

Sunday 29 February

WATERLOOVILLE, Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn Lane, Crookhorn (7pm): *The Magic of Believing*. Illusion, escapology and magic with Peter McCahon, star of Channel 5's *Monkey Magic*. A great opportunity to bring friends who are not yet Christians. Tickets: £3.50 (adults), £2.50 (under-18s).

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (8pm): *Taizé service*.

Monday 1 March

BRIGHSTONE, St Mary's Church, Main Road (7.30pm): *Lent Lecture*. Dr Anna Barrington-Ward will give an illustrated one-hour talk on the natural and supernatural in Christian art.

Tuesday 2 March

HAVANT, St Faith's Church, West Street (8pm): *Stations of the Cross*. With the Portsmouth chapter of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary.

Wednesday 3 March

EMSWORTH, Emsworth Pastoral Centre, Emsworth Square (12noon-1.30pm): *Lent lunches served*. Proceeds to Christian Aid. Also on **March 10, 17, 24, 31** and **April 3**.

Friday 5 March

PORTSMOUTH, Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church, Bransbury Road, Eastney (10.30am); SOUTHSEA, St Luke's Church, Greatham Street (2.30pm): *Women's World Day of Prayer*.
PORTSMOUTH, Guildhall Square (12noon-4pm): *Celebration of Portsmouth gaining Fairtrade City status; Lord Mayor's Banqueting Hall (2pm-4pm):* *Fairtrade Tea Party*. See page 3 for details.

Saturday 6 March

WATERLOOVILLE, Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn Lane, Crookhorn (9.30am-12noon): *Called By God*. Half-day women's conference organised by New Wine, with Mary Pytches. Cost: £2. For details or registration, ring 023-9225 5527. See page 2 for details.
COWPLAIN, St Wilfrid's Church, Padnell Road (10am-3.30pm): *Day conference with Marilyn Baker*. Theme: 'The Father Heart of God'. Lent lunch available or bring packed lunch; **(7.30pm):** *Evening concert by Marilyn Baker*. Entry by ticket only. Tickets (£5) from Bob and Sheila Ginger (023-9226 8762). See page 2 for details.
SOUTHSEA, House of Bethany, 7 Nelson Road (10am-4pm): *Quiet Day*. Led by the Rev Henry Theobald. Please bring a packed lunch, drinks provided. Cost: £5. Please ring 023-9283 498 to let the Sisters know you are coming.
GUILDFORD, St Saviour's Church Woodbridge Road (10am-4pm): *Faith to Faith*. West Africa Festival, at which the Bishop of Dorking will welcome Christian and Muslim church leaders. See page 4 for details.
FRESHWATER, Memorial Hall, Avenue Road (10.30am-1.30pm): *Lenten*

tours

ITALY: Saga Footsteps Holiday: 'Highlights of Umbria'. Seven nights from May 25, staying at Spoleto, including one day in Assisi and Perugia, and one day in Rome. Optional excursions to Umbrian villages Gubbio and Oriveto. Price: £679, no single room supplement. More details from Robin Coutts (023-9226 2307) or Saga (0800-300456), quoting holiday number FT0639T.

JORDAN and SINAI: Tour of Jordan and Sinai, visiting Jerash, Petra, Mount Sinai and St Catherine's Monastery. October 23-31, 2004. Inclusive cost: £990. Three-day extension to Cairo and the Pyramids (Oct 31-Nov 3): £170. Brochure available from the Rev Richard Thomas, 16 Brent Court, Emsworth, PO10 7JA (01243-430613).

REFLECTION ON HEALING AND RECONCILIATION

PETERSFIELD, All Saints Church, Church Road, Steep (Monday evenings, 7.30pm): *Lent reflection on healing and reconciliation*. A series of meetings with invited speakers. Contact the Rev Paul Kennedy (01730-264282) for more details.

Monday 1 March

(7.30pm): Talk by Alison Willcocks, a member of the ministry team at Acorn Christian Foundation, and a former head at Bedales School.

Monday 8 March

(7.30pm): Talk by Lance Blake, chaplain at the Rowans Hospice and third order Franciscan.

Monday 15 March

(7.30pm): Talk by Penny Mileham, a local GP.

Monday 22 March

(7.30pm): Talk by the Rev Bill Day, bishop's adviser on healing.



The Rev Bill Day (Steep, March 22)

Sunday 28 March

(6.30pm): *Service of prayer for healing*. With the Portsmouth Iona Music Group.

Brunches. Organised by the Churches of West Wight. Coffee, tea, soup and light lunches. Proceeds to Christian Aid, the Isle of Wight Christian Bus Project and Holiday Bible Club. Continues on **March 13, 20** and **27; April 3** and **10**.

BEDHAMPTON, St Thomas's Church, Bidbury Lane (7.30pm): *Concert of classical and popular music*. Havant Area Guitar Orchestra play in aid of the children, youth and family worker. Tickets: £5 (concs: £3), including drink, on 023-9248 3013.

Sunday 7 March

COWPLAIN, Westbrook Church, Westbrook Hall, off Tempest Avenue (10am): *Morning worship with Marilyn Baker*. See page 2 for details.

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (4pm): *The Saxon history of the local area*. First in a series of talks in preparation for archaeology project at St Mary's. Talk given by Dr Joe Flatman.

WATERLOOVILLE, Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn Lane, Crookhorn (7pm): *Evening celebration with David and Mary Pytches*. For details, see page 2 or ring 023-9225 5527.

Monday 8 March

GOSPORT, St Mary's Church, Rowner Lane, Rowner (7.30pm): *Kairos roadshow for Gosport deanery*. Led by the bishop. Investigating the challenges facing our diocese in the future. See pages 6-7 for details.

Saturday 13 March

PORTSMOUTH, Cathedral House, St Thomas's Street (10.45am): *Rowans Hospice fundraising coffee morning*. Tea, coffee, cakes available, plus jewellery, bric-a-brac, books and stationery stalls.

PETERSFIELD, St Peter's Church, The Square (7.30pm): *Let Us Garlands Bring*. Trio Obbligato. Christopher Welling (viola), Emily Bauer-Jones (contralto) and Alan Brown (piano). Tickets: £7 (concs: £6) on 01730-263254.

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Concert*. Handel's *Messiah* - performed by the cathedral choir with Portsmouth Grammar School Chamber Choir.

Sunday 14 March

SHANKLIN, St Blasius Church, Church Road (6.30pm): *United service to celebrate church's 850th year*. Preacher: the Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight. See page 5 for details.

Monday 15 March

CATHERINGTON, All Saints' Church, Catherington Lane (7.30pm): *Kairos roadshow for Havant deanery*. Led by the bishop. Investigating the challenges facing our diocese in the future. See pages 6-7 for details.

Tuesday 16 March

NEWPORT, Holyrood Hall (7.30pm): *Christian Aid cluster meeting*. Susan Barry, co-ordinator for Hampshire, Wiltshire and the Isle of Wight, will talk about future plans. Plus tasting of Fairtrade goods.

Friday 19 March

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Guildhall (7pm): *Oxfam Event*. Green MEP Caroline Lucas talks about a recent trip to Palestine.

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Concert*. Portsmouth High School spring concert.

Friday 19 March - Sunday 22 March

SHANKLIN, St Blasius Church, Church Road (10am-4pm): *Spring flower festival to celebrate church's 850th year*. Refreshments available on Friday and Saturday (except during wedding: 1.30pm-2.30pm), and after morning service on Sunday. See page 5 for details.

Saturday 20 March

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Concert*. Portsmouth Festival Choir, Chameleon Arts Orchestra and soloists, conducted by David Truslove. Tickets: (£10-£12; students: £5-£6) on 023-9284 3501.

Thursday 25 March

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (7.30pm): *Mass for the Feast of the Annunciation, followed by talk*. The second in a series of talks in preparation for the archaeology project at St Mary's, entitled: 'The early history of Christianity in the area.'

Saturday 27 March

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (9.45am): *Friends Quiet Day*. 'The Way We Pray', led by diocesan spirituality

letter to the editor

Dear editor,

I am sure that I am not alone in regretting the demise of the *Mystery Worshipper*, particularly since my two churches were never featured. Perhaps it was a case of keeping the best until last!

It would be easy to criticise its replacement, *A-Z of the Church of England*, for being occasionally irreverent. This was certainly the case with the recent definition of 'Chalice'. But, then again, I found the definitions of 'Charismatic' and 'Chorus' rather amusing.

No, my criticism concerns inaccuracies. Last month it said of 'Chrism' that it 'can be used when praying for healing'. Surely the oil to use in this context would be '*oleum infirmorum*', the Oil of the Sick?

The Oil of Chrism is indeed a mixture of pure olive oil and perfume, traditionally balsam. This is one of the three oils blessed by the Bishop at the annual Chrism Mass. The blessing of the Oil of Chrism is a reserved blessing - only a bishop can do it. Chrism is used for the post-baptismal anointing (sometimes called 'Chrismation'), anointing at Confirmation and Ordination.

It would be nice to think of the Oil of Chrism, along with the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick being "...whisked away to all points around the diocese." I suspect the reality is somewhat different!

*Yours faithfully,
Fr Richard Smith*

Vicar of Lake and Shanklin, St Saviour

adviser the Rev Peter Lippiett. Cost: £5 (incl. lunch). Ring 023-9282 5500 to book.
PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street (10.30am-2.30pm): *Spring fayre and scarecrow festival*. Displays, stalls, competitions, craft activities, refreshments. Admission: 20p. Accompanied children: free.
FAREHAM, Ferneham Hall, Osborn Road (7.30pm): *Concert*. Havant Symphony Orchestra. Tickets: 01329 231942

Sunday 28 March

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (7.30pm): *St John Passion by JS Bach*. Sung by Portsmouth Choral Union and choir of Portsmouth High School, conducted by Jonathan Willcocks with Southern Pro Musica. Tickets (£6.50-

£8.50) from 023-9282 2227/023-9287 5816 or portsmouth.choral-union@ntlworld.com
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (8pm): *Taizé-style night prayer*.

Monday 29 March

NEWPORT, St Thomas's Church, (7.15pm): *Kairos roadshow for the Isle of Wight*. Led by the bishop. Investigating the challenges facing our diocese in the future. See pages 6-7 for details.

● *Would you like your events for April listed here and on our diocesan website (www.portsmouth.anglican.org). Send details to: The Pompey Chimes, Cathedral House, St Thomas's Street, Portsmouth, PO1 2HA by March 8.*

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situation vacant

IDWAL: The inter-Diocesan West Africa Link (IDWAL) committee have agreed to investigate buying 20 refurbished computers from the charity Computeraid, to send two computers to each diocese in Ghana. Would you like to spend three months installing and setting up computers in each of the diocesan centres, and training

local administrators to use them? This is an opportunity that will profoundly benefit the Anglican Church in Ghana. Flights and expenses will be paid for by IDWAL. Travelling will be required, and accommodation will be simple. Contact: the Rev Barry Dugmore (023-9225 9219).