

Service marks decade of care

A SPECIAL service to mark 10 years since the opening of the Rowans Hospice will be held at our cathedral this month.

Families and others who want to give thanks to God for the hospice and to celebrate the lives of those who have been patients there over the past 10 years will be invited to attend. It takes place at 3pm on Sunday 17 October.

The service will be the 10th annual memorial and thanksgiving service to be held since The Rowans first opened in 1994.

It will be a family service, with children and babies welcome to attend with their parents. The speaker will be Len Lunn from St Christopher's Hospice.

Anyone who would like to attend should contact Elaine Davenport at the Rowans on 023-9225 0001 to help cathedral staff with the layout for the service.

The Rowans Hospice offers palliative care to those suffering from terminal illnesses, and patients are supported not just by medical staff but by a chaplain, Lance Blake.

It's now 11 years since an appeal to build a new hospice for the Portsmouth area was launched in June 1993, when the first turf was cut on 3.2 acres of Purbrook land donated by the Squire of Southwick.

The building was symbolical-



Chaplain Lance Blake in the courtyard of the Rowans Hospice in Purbrook

ly completed by May 1994 and the first patients were admitted in October that year.

One recent patient was Lesley Reader, wife of Trevor, the Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight. She has terminal cancer, and spent a couple of weeks there before being transferred to the Earl Mountbatten Hospice on the island.

"After just four days at the Rowans, Les was able to say to the bishop that she felt 'resurrected'," said Trevor. "It was something to do with the ethos of care for the whole person.

"Everybody had time for her, there was freedom for us as a

family to stay overnight without feeling as though we were intruding, and they were always planning for the future.

"The occupational therapists worked with her there and then passed on a plan to their colleagues on the Isle of Wight.

"And they have very impressive support from volunteers there, who care for the gardens, provide meals and do many other things.

"It was a really good stepping stone for Les, and she said the Rowans made her feel normal."

For more information about the hospice, see: www.rowanshospice.co.uk

Find out more about healing

EVER wondered what Christian healing is? Or why not everyone is always cured? Here's a chance to find out more about the concept of healing and wholeness.

A five-session course, entitled 'Growing a Healing Ministry' will be held at St Mary's Church, Warsash, on Sunday afternoons during the autumn.

It was first presented to worshippers at Warsash in 2002, since when the ministry of healing has developed in the parish. There are regular healing services and a team of around 10 people who offer healing prayer for others.

Churches in the Fareham deanery have decided to offer the course to those interest-

ed across the diocese - though there is a limit of 30 places available.

The sessions, produced by the Acorn Christian Foundation, each last for two hours, and it's essential that those taking part come to each session.

It starts on October 31, and continues on subsequent Sundays, from 4pm-6pm in the church lounge at St Mary's, Church Road, Warsash. Tea will be available from 3.30pm.

There is no fee, but a donation of £5 towards materials would be appreciated.

Anyone interested should contact the Rev Andrew Norris on 01489-572324, Neville Hall on 01489-589812 or Nick St John on 01489-574589.

STAFF URGENTLY NEEDED

>Canteen Supervisor

Gilead Foundations is looking for an exceptional person to take responsibility as supervisor of our catering and canteen facilities. This will involve planning, budgeting and supervision of all meal preparation, for up to 60 people, 3 times a day. Must be a qualified chef/cook.

This is a live-in post with salary approx £15k p.a depending on experience.

>House Parents

We urgently need HOUSE PARENTS to provide a stable family environment for students helping them with their problems and giving spiritual and practical counsel in a parental role. These posts would ideally suit mature couples, with the pastoral experience of dealing with men and women with deep-rooted problems in their lives. These are live-in posts with a combined salary of approx £18,000 depending on experience.

If you are interested in either of the above vacancies, please apply in writing with a current CV to:

Gilead Foundations Vacancies, c/o Chris Girdler
Cornerstone Vision, 28 Old Park Road,
Peeverell, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4PY (01752 242262)

If YOU need help...

You may be in need of help personally, or may have a friend or member of your family who could benefit from spending time at Gilead Foundations. If so, please contact our office for details on how to apply. (See below for contact name and address)

How You Can Help...

• With financial gifts • Standing order donations • Practical items • Inviting a team to your church • By telling people in need about Gilead • Praying for the team • Giving financial support to the team as they go out in faith • Coming to work with the team - even for a short time

Contact: Lois Samuel, PR Dept, Gilead Foundations Charity,
Risdon Farm, Jacobstowe, Okehampton, Devon EX20 3AJ
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Gilead
FOUNDATIONS 

Churches unite in candlelight

CHRISTIANS from across Fareham will hold a candlelit procession through the town before an ecumenical celebration.

They will walk from the bandstand in Fareham's town centre to Ferneham Hall for an evening of worship, prayer, drama and testimony on October 26. The theme will be Jesus as the light of the world.

This will be the third year running that churches from all denominations in Fareham borough have joined forces at this time of year.

The candlelit walk through the town centre is designed to act as a public declaration that Jesus is stronger than the

forces of evil that are often emphasised at Halloween.

Worshippers are being urged to meet up at 7.10pm at the bandstand, where candles will be given out. The event at Ferneham Hall will start at 7.30pm and will also include a fellowship supper.

There will also be a children's 'Bright Lights' party running in parallel with the celebration in the adjoining Octagon Room.

The children will re-join the adults towards the end of the evening and will perform their own item on stage.

Graham Bowers, from Fareham Community Church, who is part of the planning

group, said: "We expect the hall to be packed with Christians from all over the borough and beyond, and want to extend an invitation to anyone to come. It should be a great evening.

"The purpose of calling all churches to come together in this way is to celebrate and declare Jesus as the light and hope of the world, to pray for our borough during this season of Halloween activities and to recognise and celebrate our oneness and unity as the family of God."

Last year around 450 people came to a similar event at Ferneham Hall entitled 'Come Let Us Worship'.

HAVE YOU GOT THE BOTTLE

