

Friday 30 November

PORTCHESTER, Portchester Methodist Church, Castle Street (5pm-9pm): *Fresh Expressions roadshow.* Discover more about Fresh Expressions of Church, including Liquid Church and Godly Play, and share a simple meal. Details: Garry Bagshaw (01329-845978).

Saturday 1 December

ROWLANDS CASTLE, St John the Baptist Church (10am-4pm): *Readers' quiet day.* Quiet, reflective day to welcome Jesus to Advent season. Contact: Mary Close (023-9248 0650).
BEMBRIDGE, Holy Trinity Church (10am-5pm): *Exhibition of Christmas cribs.*
WOOTTON, St Mark's Church, Station Road (10am-1pm): *Christmas fair and big breakfast.*
PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street (10.30am): *Christmas fair.*
WIDLEY, Christ Church hall (10.30am-2pm): *Advent fayre.* Admission: 50p.
GOSPORT, St Mary the Virgin, Rowner Lane, Rowner (3.30pm): *The Compassionate Friends candlelight service.* For bereaved parents and their families. Worshippers can bring an unframed photograph of their child (maximum size: 5in x 7in), for display during the service.
FAREHAM, Ferneham Hall, Osborn Road (7.30pm): *Concert by Havant Symphony Orchestra.* Tickets: £16.50/£6.50, available on 01329-231942.

Sunday 2 December

PORTSMOUTH, St Nicholas' Church, Battenburg Avenue (10am): *Toy service and parade.*
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral (6pm): *Advent carol service.*
PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (6.30pm): *Candlelit Advent service.*
STUBBINGTON, Holy Rood Church (7pm): *Advent Labyrinth.* See pages 8-9 for details.

Monday 3 December

ROWLANDS CASTLE, St John's church hall (6.15pm-9pm): *Advanced training for churchwardens.* For those with experience of being churchwardens. Cost: £5. Contact: Kay Lancaster (023-9289 9656).

Wednesday 5 December

SOUTHSEA, House of Bethany, 7 Nelson Road (7.30pm): *Advent carol service.* Tickets: £2.50, in aid of Goodwill Children's Homes, Tamil Nadu, India. Speaker: Sue Huggins. Details: 023-9283 3498 or sss@sistersofbethany.org.uk.

Thursday 6 December -**Saturday 8 December**

PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (Thurs: 9.30am-4pm; Fri: 9.30am-6pm; Sat: 10.30am-noon): *Christmas tree festival.* Entrance free. See pages 8-9 for details.

Thursday 6 December -**Sunday 9 December**

BRIGHSTONE, St Mary's Church, Methodist Church & Wilberforce Hall, and MOTTISTONE, Mottistone Church (10am-5pm): *Christmas tree festival.* See pages 8-9 for details.

Thursday 6 December

FAREHAM, West Street (4.45pm): *Carols round the Christmas tree.*
WOOTTON, The Cedars pub, Station Road (6.30pm): *Lights of Love carol service.* In aid of Isle of Wight hospice.

Saturday 8 December

PORTSMOUTH, St Nicholas Church, Battenburg Avenue (9am): *Ladies breakfast;* (7.30pm): *Christmas guitar*

MELCHIOR'S MAGICAL MYSTERY QUEST

Top Cat Theatre Company present this family Christmas show, which is suitable for children and adults aged five and above. Tickets, priced at £4 (children: £2.50) are available on the box office numbers below. See www.topcattheatre.com for details.

Wednesday 5 December

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (6pm): Box office: 023-9229 3020.

Saturday 8 December

COWPLAIN, St Wilfrid's Church, Padnell Road (7pm): Box office: 023-9226 2295.

Sunday 9 December

PORTSMOUTH, Church of the Resurrection, Penrhyn Avenue, Drayton (10am): Box office: 023-9242 1849 or office@farlingtonparish.co.uk.
PORTSMOUTH, Paulsgrove Baptist Church, Woofferton Road (5pm): Box office: 023-9237 7814.

Saturday 15 December

BOTLEY, Market Hall, High Street (7.30pm): Box office: 01489-782445.

concert by Havant Area Guitar Orchestra. Tickets: £5, available on 023-9261 2450.

PORTSMOUTH, St John's RC

Cathedral, Edinburgh Road (10.30am-3.30pm): *A Day With Mary.* Joint cathedral study day. Anglican and Roman Catholic speakers discuss the role of Mary, the mother of Jesus, in scripture, art and devotion. Details: Canon Alan Wilkinson (023-9273 6270).

HAYLING ISLAND, Northney Village Hall (11am-2pm): *Advent fair.*

BOTLEY, All Saints Church, High Street (7.30pm): *Christmas concert by Botley Choral Society.* Includes music by Vaughan Williams and J Willcocks, and selection of carols. Tickets: £8/£6 (under 16s: free), available on 01489-795618.

Sunday 9 December

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (3pm): *The News' annual Christingle service.*

Tuesday 11 December

BISHOP'S WALTHAM, St Peter's Church (7.30pm): *Concert of Christmas music and carols performed by Meon Voices.* Admission free, retiring collection for the Church overseas.

WOOTTON, St Mark's Church, Station Road (7.30pm): *Village carols.*

Thursday 13 December

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Naomi House 'Light Up A Life' carol service.*

Friday 14 December

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (12noon): *Carol service and distribution of vouchers to help the homeless and asylum seekers.* See page 8-9 for details.

Saturday 15 December

STUBBINGTON, Holy Rood Church (9am-2pm): *Live Nativity.* See pages 8-9 for details.

SOUTHSEA, House of Bethany, 7 Nelson Road (10am-4pm): *Quiet day.* Led by the Rev Richard Smith. Please bring a packed lunch, drinks and tea provided. Cost: £5. Please let the Sisters know if you want to attend on 023-9283 3498 or sss@sistersofbethany.org.uk
FAREHAM, Holy Trinity Church, West Street (5.30pm and 8pm): *Candlelight Christmas concert by Fareham Philharmonic Choir.* Earlier performance includes new youth choir. Later performance features a choral work. Tickets: £7/£5.50/£2 available on 01329-664948.

**Saturday 22 December**

EMSWORTH, St James' Church, Church Path (10am): Box office: 01243-372428.

HAYLING ISLAND, Hayling United Reformed Church, Hollow Lane (6pm): Box office: 023-9246 0742.

Sunday 23 December

SOUTHSEA, St Jude's Church, Kent Road (4pm): Box office: 023-9275 0442.

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (7.30pm): *Christmas carols and music sung by Portsmouth Choral Union, accompanied by Hampshire County Youth Choir.* Tickets: £11, children: £1, available on 023-9282 2227.

Sunday 16 December

WICKHAM, Park Place Pastoral Centre (12.30pm): *A Taste of India.* Indian meal in aid of the Franciscan Sisters of Place mission charity for medical projects in India. Tickets £15/£7. Contact: Sister Judith (01329- 833043).
PURBROOK, St John the Baptist Church (4pm): *Christingle service.*
FAREHAM, Holy Trinity, West Street & St Columba, Hillson Drive (5pm): *Christingle service.*
PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (7.30pm): *A Victorian Christmas, presented by The Maddening Crowd.* To mark start of a year of celebration of the centenary of St Wilfrid's. Includes gallery band music and mummers play. Tickets are free, but should be booked on 023-9229 3020.

Friday 21 December

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (6pm): *Evensong with Britten's Ceremony of Carols.*
COWPLAIN, St Wilfrid's Church, Padnell Road (7pm): *Cosmic Christmas.* Family Christmas show. Free entrance. Also on December 22.

Saturday 22 December

FAREHAM, Fareham Shopping Centre (10am): *Carols sung by Churches Together in Fareham.*
WATERLOOVILLE, Westbrook Church, Westbrook Hall, Tempest Avenue (12noon-3pm): *Free Christmas fun.* See pages 8-9 for details.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (3pm and 7.30pm): *Carol service sung by the cathedral choir.*

Sunday 23 December

WOOTTON, St Mark's Church, Station Road (10am): *The Nativity from scratch.* See pages 8-9 for details.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (10.30am): *Joint Eucharist;* (7.30pm): *Carol service sung by the cathedral choir.*
PURBROOK, St John the Baptist Church (6pm): *Nine Lessons and Carols.*
WOOTTON, St Edmund's Church, Church Road (6.30pm): *Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.*

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (6.30pm):

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Readings, carols sung by congregation and choir, then sherry and mince pies.

FAREHAM, Holy Trinity, West Street (6.30pm): *Carol service.*

Christmas Eve

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (3pm and 4.30pm): *Crib service;* (11.30pm): *Midnight Eucharist.*

FAREHAM, Holy Trinity, West Street & St Columba, Hillson Drive (3pm):

Crib service; (7pm): *Carols by candlelight;* (11.30pm): *Midnight mass.*

WOOTTON, St Mark's Church, Station Road (4pm): *Christingle service;* (11.30pm): *Midnight mass.*

PURBROOK, St John the Baptist Church (4pm): *Crib service.* Children come dressed as characters from the Christmas story; (11pm): *Midnight mass.*

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (5pm): *Nativity service.* The Christmas story told by the church's children and young people; (11.30pm): *Midnight mass.*

GOSPORT, St Mary the Virgin, Rowner Lane, Rowner (5pm): *Crib service.* See page 1 for details.

PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street (6pm): *Nativity service and Christingle;* (11.30pm): *Midnight mass.*

PORTSMOUTH, St Faith's Church, Landport (11.30pm): *Midnight mass.*

Christmas Day

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (8am):

Eucharist; (9.30am): *Parish Eucharist with carols;* (11.15am): *Sung Eucharist with carols;* (4pm): *Evening prayer.*

FAREHAM, Holy Trinity, West Street & St Columba, Hillson Drive (8am): *Holy Communion;* (9.30am): *Family Communion.*

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (9am): *Book of Common Prayer Communion;* (10am): *Christmas morning mass and carols.*

PORTSMOUTH, St Faith's Church, Landport (10am): *Christmas mass and carols.*

WOOTTON, St Edmund's Church (10am): *Family Communion.*

PURBROOK, Purbrook Methodist Church, Stakes Road (10.30am): *Christmas morning worship.* Joint Anglican-Methodist service.

Sunday 30 December

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (6pm): *Taizé-style night prayer.*

New Year's Eve

PORTSMOUTH, St Nicholas Church, Battenburg Avenue (9pm): *New Year's Eve party.* Tickets: £2, available on 023-9273 1842.

Saturday 5 January

PORTSMOUTH, St Nicholas Church, Battenburg Avenue, Copnor (10am-12noon): *Table-top sale.* Admission: 20p. To book a table: £5 (please ring 023-9243 3811). Refreshments available.

GOSPORT, St Mary's Church, Green Road, Alverstoke (7.30pm): *Come and sing Fauré's Requiem.* Hosted by

Portsmouth Choral Union. Tickets: £5 (singers), £3 (audience). Rehearsal starts 7.30pm, refreshments at 8.30pm, performance at 8.45pm. Details: 023-9246 1802.

Friday 11 January

WHITWELL, St Mary and St Rhadegund Church (7.30pm): *Organ recital by Andrew Cooper.* Cost: £5, including programme and refreshments.

Saturday 12 January

NEWPORT, Medina Theatre (7.30pm): *Hope 2008 Vision.* An evening of worship and praise, featuring the Isle of Wight Gospel Choir. Part of Hope 2008. Free entry. Tickets available from the theatre, on 07896-462109 or david.ouston@btinternet.com

Sunday 13 January

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (6pm): *Epiphany carol service.*

Wednesday 16 January

PORTSMOUTH, Diocesan offices, Peninsular House, Wharf Road (7.30pm-9.30pm): *Training in children's ministry.* First of a series of six modules over the spring term for those working with children. Contact: Kay Lancaster (023-9289 9656).

Friday 18 January

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Concert by the Ludwig String Trio.* Tickets: £13.50/£11.

Saturday 19 December

SOUTHSEA, House of Bethany, 7 Nelson Road (10am-4pm): *Quiet day.* Please bring a packed lunch, drinks and tea provided. Cost: £5. Please let the Sisters know if you want to attend on 023-9283 3498 or sss@sistersofbethany.org.uk

Wednesday 23 January

SOUTHSEA, House of Bethany, 7 Nelson Road (2.30pm): *Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.* Marking 100 years since the start of this annual week of prayer.

Saturday 26 January

EMSWORTH, St James Church, Church Path (9.30am-4.30pm): *Musical in a Day.* See page 4 for details.

Sunday 27 January

WICKHAM, Park Place Pastoral Centre (10am-4pm): *Directing drama workshop.* With professional theatre director Clare Goddard. Cost: £15. Please bring packed lunch, drinks provided.

● *Would you like your church's events for February listed here? Send details to: Pompey Chimes, Diocese of Portsmouth, First Floor, Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth, PO2 8HB or to neil.pugmire@portsmouth.anglican.org by January 7. NB: There is no separate January edition.*

announcements

Appointments:

Sue Rodgers, Alice Wood and David Lisseter have accepted the bishop's invitation to become lay canons of Portsmouth Cathedral.

Brian Jones and Norden Patton have accepted the bishop's invitation to become lay canons emeritus.

Ian Gapp has now started as regional head of IT for Portsmouth, Winchester,

Chichester and Guildford dioceses.

Date:

The Rev Carrie Thompson, assistant curate in the Parish of St Giles, with special responsibility for St Matthew's Church, Camberwell (Southwark diocese) will be instituted as vicar of St John the Evangelist, Forton, on January 28.