**Director of Studies for Readers Annual Report 2017**

This report highlights a number of key actions taken during the year since the last AGM.

1. During academic year 2016-17 a review of the Reader training programme was undertaken, comparing the contents of the Foundation degree with national Church of England outcomes for Reader training, and expectations of the University of Chester. As a result a number of modules have been revised, and were approved by the Exams Board of the University, and our External Examiner. Teaching on the amended programme starts in September 2017.
2. This year 15 people will start Reader training and 1 Reader will begin a Foundation degree in Mission and Ministry. 9 new Readers will be licensed in October 2017. This is an increase on the usual level of new trainees.
3. It is particularly pleasing that a number of Readers who did not complete the Foundation degree immediately after training have now returned to study and will complete in the coming year.
4. The new Chair of the Central Readers’ Council is carrying out a Church wide review next year and has invited Wardens and Directors of Studies to participate.
5. After a few months of working with Archdeacon Mike Gilbertson as Acting Warden it has been a pleasure to begin working with the new Warden, Vivien Gisby, who has been very supportive of students and of the course.

LATE AMENDMENT

1. As a change from the usual pattern, instead of holding a meeting for supervisors of new Reader trainees, I invited those with trainees and existing Readers to an event called ‘Exploring Contemporary Reader Ministry’, based on Philip Tovey’s recent Grove booklet *The Liturgical Ministry of a Reader.* It was very encouraging that 20 clergy came to the meeting and there were so many who wanted to come but couldn’t that we are running the event again in November.