



## Camels in Leigh Park

SHOPPERS stared in amazement as three real-life camels strode through their shopping centre - ridden by local people in fancy dress.

The camels paraded from St Francis Church, Leigh Park, to the Greywell Shopping Centre as part of the church's Starlight Festival.

They were ridden by two men and a woman, echoing the journey of the three wise men to see the infant Jesus, which is part of the traditional Christmas story. The camels came to a halt outside Santa's Grotto in the Greywell, and shoppers joined worshippers singing Christmas carols.



## Re-energising worship

CLERGY, Readers, pioneer ministers and worship leaders will be inspired to refresh their thinking about how we worship God at a bishop's training day on March 23.

The 'Renewing Worship' day will be led by the Worship and Inspirational Liturgy (WILD) group, with a series of workshops and presentations in our cathedral.

Among the subjects covered will be contextual worship, worshipping for those with dementia, and re-energising worship for the whole family. It happens from 10am-3pm, and details can be found at [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/worship](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/worship)



## Readers on conference

LICENSED lay ministers from across our diocese held their annual conference in Shanklin at the end of January.

The Readers' Conference included input from the Bishop of Lewes, the Rt Rev Richard Jackson. He spoke about the missional aspects of John's gospel as well as leading early morning worship on the beach. They also heard from the Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight, the Ven Peter Leonard, and Bishop Christopher led a Eucharist on the final morning.



## Interfaith celebrations

CHRISTIANS from our cathedral and beyond gathered with Muslims from the Wessex Jamaat community for the 25th annual Muslim-Christian evening there.

The Dean, the Very Rev Anthony Cane, and the imam of Wessex Jamaat, Sheikh Fazle Abbas Datoo, spoke of the opportunities for barriers to be broken down and friendships made. The cathedral choir sang, and there were readings, presentations and the chance to share food together.