age: 48  
Family: Married to Anne with 5 children: Craig (25), Katy (20), Amy (17), Miles (5) & Reece (3)

I have been a Reader since July 1998. I was admitted and licensed on St Swithun's Day by the Archdeacon for the Army in St Anthony's chapel of Howe Barracks, Canterbury. This marked the completion of my Reader training largely by distance learning and mostly whilst serving on a residential tour of duty in Omagh, Northern Ireland.

I joined the Army at 16 straight from school and served in the Queen's Regiment and Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (following an amalgamation). I hope these Regiments aren't totally unknown to you as they are the names of our very own County Infantry Regiment.

I was brought up in a village near Chichester, West Sussex. I was brought up in a church family and went to church from the cradle! I was a chorister, crucifer, server, bell ringer and sidesperson - then I left home to become a soldier!

At first I drifted away from the faith, but it never left me. A turning point for me was the influence of my Army Padre whilst serving in Cyprus in the early '90s.

He encouraged me to play a fuller part in the life of the local Army church I attended with my wife and family.

My dad had always been very active in the life of the village church and became a Reader in the early '80s. My Padre helped me to see that God was calling me to serve him in ministry and Reader ministry seemed to be the path.

But I was then posted back to Canterbury and to a new Padre. Things weren't plain sailing, but eventually I was accepted as a candidate for Reader training by the Bishop to the Forces. At that time the Army hadn't trained a Reader for many years and had to work out where to begin! Much of my training was done through the St John's, Nottingham Certificate in Christian Studies. My preaching training was overseen by my Parish Priest in Dover because we lived in Dover and I worshipped at St Andrew's Buckland whilst working at Howe Barracks, Canterbury.

This brings me back to where I began my story. In the week after I was admitted and licensed I was posted to the local Territorial Army Battalion, stationed in Sturry Road, Canterbury as the Regimental Sergeant Major.

I left the Army in the summer of 2000. We had already bought a house in Dover and settled into civilian life. I was licensed to the Buckland benefice in Dover later that year.

Initially I was working at the Channel Tunnel, but had become involved as a volunteer with an ecumenical outreach project in Buckland known as Cross-Links. The diocese had agreed to fund a stipendiary priest for 5 years as part of their commitment to the project; but by the end of the year no one had applied for the post! At the meeting when the Area Dean reported this, God kept saying to me "speak up!", so I did and in February 2001 I was licensed as full-time stipendiary Lay Minister for Cross-Links.

Life is never dull at Cross-Links and I am kept busy in so many ways. It is a great privilege to be able to play my part in furthering God's kingdom in this place.

Much of the day to day work involves community development work, schools work, children's work, pastoral work, leading small groups for adults and children alike and leading worship. Worship at Cross-Links includes a weekly small group, monthly Cafe church, monthly worship in a sheltered housing complex for older people and bi-monthly Messy church on a Saturday morning.

Following my Reader Ministry Review last year it was decided to license me to Dover Deanery rather than to a single parish. This took place at an ecumenical service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The decision reflects the reality that I have found myself being invited to other parishes and to exercise a ministry in the Methodist circuit too. In part much of this has come about because of my role at Cross-Links.

I do find myself leading worship or preaching on most Sundays each month, but my day job allows me to do the necessary preparations. I have found that I am able to adapt to the diversity of worship offered in the different churches. I have found myself leading sung matins one week, then an all-age worship the following week and the Sunday service with the Baptists the following week!

The story goes on...

<b>BOOKS</b>	Nigel Collins Reader, Dover Deanery
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Here are a handful of books that I've found particularly interesting...

William Loader, ***The New Testament with Imagination - A Fresh Approach to Its Writings and Themes***, Eerdmanns, 2007.

The book was recommended by a local priest to me who also suggested taking a look at Bill Loader's webpage with Lectionary Resources. I bought the book through Amazon and settled down to read...

It was a refreshing and welcome reminder of the Good News as recorded in the New Testament. I continue to use the appendices as a quick guide to see how each of the synoptic gospels inter-link and as a 'first glance' at a gospel passage (whenever there is a direct comment).

I would recommend this to trainee Readers and to those of more experience as a helpful and refreshing New Testament resource.

Rob Bell, ***Velvet Elvis - Repainting the Christian Faith***, Zondervan, 2005.

At first I avoided this book because of the title Velvet Elvis and can't remember why I changed my mind - but I'm glad I did. I couldn't put it down I was entranced by Rob Bell's thoughts and perspective of being a Follower of Jesus today.

Pastor Rob Bell leads a 'mega church' in the USA and he has come in for a lot of criticism from some sections of the Church. Unfairly I feel, but you are free to disagree with me! He is also featured in a series of DVDs

known as NOOMA (see below under resources) and he isn't everyone's cup of tea.

I would recommend reading this book if only to broaden your perspective of how some people are rediscovering what it means to be a Follower of Jesus today.

It is also available as an audio CD.

Rob Bell, ***Sex God - Exploring the endless connections between sexuality and spirituality***, Zondervan, 2007.

No sooner had I discovered Rob Bell's first book than he brought out his second book: *Sex God*. I couldn't put it down, I just kept on reading. At times I was in tears as I read and at times I was very challenged. The book is exactly what it says in the sub title: it explores the endless connections between spirituality and sexuality.

If you don't get on with Velvet Elvis you may not get on with this - BUT if you do, you will find this a brilliant read. Unless you have a difficulty with Rob Bell's approach I would highly recommend this book to you.

This is also available as an audio CD.

Steven Croft (ed), ***Mission-shaped Questions - Defining issues for today's Church***, Church House Publishing, 2008.

I am very interested in the whole area of Fresh expressions of church and I bought this because Bishop Graham had mentioned it at a meeting. I've not finished the whole book yet, but it consists of a series of sermons on a wide range of 'Mission-shaped' issues. I have dipped in and out and found it very useful.

If you have an interest in this field of work or want to know more about it this book may well be for you.

<b>RESOURCES</b>	The Editor
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### **NOOMA DVD SERIES**

These are short 10-14 minute films that provoke discussion on a wide range of topics related to what it means to be a follower of Jesus today.

The guest speaker is Pastor Rob Bell. If you have access to the internet it is possible to view samples from each film.

Website: [www.nooma.com](http://www.nooma.com)

### **SHARE THE GUIDE WEBSITE**

This is a new resource supporting the Fresh Expressions initiative. The website is intended as an evolving Guide to setting up and sustaining a fresh expression making use of the experience of practitioners.

Website: [www.sharetheguide.org.uk](http://www.sharetheguide.org.uk)

### **BILL LOADER'S LECTIONARY RESOURCES**

This is similar to Tom Wright's web page resource that was mentioned in the last edition. Bill Loader offers a commentary on the gospels and epistles set in the Sunday lectionary. You may find them a helpful starting point when preparing a sermon if stuck for ideas.

Website: [wwwstaff.murdoch.edu.au/~loader/](http://wwwstaff.murdoch.edu.au/~loader/)

### **THE IMAGINE PROJECT**

A wealth of ideas and resources that may be of use to Readers - well worth taking a look.

Website: [www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources](http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources)

### **CENTRAL READERS' COUNCIL (CRC)**

Website: [www.readers.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.readers.cofe.anglican.org)

This contains wide range of resources and information related to Reader ministry. There is also a web based forum for Readers - just register online and off you go!

*EDITOR: PERHAPS YOU would like to list a few books or other resources that you've found helpful in ministry and share some of your thoughts with everyone. Please drop me a line/email if you are interested.*

## EVENTS AND DIARY DATES

Please take note

*Unless otherwise stated to book ONLINE follow the link:  
[www.canterbury.anglican.org/whatson](http://www.canterbury.anglican.org/whatson) and find the relevant course entry*

### **Preaching Workshop**

**Tuesday 17 June, 7.30pm**

**Venue: tbc**

Predominantly for clergy and readers

7.30-7.40pm

**How do I start? Preparation and Resources**

7.40-8.25pm

in groups of 3, 5mins per person preaching with feedback

*This will involve some preliminary preparation by participants*

Topic:

**Harvest**

8.30-8.40pm

Plenary drawing out the best bits

8.40-8.50pm

**Preaching on Harvest in a season-less society**

TO BOOK: online or email: [rdale@diocant.org](mailto:rdale@diocant.org) or ring 01227 459401

### **All-Age Worship Workshop**

**Saturday 21 June, 10am-1pm**

**Venue: St Paul's Church Centre, Canterbury**

"Family Service – All-Age Worship – Intergenerational Worship"

A workshop for people who help lead, plan or deliver all-age worship. Explore what goes in to successful all-age worship; look at resources, share skills, experiences and good practice.

Cost: £10 (including a buffet lunch)

Tutor: Mr Ted Hurst (Children's Ministry Adviser)

TO BOOK: online or ring Sarah Lucas on 01227 459401

### **Selwyn Summer Course**

**3-8 August**

**Venue: Selwyn college, Cambridge**

Organised by the Central Readers Council (CRC), this annual event is open to all Readers and Reader in Training. Bursaries are available for licensed Readers attending for the first time.

Speakers:

Rt Revd JR Packer, Bishop of Ripon and Leeds

Dr Michael Schluter, Chairman of the Jubilee Centre & Director of Relationships Foundation

Prof Richard Bauckham  
Revd Dr Brian Heddlethwaite  
Austin Farrar

Rt Revd G Dow, Bishop of Carlisle (Chair of the Central Readers Council)

Cost: £300 (half-board) registration fee of £40 (non returnable) – cheques payable to Central Readers Council

TO BOOK: Contact: Tony Hawkins, 30 Flintway, Wath-Upon-Deame, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S63 7TR Tel: 01709 873720

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## **Resource and Refresh**

**2-4 September**

**Venue: Ridley Hall, Cambridge**

Residential courses for Readers 'The Gospel of Mark' with Revd John Procter, and 'Stepping into God's Glory; Mediating God's Presence in Ministry' with Revd Dr Ron Jackson.

Starts 4pm on 2 September and ends at lunch on 4 September.

Cost: £160 full residence (shared bathroom), £35 en-suite supplement

TO BOOK: contact Elaine Thomson at Ridley Hall

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## **Central Readers Council National Conference 12-14 September**

**Venue: University of North Wales, Bangor**

The annual National Conference of the Central Readers Council.

Theme: Unity in Diversity: Celebrating the Breadth of Reader Ministry.

Keynote Speaker: Canon Christina Baxter, Principal of St John's College, Nottingham

Cost: £190 (accommodation in single en-suite rooms) – cheques payable to Central Readers Council

TO BOOK: Contact: Alan Wakeley, CRC Secretary, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3NZ, email: [crcsec@c-of-e.org.uk](mailto:crcsec@c-of-e.org.uk) or Susan Salt, Conference Chairman, Christ Church Vicarage, Meadows Avenue, Thornton-Cleveleys, Lancashire FY5 2TW, email: [nsalt@waitrose.com](mailto:nsalt@waitrose.com)

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## **Bishops' Day for Laity**

**Saturday 20 September**

**Venue: Wye College**

Details to be confirmed

Keynote Speaker: Mr Mark Russell, CEO Church Army

TO REGISTER AN INTEREST: contact Sarah Lucas at Diocesan House

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**Readers Residential Weekend                      4-5 October**

**Venue: International Study Centre, Canterbury**

A Diocesan Readers Board Event open to all Readers and those in training.

Further details to be sent out shortly by letter from the Warden.

TO BOOK: details to follow (Warden's letter)

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**Celebration of Reader Ministry service                      Sunday 5 October, 6pm**

**Venue: Canterbury Cathedral**

Incorporating the admission and licensing of new Readers, granting of permission to officiate and Reader Emeritus and the annual re-commissioning of all Readers.

Readers and clergy to robe in the Chapter House.

Light refreshments in the Chapter House following the service.

The Board look forward to seeing you there – please make every effort to attend.

NO BOOKING NECESSARY – “COME ON AND CELEBRATE!”

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**Diocesan Conference**

**4-6 September 2009**

**Venue: Canterbury**

Details to be confirmed

TO BOOK: details yet to be confirmed

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<b>END NOTES</b>	
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**FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION PLEASE:**

1. If you've not completed the Readers Board Questionnaire please complete it and send to the Warden by the end of June (copy attached).
2. If you've not yet returned your Reader Ministry Review then please take action as a matter of urgency.
3. Consider attending some of the opportunities for training or booking onto a residential conference/workshop. If you do, there may well be some financial assistance (CME) available to you – contact the Warden.
4. Consider contributing to the next edition of the Newsletter. It could be books or resources you'd recommend, or sharing personal stories, anecdotes and information from training you've attended.

## **A Final word from the Editor**

I hope you've found this edition informative and interesting. As you will be aware we would like to issue Newsletters and other documents concerning your Reader Ministry by e-mail. To help us, please ensure that we have your correct e-mail address by advising any changes to me. Of course if you do not use e-mail we will continue to send items by surface mail.

Please send your comments or items for future editions by e-mail (preferable) or write to me at my address shown below.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

[www.canterbury.anglican.org/bmt/lmts/readerministry/index.htm](http://www.canterbury.anglican.org/bmt/lmts/readerministry/index.htm)

**Warden of Readers:**        **Mrs Hilary Richter**

The Farmhouse, Acrise Place, Acrise, Folkestone CT18 8JX

Email: [hrichter@diocant.org](mailto:hrichter@diocant.org)

**Honorary Secretary:**       **Mr Nigel Collins**

**Newsletter Editor**        79 Alfred Road, Dover CT16 2AD

Email: [nigelcollins@cross-links.org.uk](mailto:nigelcollins@cross-links.org.uk)

## **NEXT EDITION (SUMMER):**

**Submission of material:**                        **by 4 July**

**Copy to be circulated:**                        **mid-late July**

<b>Background Details</b>	
Your Name	
Parish/Benefice	
Deanery	
Number of years as a Reader	
Other than your present parish – how many have you worked in?	
<b>Questionnaire</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Readers Board are keen to build up a picture of Reader ministry across the diocese.</li> <li>• This includes identifying current needs and potential for Readers to play a greater role within the Mission of the diocese.</li> <li>• We particularly want to effectively and actively promote Reader ministry in the diocese with the launch of our vision for Readers in the Diocese of Canterbury later this year.</li> <li>• We hope to see more Readers becoming involved in the training and mentoring process in formal and informal ways.</li> <li>• Please answer the questions as best you can, please use additional sheets if required.</li> </ul>	
<p>1. In which area of your ministry do you perceive that you are most effective? Is this an area of ministry you enjoy?</p>	
<p>2. Spiritual Refreshment – How do you refresh yourself spiritually? You may have a Spiritual director, prayer guide, prayer partner, mentor (or similar) or attend annual quiet days</p>	

3. Spiritual Refreshment – Have you any experience as a Spiritual director, prayer guide, prayer partner (or similar)?  
Please give details...

4. We would like to hear about any previous significant experience from the world of work that you may have. Please give details...

5. We are especially interested in your experiences outside the church setting. Please give details...

6. Have you made use of any opportunities for continuing ministerial education (CME)? Please list some of the opportunities, training events you've taken part in over the past few years

7. When planning future CME events - Are there any particular Reader-specific topics or themes you would like to see tackled? Please give details...

8. When planning future CME events - Are there any factors we should take into account? For example venue, time of day, day of the week, mobility/transport issues

9. What contribution could you make in training and mentoring new Readers? You may have a teaching background; or have experience in leading a local tutor group; or experience in a specific aspect of pastoral work  
Please give details...

10. Have you any experience in the area of fresh expressions of church? You may have been involved in church planting; starting a alternative worship event; as part of an evangelistic event or project  
Please give details...

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**