



Anna Chaplain to start

BISHOP Jonathan commissioned our first mainland Anna Chaplain to help minister to those who are elderly.

Dr Coleen Jackson, who was already a Reader, was commissioned at St Michael and All Angels, Chalton. She joins Anne Powell, who became the Isle of Wight's first Anna Chaplain last year.

Former Meridian TV presenter Debbie Thrower, who pioneered the idea of Anna Chaplaincy, preached during the service (and writes on page 23 of this edition). Anna Chaplains offer spiritual care to older people in the community, help them to reflect spiritually and advocate on their behalf.



Try out the labyrinth

WHY not join worshippers at St Wilfrid's Church, Fratton, for a labyrinth that will help you engage with God? It's an immersive prayer experience that will take you on a journey – physically and spiritually.

It has been created by curate the Rev Mike Moritz (pictured above) and is based on the Book of Psalms. It aims to help visitors to explore their pain and lament at the state of God's world, as well as the peace and restoration that God can offer.

It takes place between June 3-7 and you're welcome to book a time that suits you to experience it. Find out more and book on www.portsmouth.anglican.org/labyrinth



Bus Stop Cafe is a hit

WORSHIPPERS launched a cafe to give breakfast to those waiting for the bus outside their church.

The Bus Stop Cafe is open from 7am-10am, five days a week, at Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn. They serve food and drink to those waiting for a bus to take them to work, college or toddler groups. Worshippers realised in the middle of the pandemic that students were waiting a long time for buses. So they served them hot chocolate and cake, twice a week, which was very popular.



They're an Eco-church

THE focus on the environment at St Mary's, Fratton, has been recognised with the award of a silver Eco-Church Award from the charity A Rocha.

The church has installed bike stands outside the church and bought an electric cargo bike to reduce car travel. It also hosted a family open day in May focussing on reducing plastic waste.

On June 8-9, the church will be the venue for an arts project to mark World Ocean Day. And it will also host a celebration of cycling on August 14.