



Above left: the new open-plan office; above right: an 'Interfusion' group meets in one of the smaller meeting rooms

All welcome for office open day

THERE was a palpable sense of excitement as our diocesan staff explored their new offices for the first time.

After months of preparations and weeks of packing, they transferred to their new base at the start of August. It was the first time our diocesan staff had all been based in the same location.

The modern office in Peninsular House, just off the M275, has many features that help to improve the working environment for staff. The building is open-plan, air-conditioned, more

secure and has impeccable environmental credentials. It includes a staff room, large meeting room, proper reception, decent storage facilities, and a bike shed and shower. Staff have direct-dial phone numbers and voice mail for the first time, as well as new, easy-to-remember e-mail addresses, up-to-date computer technology and networked photocopying facilities.

The bishop visited between chemotherapy treatments to bless the new office. He left a large, carved wooden cross from the Carpathian Mountains, which was presented to him by Polish Lutherans, and a crozier made from wood from the Far East.

Both are now on display in the reception area.

And worshippers and others from across our diocese will be given a chance to see the new office for themselves. An open day will be held on September 28, from 9am-7pm, when anyone can pop in and be given a guided tour.

Bishop Kenneth said: "The new premises are eye-catching in every sense. Everyone will be working on the same floor, with separate rooms for the various team leaders. I was really impressed by what I saw.

"Andrew Robinson has done a splendid job in setting up the arrangements that have led us to where we are now. This all means

we are in for a much more creative and collaborative time!"

The catalyst for the move was the cathedral's vision to create new education, music and community facilities in Cathedral House, which it owns. Our Bishop's Council agreed that our diocese should buy office facilities so that staff who previously worked in separate places could work together.

Peninsular House, near the cross-channel ferry port, was bought jointly by our diocese and Portsmouth Housing Association - PHA has the top three floors and our diocese has the bottom two. The ground floor will be rented out to provide our diocese with a regular income.

Deputy diocesan secretary Andrew Robinson said: "Apart from the financial benefits of our new offices, the driving force behind this move has been to provide a modern, comfortable environment for our staff where they can work together more effectively. Already we are seeing the benefits of staff being able to co-ordinate ideas across what used to be separate Boards."

The office move coincided with our new diocesan structures, which were agreed by diocesan synod in June, and are explained on pages 8-9. Diocesan staff will work in one of four sections - Mission and Resources, Mission and Education, Mission and Discipleship or Mission and Society.

Every effort will be made to provide transport for those from the Isle of Wight attending meetings in Peninsular House.

Priest now at helm of counselling service

THE counselling service at a Portsmouth church has a new person at the helm.

The Rev Dr John Preston has taken over from Jackie Brookfield as the leader of the All Saints' Counselling Service. John spent almost 40 years as a parish priest and is a former healing adviser for Winchester diocese. He is an accredited psychosexual therapist and has been working in the NHS and as a counsellor for a major local employer since retiring from stipendiary ministry.

Jackie, a Reader from the Bishop's Waltham deanery, launched her vision for a church-based counselling service in 1995, encouraged and supported by the vicar, the Rev Len Fox.



Since then, hundreds of people from across our diocese -

and those of other faiths and no faith - have been helped by qualified, committed Christians. Many of those counselled were facing grief and loss, depression or low self-esteem, anger, sexual confusion or relationship difficulties.

John said: "I see counselling as a very important part of the Church's ministry of bringing healing and wholeness to all. This service makes counselling available to people who wouldn't otherwise have access to it. Each client pays according to ability."

For more information, contact 023-9286 3087 (24 hours).

Cathedral job for Ian again

OUR former Canon Missioner, the Ven Ian Jagger, is back working in a cathedral again.

He has been appointed as Archdeacon of Durham and as a residentiary canon of Durham Cathedral. He will also head up the Durham diocese's Council for Mission.

Ian worked as Canon Missioner and was a residentiary canon at our cathedral before becoming Archdeacon of Auckland in 2001.

NEW INDIVIDUAL STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

NEW ADDRESS:

Diocese of Portsmouth, First Floor, Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth, PO2 8HB
Fax number: 023-9289 9651

DIRECT DIAL PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAILS:

- Suzanne Baker** (senior finance officer): 023-9289 9683 or suzanne.baker@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Tony Blackshaw** (acting director of education and head of Mission and Education section): 023-9289 9657 or tony.blackshaw@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Jane Dobbs** (PA to diocesan and deputy diocesan secretaries): 023-9289 9664 or jane.dobbs@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Chris Flatman** (property manager): 023-9289 9661 or chris.flatman@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Sue Ganter** ('Interfusion' youth interfaith co-ordinator): 023-9289 9675 or interfusion@freenet.co.uk
- Liz Goodyer** (administrative secretary): 023-9289 9672 or liz.goodyer@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Craig Harkness** (administrative assistant): 023-9289 9662 or craig.harkness@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Brian Hay** (schools support officer): 023-9289 9653 or brian.hay@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Margaret Hay** (finance officer): 023-9289 9667 or margaret.hay@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Liz Hodson** (education secretary): 023-9289 9658 or

- liz.hodson@portsmouth.anglican.org
- David Issac** (head of Mission and Discipleship section): 023-9289 9654 or david.isaac@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Taki Jaffer** (interfaith co-ordinator): 023-9289 9676 or interfaith@freenet.co.uk
- Michael Jordan** (diocesan secretary): 023-9289 9664 or michael.jordan@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Kay Lancaster** (administrative secretary): 023-9289 9656 or kay.lancaster@portsmouth.anglican.org
- John Marshman** (child protection adviser): 023-9289 9665 or john.marshman@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Ben Mizen** (youth and children's work adviser): 023-9289 9652 or ben.mizen@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Jackie Paterson** (voluntary care groups adviser): 023-9289 9671 or jackie.paterson@neighbourcare.org.uk
- Neil Pugmire** (communications adviser): 023-9289 9673 or neil.pugmire@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Nick Ralph** (head of Mission and Society section): 023-9289 9674 or nick.ralph@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Andrew Robinson** (deputy diocesan secretary and head of Mission and Resources section): 023-9289 9664 or andrew.robinson@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Gordon Uphill** (parish resources adviser): 023-9289 9655 or gordon.uphill@portsmouth.anglican.org
- Rebecca Williams** (central services manager): 023-9289 9660 or rebecca.williams@portsmouth.anglican.org