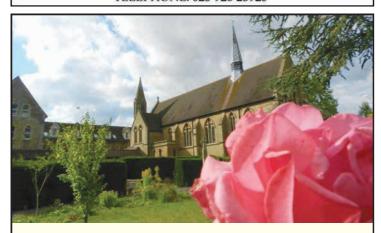


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### **IDSWORTH:** St

Hubert's Church was filled to capacity for a Poetry and Prosecco evening organised as part of the South Downs Poetry Festival.

The first half of the performance was devoted to Edward Thomas, remembering the centenary of his death. A selection of his work was movingly spoken by actors Susan Jameson and Alan McMahon.

Local singersongwriter John Butler and his daughter Sophie performed some folk songs. And the audience enjoyed their Prosecco and breathtaking views of 'the little church in the field' outside in the interval.

The second half performance was given by the Chalk Poets, with some contemporary poetry reflecting what is special about living in the South Downs countryside. The trustees were grateful to Tim Dawes and the festival for organising the evening. More than £500 was raised.

#### **VENTNOR:**

Worshippers at St Alban's Church marked 100 years since an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to children near Fátima in Portugal. The appearances

SANDOWN: Bishop Christopher visited the

Bay C of E Primary

plaque.

Jesus

School last month for

The collective worship was on the

worship and to unveil a

theme of friendship, and the Bishop shared a story

of how four friends took their one friend to see

The bishop met pupils for a question

and answer session,

which touched on recent terrorist attacks

in Manchester and

outside to bless the

new school building

generations, and to

unveil a plaque.

for current and future

religions.

London, as well as other

And he then went

them to pray for peace, forgiveness and holiness. It happened each month from May to October

War, when three young

children reported that

Our Lady had asked

1917

Word spread until 70,000 people were present for the final appearance. Fátima became a place of pilgrimage and two of the three children were canonised by Pope

The service at St Alban's included a short film of the events, and refreshments from

Francis in May this year.

Portugal. Further events are planned for the coming months.

the installation and induction of the Rev Jane Isaac as vicar of Wickham and Shedfield, she presided over her first Communion for the benefice the following Sunday.

The significance of the occasion was enhanced by the generous loan from Hampshire Cultural Silver.

century Communion set, which is kept normally

The Rev Jane Isaac with the Wickham SIlver only for display at Westbury Manor Museum in Fareham.

## **WOOTTON:**

Churchgoers and villagers from Wootton have continued to collect 5p pieces for a scheme to help children in developing countries.

They're doing so as part of the Mite Scheme, which is run by Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund.

It helps to pay for oral rehydration sachets for distribution in areas where there is severe dehydration. Thousands of lives have been saved by the scheme.

The latest contribution of £50 in 5ps means that the parish of Wootton has now contributed £4,400 to the scheme over the years.

## **news** from the **pews** there began at the height of the First World

WICKHAM: After

Trust of the Wickham

This is a rare 17th



# the **schoo**

Bishop Christopher was also invited to sit

on the school's newly created 'friend bench'

which has the hand-print of every pupil in school painted on, to encourage friendship.

The morning concluded with the bishop, his chaplain and others being given a tour of the school.