

Thursday 31 January

BEMBRIDGE, The Cloisters, Holy Trinity Church (7.30pm): *Ask the vicar.* Ever wondered what the difference was between a vicar, rector, deacon, curate and Reader? Or who can or can't take Communion? The Rev Andrew Menniss will try to answer your questions.

Friday 1 February

PORTSMOUTH, Discovery Centre, St John's RC Cathedral, Edinburgh Road (3.30pm-5.30pm): *Opening Doors, Opening Hearts.* Part of National Poverty and Homelessness Action Week. See page 3 for details.

Saturday 2 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Faith's Church, Crasswell Street, Landport (11.30am): *Sung mass for Candlemas.* Guest preacher: the Ven Caroline Baston, Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight.

Sunday 3 February

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (6pm): *Evensong for editors of parish magazines.* Including display of parish magazines from across the diocese. Followed by reception and presentation of prizes for the Most Improved Parish Magazine 2005-07.

Monday 4 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (7.30pm): *Mass and meditation.*

Tuesday 5 February

PORTSMOUTH, Fratton Community Centre, Fratton (7.30pm): *Caribbean party and pancake races.* Celebration for Shrove Tuesday organised by the parish of St Mary's, Fratton. Tickets: £5 (under-18s: £3) available on 023-9229 3020.

Wednesday 6 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (12noon): *Mass for Ash Wednesday.* Followed by charity lunch in aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal; (7.30pm): *Sung mass for Ash Wednesday.* Includes imposition of ashes and music by Allegri and Walton.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (6pm): *Sung Eucharist for Ash Wednesday.*

Thursday 7 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (12noon): *Charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Saturday 9 February

FRESHWATER, Freshwater Memorial Hall (10.30am-1.30pm): *Lenten brunches.* Churches Together in West Wight invite you to drop in for coffee, tea, soup and light lunches. Also bring and buy stall, cakes, groceries, preserves, plants and books. Proceeds split between Christian Aid, Tearfund, Christian Bus and West Wight Holiday Bible Club. Also on **February 16 & 23, March 1, 8, 15 & 22.** **PORTSMOUTH, John Pounds Church, High Street (7.15pm for 7.30pm):** *The 10th annual Charles Dickens birthday lecture.* 'Dickens and the Devil' by John Bowen. Contact: Geoffrey Christopher (023-92666 4205).

SOUTHSEA, The Kings Theatre, Albert Road (7.30pm): *Luv Esther.* Biblical musical extravaganza. Tickets: £10, available on 023-9282 8282. See page 3 for details.

Tuesday 12 February

TOTLAND BAY, Christ Church, Alum Bay New Road (7.30pm): *Organ recital.* By Jeremy Spurgeon, from All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton, Canada.

Wednesday 13 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church,

CATHEDRAL LENT LECTURES 2008

This series of lectures will focus on aspects of spirituality. Each happens on Sundays at 4pm, and are followed at 6pm by Choral Evensong in the cathedral, which will reflect the theme of the lecture. For more details, contact the cathedral on 023-9282 3300 or enquiries@portsmouthcathedral.org.uk

Sunday 10 February

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (4pm): *'Setting the Scene - postmodernity and how great spiritual traditions feed into it'* by Peter Tyler from Sarum College, Salisbury.

Sunday 17 February

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (4pm): *'Benedict and Balance - lifestyle, busyness and work balance: what has Benedict to offer?'* by Nicholas Buxton from St Stephen's House, Oxford, a participant in BBC2's *The Monastery*.

Sunday 24 February

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (4pm): *'Ignatius and the Imagination - uniting head with heart in discipleship, prayer and meditation'* by Gordon Mursell, the Bishop of Stafford.

Sunday 2 March

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (4pm): *'Charismatics and Christ - charismatic spirituality and discipleship'* by author Joyce Huggett.

Fratton Road, Fratton (12noon): *Mass and charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal; (7pm): *Choral meditation with music for children's voices.*

PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (2pm): *Portsmouth High School birthday service.*
PORTSMOUTH, Portland Building, University of Portsmouth (6pm): *Bio-fuels: a plea for common sense.* By Professor Roland Clift from the University of Surrey. Exploring some of the problems inherent in using bio-fuels, and setting out a more rational approach to bio-energy. Admission free, but places are limited. Please reserve a place on events@port.ac.uk or 023 9284 3757.

Thursday 14 February

PORTSMOUTH, Cathedral House, St Thomas's Street (12noon-1.30pm): *Lent lunch.* Also on **February 21 and 28** and on **March 6 and 13.**
PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (12noon): *Charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (1.10pm): *Lunchtime live.* Organ duet with Marcus Wibberley and Thomas Hewitt Jones.

Saturday 16 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (10.30am): *Valentine's coffee morning.* In aid of the British Heart Foundation.
PORTSMOUTH, St George's Church, St George's Square, Portsea (5pm-6.30pm): *Sharing the journey.* A chance to listen to each other's faith story. The latest in a series of informal sessions for spiritual seekers.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (6pm): *Baptism and confirmation.*
PORTSMOUTH, All Saints Church, Commercial Road (7.30pm): *Strictly Big Band.* Music from Glenn Miller, Count

Basie and Duke Ellington played by the Sarisbury Green Big Band. Tickets: £5, available from Sheila Francis on 023-9229 3020. Proceeds to the church's stonework appeal.



Coffee-pickers featured in the film *Black Gold*, March 5

Wednesday 20 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (12noon): *Mass and charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal; (7pm): *Choral meditation.*

Thursday 21 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (12noon): *Charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Friday 22 February

PORTSMOUTH, Cathedral House, St Thomas's Street (10.30am-12noon): *Coffee morning.* To raise funds for Women's World Day of Prayer. Entrance: 50p, including coffee and biscuits. Stalls include needlecraft, homemade cakes, bric-a-brac and raffle.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Concert.* Music in the Round - Emperor Piano Trio.

Saturday 23 February

SOUTHSEA, St Peter's Church, Playfair Road (2.30pm & 7.30pm): *Jack and the Beanstalk.* Pantomime presented by the parish of St Mary, Fratton. Tickets: 023-9229 3020.
PORTSMOUTH, Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street (7.30pm): *Concert.* Solent Symphony Orchestra.

Wednesday 27 February

PORTSMOUTH, St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Fratton (12noon): *Mass and charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal; (7pm): *Choral evening prayer.*

Thursday 28 February

EAST COWES, East Cowes Convent, Spring Hill (10am-4pm): *Team building.* Training course to help build the effectiveness of your team for parish ministry. Free of charge, lunch and drinks provided. To book, ring 023-9289 9656.
PORTSMOUTH, St Wilfrid's Church, George Street, Fratton (12noon): *Charity lunch.* In aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Fairtrade coffee morning. In aid of Action Aid. Part of Fairtrade Fortnight. See page 7 for details.
SHEDFIELD, St John the Baptist, Church Road (10am-4pm): *Team building.* Training course to help build the effectiveness of your team for parish ministry. Free of charge, lunch and drinks provided. To book, ring 023-9289 9656.

Saturday 1 March

ROWLANDS CASTLE, St John the Baptist Church (10am-4pm): *Team building.* Training course to help build the effectiveness of your team for parish ministry. Free of charge, lunch and drinks provided. To book, ring 023-9289 9656.

Wednesday 5 March

PORTSMOUTH, No 6 Cinema, Portsmouth Naval Base, Queen Street (6.30pm for 7pm): *Black Gold.* Film that traces one man's fight for a fair price for his coffee. Free Ethiopian coffee and Fairtrade biscuits. Followed by debate about issues surrounding Fairtrade, local and organic products. Cost: £5 (school groups: £2.50). Part of Fairtrade Fortnight. See page 7 for details.

Friday 7 March

PORTSMOUTH, Eastney Methodist Church, Highland Road (10.30am), LEE-ON-SOLENT, Lee-on-Solent Methodist Church, High Street (1pm), BEDHAMPTON, Bedhampton Methodist Church, Hulbert Road (2pm), PORTSMOUTH, St Nicholas Church, Battenburg Avenue, North End (2.30pm) and DENMEAD, All Saints Church, Hambledon Road (7.30pm): *Women's World Day of Prayer services.* Featuring prayers prepared by the Christian women of Guyana.

Saturday 8 March

LEE-ON-SOLENT, Lee-on-Solent Methodist church hall (10am): *Coffee morning.* In aid of Women's World Day of Prayer charities.
HAVANT, Havant United Reformed Church (10.30am-2.30pm): *Fairtrade food fair.* Part of Fairtrade Fortnight. See page 7 for details.

● *Would you like your church's events for March 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 February 4.*

situation vacant

BINSTEAD: Organist wanted for the Church of the Holy Cross, Binstead, Isle of Wight, on the morning of the

first Sunday in the month. For more information, contact the Rev Nick Wallace on 01983-562890.

announcements

Appointments:

Christine Greaves has accepted the bishop's offer to become a lay canon emeritus.
The Rev Phil Hiscock has been appointed associate priest for the parish of Alverstoke, and lay trainer for the Gosport deanery. He will be licensed at 10am on March 16 in St Mary's Church.
The Rev John Franks has been appointed for six months to the Gosport deanery, licensed to the rural dean.
The Rev Valerie Howes, NSM assistant curate, Droxford and Meonstoke with Corhampton cum Exton, to be licensed as house for duty priest at St Philip's, Cosham, on February 3.
The Rt Rev Peter Selby, formerly Bishop of Worcester (1997-2007) has been appointed as honorary assistant

bishop in Portsmouth diocese.

The Rev Malcolm Williams, assistant curate at the Abbey Church of St Mary and St Melor, Amesbury, to be licensed as priest-in-charge of Brighstone, Brook with Mottistone, Shorwell and Chale, on a date to be announced.

Deaths:

The Rev Stuart Carne-Ross died on November 21. He was formerly vicar of Hambledon and chaplain to HM Prison Kingston, Portsmouth, and attached to St Mary's Church, Fratton.
Roy Westmore, OBE died on December 11. He was a former lay canon of Portsmouth Cathedral for 30 years, and churchwarden at St Olave's, Gatcombe, for 60 years, as well as being a member of diocesan and deanery synods.

letter to the editor

Dear Sir,
Re: the Big Issue (*Pompey Chimes*, Dec 07-Jan 08), I am aware of the Court of Arches decision but read on ...
How daft. I'm not railing against the writer of the article but against the stupid mindset of the modern PC man: "Don't have a phone aerial on a Church building; it might carry some pornographic signal."
What about television aerials? These are used by some people to view pornographic programmes. And telephone lines? They now can be used for downloading pornographic information from the internet.
Surely that means that church buildings, including of course offices and residences, should not have televisions or

telephones. Does it really?
How daft. Satan will always find a way to infiltrate mankind with vain and unbecoming thoughts. It is the bigger picture that the Church should be after: getting Satan out of mankind's mind. By banning phone aerials on church buildings the Church is playing into Satan's hands; just what he wants.
If one really has a broad enough mind and looks at the bigger picture then the advantages to a church's finances are obvious, as are the social benefits of a phone service in sparsely populated areas. (Yes, there are some in England as well as Wales and Scotland.)
Best wishes,
Pat O'Connor,
St Mary's Church, Fratton