



Readers get creative

AROUND 50 lay ministers from across our diocese spent a weekend being creative at their annual conference. They went to the Meon Valley Hotel in Shedfield for a Readers' Conference led by members of the Hopeweavers' Community.

Jen Lambert and the Rev Philippa Mills led sessions that aimed to help lay ministers spend time in reflection. It also allowed people to be creative and try different ways in which to engage with God.

The framework for the weekend was Psalm 84, which inspired four sessions. Find out more on www.portsmouth.anglican.org/llm



Study Days planned

OUR two new Canon Theologians will be leading Study Days for clergy and lay ministers in our cathedral this year. As part of the Revive strand of our diocesan strategy, we're reawakening a locally-based programme of Continuing Ministerial Development training.

On March 10, Duncan Dormer, general secretary of mission agency USPG, will lead a day looking at the global Church alongside colleagues from USPG.

And on September 29, Sharon Prentis, deputy director of the C of E's racial justice unit, will lead a Study Day. Find out more and book a place on www.portsmouth.anglican.org/CMD



Vicars as panto dames

TWO of our vicars dressed as pantomime dames as part of the annual performance by the Leigh Park and Warren Park Community Players. The Revs Jonathan Jeffery and Hugo Deadman dressed up as the ugly sisters Azalea and Delphinium in *Cinderella* before Christmas.

The play was performed four times over a weekend, featuring a cast of more than 30 local people. It's the latest of a series of productions designed to bring together the local community.



Advent mosaic created

CREATIVE worshippers at St Mary's Church, Brighthorne, made a mosaic Advent Calendar to house the mosaiced animals and characters they made during last year.

The Advent Calendar, in the shape of a Christmas tree, was a feature of the Brighthorne Christmas Tree Festival. It was made by about 20 volunteers from the local community. The doors of the Advent Calendar were opened daily during December to reveal each character.