

The Church of England

Guild of Vergers



# The Diploma Course

*Notes for Mentors*



*Leading the way since 1932*

*Presidents: The Archbishops of Canterbury and York*



## NOTES FOR MENTORS FROM THE TRAINING OFFICER

Thank you for agreeing to Mentor a student who is undertaking the Church of England Guild of Verger's Diploma Course. We hope these notes might clarify how we see the role of the Mentor. The Diploma Course is divided into four Units. We expect each unit to be completed within one year. The titles of the units are:

- ◆ **FOUNDATION UNIT**
- ◆ **PASTOR UNIT**
- ◆ **HISTORIAN UNIT**
- ◆ **ADMINISTRATOR UNIT**

All students take the **FOUNDATION UNIT**, for which they receive a **Certificate**. They may cease study at that point although we encourage them to continue to study for the other three Units, upon successful completion of which the Diploma of the Guild is awarded. The graduates are then entitled to wear the **Guild Academic Hood** and to use the post-nominal letters **Dip. GV**.

Each student will have been appointed a **Tutor** who will assist them with the particular work of the Unit. Often the Tutor will live some distance from the student, so we encourage students to find a local '**Mentor**', whose tasks will be somewhat different.

- ◆ The Mentor will identify and discuss any particular difficulties the student may be experiencing and suggest appropriate help.
- ◆ For the Pastor Unit the student is encouraged to have a **Spiritual Director** so that he/she has someone with whom to reflect on the deeply personal and theological issues which may emerge from the Course. The Mentor may be able to act in this role, but if he/she feels that this is not within his/her particular gift, he/she may be able to suggest someone who can act in this capacity.
- ◆ The Mentor may meet with, telephone or e-mail the Tutor for the particular Unit, and discuss the ways in which help might be given.
- ◆ The Mentor must never feel he/she has to 'help' with the work (tell the students the answers) – he/she has a purely advisory role.
- ◆ The Mentor will, of course, always be able to contact the **Training Officer** if there are particular difficulties, and we will supply copies of the Course for information should you require it.

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