



Jean Maslin

Goodbye after 15 years working for bishops

THE bishop has appointed a new secretary to replace Jean Maslin, who has retired after 15 years in the job. Judy Couzens started work at Bishops Grove last month.

Jean retired after serving two separate Bishops of Portsmouth and four bishop's chaplains in two different locations. She started working part-time for Bishop Timothy Bavin in Bishopswood, the 10-bedroomed thatched home off

The Avenue in Fareham that also doubled as his office.

"I'd worked as a secretary before having children, but working for the Church was completely different," she said. "People have a totally different attitude, which isn't so business-like, but more caring. I remember thinking I wanted to help make the bishop's office as approachable as I could."

Bishop Kenneth took over in 1995, and a re-jigging of his

staff meant Jean could work full-time, and Kenneth also recruited Julie Anderson as a second secretary. Kenneth, his family and his staff all moved to the smaller Bishops Grove, in Osborn Road, in 1996.

"Both Timothy and Kenneth have been a delight to work for," said Jean. "The interesting thing about the job is that every day is different – you don't know what's going to happen day-by-day. But it's

been a joy to have felt like a small cog in a big organisation like the Church. There's been lots of highlights and some sadnesses, such as the bishop's recent illness.

"I'll miss the bishop, his family and colleagues, although I'll still see them. But I'll be able to spend more time with my grandchildren and in my garden in my retirement, and catch up on things I haven't been able to do previously."

Deacons and priests to be ordained at cathedral

EIGHT people will be ordained as deacons and seven as priests at our cathedral this month.

Bishop Kenneth will ordain Philip Amey to serve as curate at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Southsea, at 6pm on July 1, along with Thelma Barber (St John's, Purbrook), Judith Bee (Hambledon), Joanna Farrell (Froxfield), Vivienne Heenan (Whitwell and Niton), Ian Hill (St John's, Fareham) Meg Kirby (St Cuthbert's, Copnor) and Simon Lewis (Ventnor and Bonchurch).

The following morning at 10.30pm, he will ordain the Rev Margaret Hay as a priest to serve at St Thomas's, Elson, as well as the Rev Valerie Howes (Droxford, Meonstoke, Corhampton and Exton), the Rev Tom Kennar (Warblington with Emsworth), the Rev Mark Rodel (St Jude's, Southsea), the Rev Gary Snape (Holy Trinity with St Columba, Fareham), the Rev Susan Whitelock (St Mary's, Fratton) and the Rev Ronnie Williams (St Wilfrid's, Cowplain).

Closure as staff move to new base

OUR diocesan offices will be closed for two weeks this summer as staff move to a new location.

Central diocesan staff will move to their new home at Peninsular House, off the M275, between July 24 and August 4. During that time, our archdeacons will be fielding enquiries from parishes.

Our diocese bought the five-storey former P&O headquarters in partnership with Portsmouth Housing Association. Our diocese owns two of the floors, one of which will be rented out to help pay for the maintenance of the building.

It means all our diocesan staff will be together in the same building for the first time, which will improve co-ordination. Until now, board of finance and board of edu-



cation staff have been at Cathedral House and board of mission staff at All Saints' Church. The new offices will also provide a more modern, open-plan environment for staff and visitors.

The new address for the diocesan offices from July 31 will be: First Floor, Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth, PO2 8TA. The current phone number 023-9282 5731 will not work after July 24.

Individual staff will have direct-dial phone numbers and voice mail for the first time – though the exact numbers have not yet been allocated by BT. A directory listing those numbers will be circulated to parishes and published in the *Pompey Chimes* when they are known. E-mail addresses will also change to make it easier to contact the right person but the existing addresses will also continue to work.

contact the Archdeacon of Portsdown, the Ven Trevor Reader, on 023-9243 2693. And Isle of Wight parishes should contact the Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight's office on 01983-884432.

Deputy diocesan secretary Andrew Robinson, who is overseeing the move, said: "We obviously want to keep disruption to a minimum during our move, but it will take us a fortnight to pack, move and unpack. I hope parishes will bear with us during the move. Normal service will be resumed on August 7.

"I hope we can also hold a series of open days some time in September so clergy and parishioners can see for themselves how much better our new offices are.

"Ultimately, we believe that having all staff in one open plan, modern office will make it easier for us to offer advice, support and service to parishes, and improve how we work together as a central staff team."

Pompey Chimes

The *Pompey Chimes* is the official newspaper of the Anglican Diocese of Portsmouth, which covers 142 parishes in south-east Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Its total circulation is 9,000, and it is produced monthly except for January and August. Each of our parishes pays 15p for each copy, which allows our readers to pick it up for free on the final Sunday of each month. Adverts are dealt with by our publishers, Cornerstone Vision.

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AVAILABLE FOR PARISHES TO COLLECT FROM DEANERY DEPOTS: Thursday 24 August

AVAILABLE IN YOUR CHURCH: Sunday 27 August

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Cellists play on the roof

THREE cellists will play on the roof of our cathedral during July as part of a fund-raising stunt for charity.

The Sheffield musicians - Jeremy Dawson, James Rees and Clare Wallace - are trying to visit 42 cathedrals in England in the space of 12 days this summer to raise £5,000 for the charities Shelter and Aspire.

The Extreme Cello Trio tour will come to Portsmouth on July 26, when the musi-

cians will scale the roof over the south ambulatory. As our cathedral should be the third of four visited that day, it's difficult to be precise about the exact timing of the visit.

The trio invented 'extreme cello playing' after playing in several extreme locations in the Peak District.

The performance will only last a few minutes, but audience members are welcome to listen from the ground. More on www.extreme-cello.com.