



Project marks 180 years

WORSHIPPERS at St Barnabas Church, Swanmore, marked their church's 180th anniversary with a unique project. Village groups were each invited to decorate a small box, and these contributions were ultimately brought together to form a fascinating display in the church's foyer.

The 'Out of the Box' project also included fundraising for important repairs and improvements to the church and Paterson Centre.

The challenge was to create 180 decorated boxes that would come together as a single montage – allowing all ages, groups, and individuals to take part.



Meet this stonemason

COME and see churches through the eyes and hands of a master stonemason. St Peter's Church in Petersfield will host a talk by Andrew Ziminsky, author of the acclaimed book *Church Going*.

Working inches from extraordinary architecture and heritage every day, stonemasons notice the details that we miss. Andrew's hands have worked on Salisbury Cathedral and St Paul's, among others.

This evening isn't just about masonry. It's about why churches matter, how they are built, how they age and how they're saved. It takes place on March 4, at 7pm for 7.30pm, and the event costs £5. You can sign up via www.ruralstrides.co.uk



Coat of Hopes on island

THIS coat is designed to carry people's hopes for the future of our planet – and it's on the Isle of Wight.

Known as the 'Coat of Hopes', it is made up of 700 patches, including one created on the island. The coat has already been walked 2,000 miles around the mainland. Its five weeks on the island will include visits to Newport, Carisbrooke, East Cowes, Ventnor, Freshwater and Yarmouth.

The patch from the Island was submitted by Helen Bradstock from St Helens Eco Church.



May and Jan welcomed

THE Revs May Barker and Jan Fuller were welcomed to new ministry roles on Hayling Island.

Bishop Jonathan led the service at which the Rev May Barker was welcomed as the new assistant priest for St Mary's, St Peter's and St Andrew's. She was previously rector of the united benefice of North Mundham with Merston and Hunston, just south of Chichester.

The Rev Jan Fuller has moved from serving at St Luke's Church in Southsea.