

August 2021

WEST WIGHT HERITAGE CENTRE AND FRESHWATER & TOTLAND ARCHIVE GROUP NEWS.....

170 years serving the community!

It will be 170 years since *All Saints' School* started on the current site, although schooling did take place at Moa Place years before that. Sadly, *All Saints' Church of England Primary School*, as it became known after the 1944 Education Act, will be no longer after 23rd July. The building will be demolished to make way for a new one. It has served to educate thousands of children and employed hundreds of teachers and other staff, so will be sorely missed by many West Wighters.

To commemorate and celebrate the life of the school, the West Wight Heritage Centre in Freshwater has set up a display of photographs and documents. Freshwater & Totland Archive Group members have organised the display which will be on view from the end of July to September. Maybe you will recognise yourself or family members!

A visit to the school was arranged on 28th July and was well attended by many past pupils and teachers. It was a nostalgic occasion and many memories flooded back. The new school is scheduled to be completed by next November/December and will serve Yarmouth and Freshwater pupils.

Several interesting items were brought back from the school to the Heritage Centre, including the colourful school banner, and commemorative plaque from 1953. (see photos).

We also have a bell on display that **might** have been used at the school. Unfortunately there is no inscription, so it is difficult to authenticate it! We have a photo of the belfry on the roof at the back of the school and we do know that a bell was certainly in use up to the late 1940s.

West Wight Heritage Centre is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10.00 am to 12 noon (email archiverescue@hotmail.co.uk Tel no. 759353)

