

Dozens of sheep will flock to cathedral

DOZENS of fibreglass sheep will flock to our cathedral this month - along with some of the children who have decorated them.

The sheep are part of our diocese's Ewe Matter project, which involved the lifesize sheep being delivered to C of E schools in Portsmouth and Winchester diocese.

Staff and pupils were invited to decorate their sheep in a way that reflected their school's ethos and identity. And they'll reunite the flock at Portsmouth and Winchester Cathedrals this month at our Leavers' Services.

The annual event sees Year 6 pupils who are just about to leave C of E primary schools enjoy workshops and services of thanksgiving. This year, they are taking place at our cathedral on July 3, 4 and 5.

Bishop Christopher will be among the bishops and archdeacons leading services on a sheep theme.

Ewe Matter was devised by our director of education Jeff Williams as a way of linking parish churches and C of E schools.

The fibreglass sheep can be used by worshippers who lead collective worship in schools on Biblical themes, and brought by the school on visits to their local church. They can also be used as part of science, English or RE lessons.

See www.portsmouth.anglican.org/ewematter for more.



Above: The Rev Mark Williams with his wife Sarah and their children Layla, 5, Malachi, 3, and Rosie, 9, in Shanklin Chine; right: the Rev David Lawrence-March at Ardingley College ahead of his move to the Isle of Wight



New team with a vision for the Bay

THE Rev Mark Williams felt called to Christ Church, Sandown, more than a year ago - now he is going to be its new priest.

He is just one of a new team of three clergy who will take charge of the six parishes around the Bay on the Isle of Wight. They'll be given freedom to create a new vision for ministry and mission in the area.

Mark, who is currently curate at St Mary's, Portchester, will be licensed on August 20 as priest-in-charge of St Paul's, Shanklin, and

Christ Church, Sandown.

He said: "I actually preached in Christ Church on Vocations Sunday in May 2016. I was by myself in church beforehand and a quiet voice said that this was the place I should be. I had a sense that this was where I was called to be, but I was still only a second-year curate. But by the time the job was advertised, I was coming towards the end of my curacy.

"It will be the start of a new season at St Paul's and Christ Church, and we need to discern where God is leading us. Of course I want to get to know the parishes first. And it will be good to work as part of a team - it's about learning to worship God in our different traditions, and recognising each other's gifts."

The Rev David Lawrence-March, who is currently chaplain at Ardingley College in Haywards Heath, will become priest-in-charge of St Saviour-on-the-Cliff, Shanklin, and Church of the Good Shepherd, Lake.

He had never been to the Isle of Wight before May, but will be moving there this month ahead of his licensing by Bishop Christopher and Bishop Norman Banks, the Bishop of Richborough, on July 13.

He said: "Of course, there is an element of trepidation, not least as it will entail a move back in parochial ministry after 25 years of chaplaincy in a variety of schools in both the maintained and independent sectors.



The Rev Terry Wilke

"The warmth of welcome I have already received from the diocese and parishioners in both parishes, and above all the prayerful support that has been forthcoming from so many quarters convinces me that the hand of God is at work.

"I look forward enormously, not only to the challenges ahead, but also to getting to know the people and clergy of the diocese, and ask for your prayers for all of us at the Good Shepherd and St Saviour's."

And they will be joined by the Rev Terry Wilke as priest-in-charge of St Blasius, Shanklin, and St John, Sandown. Terry is currently chaplain at Diocesan College in Cape Town, South Africa.

He was born and brought up in Soweto and served in the South

African Navy, and then trained and worked as a teacher.

He trained for ordination under Bishop Desmond Tutu and then ran a parish as a non-stipendiary priest while also running a psychology practice. He has been married to Rosemary for 34 years and they have three children.

He said: "I have been in school ministry for the past eight years and have realised that I am a pastor at heart. I look forward to becoming rooted in the island communities that I have been asked to become a part of and to get to know the people of both churches.

"I hope to offer the communities I serve a time of quiet growth, a deeper sense of the Lord working in their lives and a sense knowing that each person is loved, cared for and is welcomed as a person into the community of the church."

The Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight, the Ven Peter Sutton, said: "We were delighted with the quality of the applicants for these three posts, and very happy with those who we have appointed. They will be a strong team with many gifts to share in the Bay.

"We wanted to create a brand new team, spanning different traditions and working together in an area that is rich with potential. There are plenty of opportunities for effective ministry and mission in these lively seaside towns, and I'm confident that God will renew and equip these parishes for the task."

Pompey Chimes

The *Pompey Chimes* is the official newspaper of the Church of England's Diocese of Portsmouth, which covers 142 parishes in south-east Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Its circulation is 8,000, and it is produced monthly except for January and August. Each parish pays 15p for each copy, which allows our readers to pick it up for free on the final Sunday of the previous month. Paid-for adverts are dealt with by our publishers, Cornerstone Vision. For a list of editorial deadlines, see: www.portsmouth.anglican.org/pompeychimes

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AVAILABLE IN YOUR CHURCH:

Sunday 27 August

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