

## **Frome Area Christians Together/Hope Frome and the Frome Festival**

The Food Festival and the visit of flautist [Simeon Wood](#) provided opportunities for [FACT](#) and [Hope Frome](#) to engage with the wider community in a number of ways. Their contribution to the Food Festival (setting up/taking down the stands and litter picking through the evening) was widely appreciated by the organisers and public alike and a number of visitors were asking about the work of Hope Frome. It was a wonderful event.

At the Merlin Theatre, Simeon's concert enthralled the audience. His versatility on a wide range of wind instruments (including an NHS crutch and a bicycle pump in honour of the Tour de France) was a delight and Simeon's quiet, assured faith underpinned his whole performance. Having visited local schools, engaging with pupils and staff with ease and great musical skill, Simeon then teamed up with Sara Vian and Chris Hutchison for the Acoustic Cafe at Rook Lane. What ensued was a remarkable evening, neatly summed up by an e mail received the following day.

*'The acoustic café was superb – Chris Hutchison was very powerful. My friend who never darkens the door of a church, and was exhausted and nearly didn't come, absolutely loved it – she even posted on Facebook that it was 'fantastic – truly inspirational'*

As we seek to bring 'good news' to the communities we are called to serve, it is clear the Frome Festival offers a glorious opportunity and it is so encouraging to hear the many positive responses to the contributions of FACT and Hope Frome. May we continue to search the heart of God for more opportunities to bring the good news of the kingdom to Frome and the surrounding villages where He has planted us.

John Samways (Chair of FACT)