



Di Parsons

Join Di to sample rollercoaster ride

MOST mums would agree that motherhood has its ups and downs – from baby's first smile to sleepless nights, and from their proud achievements to teenage tantrums.

'Motherhood – A Rollercoaster Ride' is the title of a session led by Dianne Parsons and Marion White which will take place on October 12 at St Mary's Church, Fratton Road,

Portsmouth.

They will talk about the mother's role, including how to discipline children and how to juggle tasks as a modern-day mum. And they will cover issues to do with single parenting and adopting children.

The event is part of a tour organised by Care for the Family, a national Christian organisation that aims to

strengthen family life.

Dianne, who has two grown-up children herself, has spoken to thousands of women at Spring Harvest and other Christian events. Her husband Rob is Care for the Family's executive director. Marion, who is a mum and a grandmother, also speaks at Spring Harvest.

"Most mums find it helpful just to know that they're not the

only ones with a teenager who doesn't want to talk, a strong-willed toddler, or a baby who won't go to sleep," said Dianne. "It's very important that mums know they aren't in this alone."

The event happens between 7.30pm and 10pm. Tickets are £6 per person and can be booked in advance on 029-2081 0800. For more information, see: www.care-for-the-family.org.uk

Pompey
Chimes

DEADLINE FOR
NOVEMBER
EDITION: Monday 11
October

AVAILABLE FOR
PARISHES TO COL-
LECT FROM
DEANERY DEPOTS:
Thursday 28 October

AVAILABLE IN
YOUR CHURCH:
Sunday 31 October

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New directory may ease frustrations

FRUSTRATED because you can't contact clergy or PCC officials from another parish? Struggling to access our online diocesan directory?

Help is now at hand – a new paper version of the names and contact details for post-holders around the diocese is about to become available.

Clergy and others have expressed understandable concern recently about our diocesan directory. An up-to-date version exists in a secure part of our diocesan website (www.portsmouth.anglican.org). For data protection reasons, this is accessible only to those whose names appear in it.

However, not everyone has computers and even those with internet access don't always want to go online

merely to find out a phone number. So a new paper version of the online directory will be available on demand from December – once the current overhaul of names, posts and contact details is complete.

Communications adviser Neil Pugmire said: "It was always our intention to create a paper version as well as an online version, but we first wanted to make sure that our information was correct and that our proposed new system worked!

"That involved a complete overhaul of our website, which was done by May 2004, then a revamp of the online directory to iron out glitches and inaccuracies, a process that is now in progress. We hope the new version of the online directory will be ready for people to use by November 1.

"All those named in it should then

receive a letter or e-mail listing the details we hold about them. We'd like people to check those details carefully during November and let us know any inaccuracies.

"From 1 December we should then be in a position to offer everyone paper copies of the new directory.

"The advantage of our new system is that the online directory will be updated daily. We will therefore be able to print out a paper version of the online directory for you on request that will be bang up-to-date.

"If, for some reason, you need to receive an updated paper version several times a year, it will be possible to provide you with one as often as you like. Equally, a new incumbent can receive an up-to-date version from the moment they set foot in our diocese.

"It will be available directly from

the diocesan offices and not from church bookshops as before, at a price that will cover the cost of production.

"Of course, the data will only be as up-to-date as the information received from parishes, so it's vital for us to be told of changes as they happen."

Much of the work to create a new version of the diocesan directory has been done by the Rev Simon Rundell, now vicar of St Thomas's Church in Elson, Gosport.

His previous experience as a computer programmer meant he was able to create a new, more logical structure to store the data that the diocese holds about individuals.

The new system should also enable our diocesan office to target its letters and e-mails more carefully at those clergy, Readers, PCC officials and others who need to receive them.

Community life gave us real sense of peace

TWO Waterlooville teenagers had an eye-opening experience at the Taizé community in France this summer.

Amy Nash, 19, and her sister Becky, 15, were among a group from St Peter's Church, Petersfield, who joined 5,000 youngsters from across the world at the religious community in Burgundy.

They were led by their then curate, the Rev Toby Wright, and diocesan spirituality adviser the Rev Peter Lippiett.

They experienced the daily routine of manual work, worship, Bible study and discussion groups, meeting Christians from umpteen cultures.

"Taizé is a truly amazing place and unlike anything that we had experienced before," said Amy. "Meeting 5,000 people was at first rather daunting, but quickly became exciting and stimulating, as we talked to people who we would never



have a chance to speak to or meet normally."

"The true highlight of the week was the church," said Becky. "Services revolve around simple chants, which are quite meditative and at times very moving. The services were very relaxed and there was

never any definite end as the church was open 24 hours a day. Singing and prayer continued long into the night."

And Amy said: "We have both never felt so calm and really hope to bring something of our experience back to St

Peter's."

The Taizé community was formed during the Second World War and is now home for more than 100 brothers from both Catholic and Protestant backgrounds, from more than 25 nations.



(Above): Saturday evening prayer at the Taizé community in France; (left): Becky and Amy Nash, from Waterlooville, at Taizé