



## Anna Chaplains on IoW

**FOUR new Anna Chaplains were commissioned recently at Newport Minster to provide spiritual support to the elderly within the parishes of Christ Church, Sandown and St John the Baptist, Niton.**

**Each candidate had discerned a heart for this kind of ministry with their clergy and will now work with the elderly in their communities. The new chaplains come from a variety of backgrounds, including social work and healthcare.**

**Being commissioned as an Anna Chaplain recognises the ministry and enables support from the diocese as well as their own parish. See more on [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/anna](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/anna)**



Photo: Laura Scottorn

## Pirate services are full

FOUR hundred adults and children crammed into a Locks Heath church for a pirate party led by CBeebies presenter Gemma Hunt.

Families in pirate costumes poured into St John's, Locks Heath, for one of two identical pirate-themed services. Gemma led games, songs and a Bible story as part of the hour-long extravaganza.

She asked the children to help her find her pirate's treasure, asked one parent to walk the plank, and told the Bible story of the woman who lost a coin. That night, Gemma was also interviewed about her broadcasting career and her Christian faith at an evening event.



## Both bishops urge unity

BOTH Bishops of Portsmouth pledged to stand united with and to pray for those in our communities who fear becoming the victims of violence, after civil unrest over the summer.

Bishop Jonathan and his RC counterpart Bishop Philip spoke after extremists had provoked rioting and violence in the wake of the stabbings in Southport. They urged us to challenge the language of extremism and work for unity. Read it in full on [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/twobishops](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/twobishops)



## Let's mark 150 years

IT'S been a year of celebrations – which will continue when Bishop Jonathan leads a special service on September 8.

Christ Church, Portsdown, is marking 150 years of faithful worship in its current church building with a series of events in 2024. They include a history talk, a summer open day and an Evening Communion in July to mark exactly 150 years since the building was consecrated. And there's one final thanksgiving service on November 24.