

New internships launch

YOUNG people will get a taste of working in a church for a year as part of a new intern scheme. Those ages 18-29 will be given the chance to spend a year working in one of four churches to the west of Fareham to explore their sense of calling.

The Western Wards Internship scheme begins in September, and will enable these young people to discover if God is calling them to work in a church or be ordained. Six successful applicants will work in churches in Locks Heath, Warsash, Whiteley or Sarisbury Green. For details of how to apply, see: www.portsmouth.anglican.org/interns



Priory marks 25 years

CARISBROOKE Priory is marking 25 years of its role as an ecumenical centre for prayer and Christian healing this year. The Victorian building at the heart of the Isle of Wight was a convent until 1989, was bought by an ecumenical trust in 1992 and reopened a year later with a vision to be "an open door to the peace of God".

To mark its anniversary, some of its rooms have been refurbished, and there are special events with its patrons Bishop Christopher and Russ Parker. The bishop will be the special guest at a 25th anniversary garden party on July 21.

For details, see: www.carisbrookepriory.org.uk.



Icons created in church

ICONOGRAPHERS from across the UK came to St Peter's Church in Soberton for three days of icon painting.

Worshipper Jackie Hunt led the sessions, welcoming painters from Kent, Rutland, Warwick, Birmingham and Hampshire. At the end of the three days, the icons were blessed by the Rev David Chance. The church will host another icon course in the summer and three more days of icon painting in October. See www.portsmouth.anglican.org/icons



From island to parish

The Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight is to become a parish priest on the mainland. The Ven Peter Sutton will take up his new role in September.

He'll be priest for the villages of Greatham and Empshott with Hawkley and Priors Dean. He will also retain his other role, in charge of ongoing training for curates within the diocese.

The bishop said: "Peter's pastoral wisdom, and loving and hugely generous witness to the gospel have made a significant impact on the island."