



## Mosaic cross unveiled

**CREATIVE** villagers designed a mosaic cross to stand in their churchyard. The Celtic-style mosaic cross outside St Mary's, Brighstone, was created using a wooden structure and coloured glass.

Residents worked on it inside the church for three months as part of a community art project. It was unveiled and dedicated by the Rev Jackie Maw, West Wight team rector, at a Palm Sunday event attended by more than 50 people.

Worshipper Ali Mascarenhas has led the Brighstone mosaic group that has been working on the project since January. The cross will ultimately be installed in the church's side chapel.



## Priest helps on island

BISHOP Jonathan has appointed an experienced priest to be interim team rector of Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe.

Canon Sarah Chapman came out of retirement to take charge of Newport Minster, St John's Newport, St Mary's, Carisbrooke, and St Olave's, Gatcombe. She's leading a team that includes the current team vicars.

She is likely to hold this position for at least six months, but no longer than 18 months, until a permanent team rector can be recruited. Among other roles, she was previously parish priest at St Mary Magdalen, Sheet.



## Easter eggs given out

KIND worshippers, businesses and community groups collected around 750 Easter eggs to share with families in need over Easter.

The chocolate eggs were handed out before Easter Sunday to parents who might not otherwise be able to afford to buy them for their children.

They were collected as part of the Hope and New Life appeal run by St Mary's Church in Fratton. The eggs were passed on to vulnerable families served by the Roberts Centre in Landport.



## Litter-pickers rewarded

VILLAGERS from East Meon and Langrish took to their litter pickers and bin bags to tidy the sides of the roads around their villages.

The litter-pickers were rewarded with soup and rolls in the church afterwards, which gave them an opportunity to meet and congratulate themselves on a job well done.

The bags of rubbish were later taken to the tip for disposal. It's just one of the ways that the local church is at the heart of its community.