



Swedish links deepen

OUR diocese's links with Stockholm deepened after a three-day visit from our diocese's director of education. Jeff Williams met Christians in churches and communities as part of our diocese's links with the Diocese of Stockholm, part of the Lutheran Church of Sweden.

Among other things, he taught an African chorus to a dads and babies group, and met hundreds of teenage confirmation candidates at their launch evening.

His trip reciprocated a visit by 32 Swedish clergy and parish workers who had enjoyed three days visiting our diocese earlier in the year.



Net zero conference

THERE'S a chance for parishes and church schools to discover more about how to reduce their carbon emissions at a conference in January.

Our diocese is joining forces with the Dioceses of Guildford and Chichester for a net zero conference hosted by our cathedral. Speakers include Bishop Jonathan, the Bishop of Dorking the Rt Rev Paul Davies, the Bishop of Lewes the Rt Rev Will Hazelwood, and the chief executive of A Rocha UK Andy Atkins, with case studies from our cathedral.

It happens on January 18, from 10am-4pm, and costs £5 (including lunch). You can sign up on www.portsmouth.anglican.org/NZconference



Choir sings and signs

PUPILS at St George's Beneficial C of E Primary in Portsea helped raise money while singing in Gunwharf Quays.

The children learnt Makaton and were given the chance to sign and sing with the Pompey in the Community Makaton Choir, raising more than £250 for the charity. There are 60 children in the choir overall but these 15 choir members were the ones taking centre stage, performing for an hour to passers by and shoppers.



Memorial is unveiled

A NEW memorial has been created, honouring those who died when HMS Royal Oak was sunk in 1939. The obelisk was unveiled outside HM Naval Base by the children of some of those who died.

Sheila West, Florence Tiller, Doreen Webb, June Pivano and Tony Wormald were all involved in the ceremony. Bishop Jonathan, his RC counterpart Bishop Phillip Egan, and the Rev Bryan Hackett, chaplain to the HMS Royal Oak Association, led the act of Remembrance.