**Please fill in an answer to each question. Keep your answers fairly brief, ideally 2/3 sentences maximum. Please write answers directly into this file where indicated.**

Your name, your age and your home village, town or city (where you grew up):

**Answer: Belinda Hornby grew up in Walton-le-Dale, born Auckland, New Zealand. First university at 18 Newcastle lived up there for nearly ten years.**

The church in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving:

**Answer: St Leonard’s Walton-le-Dale**

Tell us about your family:

**Answer: I have a mother and father who were married in NZ but originally from Lancashire and two younger brothers, one is American and lives in Texas. I have two children a boy and a girl, aged 28 and 24 respectively.**

Your job (or how you keep yourself busy if retired)?!:

**Answer: I am a lecturer in Psychobiology at UCLan**

Why did you decide to become a Reader?

**Answer: I have felt for a long time that God is calling me to s specific ministry and this is where he has led me to at this point in my life. When I told people in my church, and the bible study that I was leading at the time, that I was exploring this they all said ‘about time!’ or something similar!**

What’s been the best thing about your training to be a Reader?:

**Answer: I have really enjoyed the learning (we have had some exceptional teachers, the module I enjoyed the most was the OT taught by John, the principle of the college, he is very knowledgeable and a gifted teacher) also the worship on the course has been very inspiring as has meeting other Christians also called to ministry from many different Anglican Traditions.**

What’s the most important thing you have learned so far?:

**Answer: God is faithful. I have observed experienced clergy and seen how God makes the difference to their ministry - that is it not by our faith or power but by the Spirit of the God that things are done.**

Can you name the most influential person in your Christian life to date and, briefly, say why?

**Answer: Corrie Ten Boom and Mother Theresa; they both had great faith and were women of faith.**

What is your hope for your future role as a Reader?:

**Answer: To grow in my ministry and service to the congregation of my home church. To see the congregation develop their spiritual gifts and grow in the Lord in all aspects of their lives and faith to become the people that God intended them to be in every aspect.**

Name one thing about you people would be surprised about?:

**Answer: Not sure that anyone would be surprised about anything.**

What would you say was your most significant personal achievement to date?

**Answer: I pray a lot and put everything that I have achieved down to that and when things don’t go right, I just trust that I am learning something through it.**

Favourite quote (from the Bible or elsewhere). Also state briefly *why* it is your favourite:

**Answer: At one time it was Ephesians 3:16-20 but since my training it is: “The Lord your God is one (or the Lord your God is God alone). You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might.” For me this means that God is wholeness and light there is nothing duplicitous in Him, God is unity and also the supreme being in the universe who demands our love and obedience.**

Unfulfilled ambition?

**Answer: plenty of those! But trusting that my future is in the Lord’s hands.**

How do you personally hope to support the ongoing Diocesan Vision 2026 Healthy Churches Transforming Communities at parish level?

**Answer: As I said above to enable the congregation mainly through my preaching and friendships with them and leading café church, the alpha group in the local pub on a Saturday morning and, if I end up leading another bible study, via that too. Also reaching out to my neighbours in the community and those who are caring for loved ones; those with a need.**

How would you express your own vision for the church?:

**Answer: To be salt and light and bring healing to a broken world and then explain why.**

How do you relax?

**Answer:**

**By reading, listening in silence, running when I get the time and can motivate myself to do it, spending time with loved ones, eating and drinking…. Going out…learning, studying, working..**