

PRESS RELEASE

from The Bible Reading Fellowship



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2020 Alphege Award for BRF CEO

Richard Fisher honoured by Archbishop of Canterbury

BRF's CEO, Richard Fisher, has received a rare personal honour from the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The 2020 Alphege Award for Evangelism and Witness recognises Richard's 'outstanding innovative work in supporting and developing Fresh Expressions of Church such as Messy Church, Who Let The Dads Out? and, more recently, Anna Chaplaincy'.

First awarded in 2016, the Alphege Award reflects Archbishop Justin Welby's particular concern for evangelism and witness. Richard is one of four recipients this year.

The citation begins: 'Over the past 28 years as Chief Executive of The Bible Reading Fellowship, Richard Fisher has led the Charity in a remarkable way, developing it from being primarily a print organisation to becoming a leader, and arguably the leader, in fostering Fresh Expressions of Church in the United Kingdom.' [Read the full citation.](#)

Asked for his reaction on hearing of the award, Richard replied:

'I have to be honest, I was completely stunned when I was first told about it. It is a huge honour and I feel very humbled to receive this recognition from Archbishop Justin for my work with BRF.'

Bishop Colin Fletcher, BRF's Chair of Trustees, congratulated Richard on the award:

'On any analysis BRF, under Richard's leadership, has been the most significant organisation working alongside the Church of England and our ecumenical partners in fostering Fresh Expressions of Church in recent years. Messy Church, Who Let The Dads Out? and Anna Chaplaincy are just three initiatives that BRF has fostered, with others now emerging from its seedbed. Without Richard's leadership and vision, the impact they have made would have been a great deal less, and all of us at BRF are delighted that the Archbishop has chosen to recognise his contribution to evangelism and witness in this way.'

For more information, please contact:

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BRF's vision is to enable people of all ages to grow in faith and understanding of the Bible and to see more people equipped to exercise their gifts in leadership and ministry. BRF ministries and programmes include Anna Chaplaincy, Barnabas in Schools, Holy Habits, Living Faith, Messy Church and Parenting for Faith. Find out more at brf.org.uk.



Biography

Richard Fisher has spent his entire working life at BRF, joining the charity in 1988 after reading Classics at Oxford and becoming its Chief Executive in 1992. He has been a Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, since 2017 and worships at St Mary's, Haddenham, in the Wychert Vale Benefice. Richard is married to Karen and has two adult children.

To find out more about Richard Fisher and his work with BRF, see a full profile [here](#).

The Lambeth Awards

For a full list of this year's Lambeth Awards, including three other recipients of the Alphege Award, click [here](#).

The Alphege Award for Evangelism and Witness was first awarded by Archbishop Justin Welby in March 2016. It is named after St Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1006 to 1012, who was known for his wise and holy counsel, as well as his care for the poor and simple living. St Alphege was captured by Viking raiders in 1011 and killed the following year after refusing to allow himself to be ransomed.

Richard Fisher is available for interview: see contact details below.



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