



Vicar's royal honour

HER Majesty the Queen has appointed Canon Bob White, vicar of St Mary's Church in Fratton, to be one of her Honorary Chaplains.

Bob, pictured with Easter eggs collected as part of this year's appeal for vulnerable families, will be one of only 30 or so Queen's Chaplains in the UK. The honour is awarded to recognise long and committed service to the Church.

Queen's Chaplains are able to preach in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, once a year. They also wear distinctive scarlet cassocks as well as a special bronze badge which includes the royal monogram.



Passion play in village

AN audience of around 250 were treated to an inspired performance in an Isle of Wight village re-enacting the last few days of Jesus's life.

The Brighstone Passion Play took place on Holy Saturday around the village of Brighstone, and included a cast of local people.

It started with Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, which involved donkeys from the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary, and included the Last Supper, Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus's trial before Pilate, and his crucifixion and resurrection.

The cast dressed in first-century costumes to depict the disciples, priests and Pharisees.



Mark's Gospel staged

CHURCHGOERS staged a performance of the whole of Mark's gospel in just 90 minutes.

Fifteen worshippers performed the Mark Drama twice in St Jude's Church, Southsea, acting out every scene in the gospel of Mark. The audience saw the whole of Jesus's ministry portrayed, from his baptism through to his death and resurrection.

The actors spent weeks memorising the structure of the gospel, then had only three rehearsals before staging the partly-improvised performance.



Quiet garden created

WORSHIPPERS from Church of the Good Shepherd, in Lake, created a tranquility garden to provide a space for relaxation, reflection and prayer for those in their benefice – as well as a peaceful area that those living with dementia can enjoy.

The habitat is designed to benefit the environment, with butterfly and bee-friendly plants. A coffee morning, held at the same time as the working party, raised £180 towards the creation of the new garden.