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**EDUCATION SUNDAY:** It was a chance for people from our diocese to talk and debate with the Church of England's chief spokesman on education - our own bishop!

Headteachers from 35 church schools, university and college principals, school governors and newly-elected members of our diocese's Board of Education discussed education matters with Bishop Kenneth on Education Sunday last month.

In his role as chairman of the national Board of Education, the bishop offered a range of interesting responses across the whole spectrum of education.

The gathering then joined the cathedral congregation for choral evensong during which Bishop Kenneth preached on the importance of life-long education for all.

**DURLEY:** Views of the village drawn by pupils at Durley C of E Primary School are

## the school report



**Pat Goodhead**

now being sold to raise money for the Friends of Holy Cross Church.

The pupils drew their pictures in pencil and charcoal.

Six of them were chosen to feature on packs of cards and envelopes that can be bought, priced at £2.50, from the school, church or post office.

**NEWPORT:** Pupils, staff, governors and parents at Trinity C of E Middle School are preparing to welcome their new headteacher - Pat Goodhead.

The Welsh mother-of-two is married to the deputy headteacher at Cowes High School, and enjoyed a wide-ranging career in edu-

cation before accepting this job.

She was head of a number of English departments, and is currently working as an LEA adviser to schools, leading and managing major initiatives. She is also county English adviser and a school inspector.

She will officially start after Easter, replacing Tony Cotton, who moved on at Christmas.

**UPHAM:** Upham C of E Primary School was picked out as one of the most successful schools in the country by government inspectors.

David Bell, Ofsted's chief inspector of schools, included it in a list of particularly successful schools in his annual report.

The school received a very good inspection report last May and this was accompanied by excellent results in the standard assessment tests (SATs) for seven and 11-year-olds.

### BEDHAMPTON:

Bedhampton rector the Rev John Risdon is to study the way churches grow and the way they are led.

He has won a bursary from Ecclesiastical Insurance to attend a postgraduate course in leadership, renewal and mission at Cliff College, Sheffield.

He will also visit southern California to attend a conference on 'purpose-driven growth', and will go on a Franciscan pilgrimage to Assisi with his wife, Sue.

He hopes this work will benefit both his own parish and the diocese as a whole.

**IDWAL:** This year's IDWAL Forum will be a festival of music, singing and dancing - and a chance for dialogue with Muslims.

The Inter-Diocesan West Africa Link (IDWAL) promotes links between Portsmouth, Guildford and Chichester dioceses

## news from the pews

and west Africa. This year's get-together will be on March 6 at St Saviour's Church, Guildford, from 10am-4pm.

The Rt Rev Dr Solomon Tilewa Johnson, Bishop of Gambia, and Dr Stuart Brown from the Cameroon will discuss Christian-Muslim relations with representatives of both faiths.

Worship will be led by west African musicians, and there will be a lunchtime gospel concert. A Nigerian lunch, costing £2, will be available after the forum, before an afternoon of presentations, displays and seminars, including one about our diocese's links with African schools.

For more details, contact the Rev David Minns on 01483-857890.

### CATHEDRAL:

Former diocesan theologian the Rev Alan Wilkinson has put together a booklet of meditations based on the art on display in Portsmouth Cathedral.

Entitled 'Looking To Pray', it includes four separate meditations. The prayers are inspired by the west doors, the west-facing organ doors, a statue of John the Baptist, the icon of Mary painted by Sergei Fyodorov and the statues of four saints on the east wall, among others.

Priced at £1, it is available for cathedral visitors to use.

**STUBBINGTON:** For people who have been recently bereaved, it has been - literally - a godsend.

'Cup of Tea and Company' is a friend-

ship and support group based at Holy Rood Church for those suffering the pain of bereavement.

It meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the church centre from 2.15pm-3.30pm, for tea, cake and company - and an occasional speaker.

The impetus to form the group came out of our diocese's 'Stepping Out' project to mark its 75th year.

**GOSPORT:** Six young choristers from St Mary's Church, Alverstoke, have successfully passed awards given by the Royal School of Church Music.

Lucy Coates, Rebecca Fairclough, 14, Owen Morgan, 13, Emma Williams, Katie Williams, 13, and Amy Williams, 13, were successful in the Bishop's Awards section.

Amy Eggbeer, 12, succeeded in the Dean's Award section.