







2011











Fareham Methodist Church Magazine

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Number 578 January 2011

SERVICES DURING JANUARY

10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Family Holy Communion
10.30	Lynne Matthews	
19.30	BIG WORSHIP	Circuit Service
	led by Fareham Young	People
10.30	Andrew Wilcock	All Age Worship
18.00	Revd Malcolm Groom	Holy Communion Iona Style
10.30	Revd Stephen Wright	Healing Service
10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	
	10.30 19.30 10.30 18.00 10.30	10.30 Lynne Matthews 19.30 BIG WORSHIP led by Fareham Young 10.30 Andrew Wilcock 18.00 Revd Malcolm Groom 10.30 Revd Stephen Wright

SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY

6th 10.30 Revd Vincent Canning Holy Communion

LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

2nd Jan Andrew Wilcock at Bridgemary

Please remember these preachers in your prayers, as they prepare and conduct their services in churches in the Circuit.

JANUARY 2011

Dear Friends,

My physical shape betrays the fact that I am not over conscious about healthy eating – as Jill will tell you! Christmas, of course, doesn't help me and I think it's very unfair that I have to attend my annual check-up with the "Heart-Nurse" in early January. She always tells me off for my excess weight!

I've noticed also that businesses trying to sell you diets focus their advertising immediately after Christmas and there are numerous TV adverts



for them. In our health conscious world we are constantly being told to make sure we eat the right things for the benefit of our bodily health. Sadly, we rarely think about what we consume when it comes to our mental and emotional well-being.



Here's a true story! — An item appeared in a church magazine (not any church in Fareham of course!) in which a lady had written ... "I have been a member of the church for the past 50 years and I estimate that in that time I must have heard about 2,500 sermons. I can honestly say that I cannot remember a single one of them so they can't have done me any good. I believe we ought to do away with sermons!"

The next month in the same magazine appeared an article in response to this lady's suggestion. It read ... "I have been married to my wife for 50 years now, and I estimate in that time I must have eaten about

2,500 Sunday dinners prepared by her. I can honestly say that I can't remember a single one of them, but I'm sure that they have all done me good!"

So what are you feeding your mind with?

God bless,



VESTRY JOTTINGS

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope you have found our Advent and Christmas services as uplifting as we have. So many people are involved that we hesitate to mention names but must say thank you to Rosemarie for co-ordination of the Christmas Tree Festival, the Youth Groups for their Nativity Service, Garry and the Singing Group for their contribution to the Carol Service, along with Patte from Trinity Preschool, and Tracy from Mind, who joined us as readers at our Carol Service, Una for looking after the windowsills, Sheila for the Welcome Area, and all those who tirelessly produced tea, coffee and mince pies as often as needed. Finally we thank Malcolm for helping us to find anew the message of the Christ Child for us.

The Stewards

THANK YOU

Thank you for the Church flowers given to me on the death of my sister in law. Thank you to Irene Russell for giving them to me.

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Rita Jackson



Thank you very much for the lovely Church flowers from Remembrance Sunday kindly delivered to me by Mrs Lynda Young. The flowers were so beautifully fresh, and Lynda stayed a little while—which I greatly appreciated. God Bless



Maude Lovell

Thank you for the lovely Church flowers kindly brought to me by Mary Bailey and for staying for an enjoyable chat.

Irene Field

Thank you so much for my lovely birthday flowers—almost worth getting older for! Grateful thanks to Mary for delivery and welcome visit.

Una Peters.

Many thanks for the lovely Church flowers delivered last month which helped me through a difficult time. I am glad to say Ken is settling down well at Merry Hall.

Sheila Walters

HAVE YOU LOST SOMETHING?!

Are you missing some Jigsaw pieces?

I have found two jigsaw pieces in amongst the used stamps. Are they yours?



A huge thank you to everyone for donating your used stamps for the Bible Society

Jill Race

MONTHLY LUNCH REMINDER

To all who purchased tickets for the cancelled December Monthly Lunch. Those tickets are valid for the February Lunch on Friday, 4th February. If you are unable to come on that day please contact Lynda Haydon-Jones

Lynda H-J

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WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to our meetings on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Most of our meetings are in the Wickham Room and begin at 2.00 pm with tea available until 2.15 pm

Spring Programme

12th Jan 26th Jan	Christmas Break continues Social Afternoon with a Quiz or two and time for chatting
9th Feb 23rd Feb	Talk by Vivian Rolf on Cold Water Healing Pools Afternoon Tea with proceeds to Christian Aid - Church Partnership Scheme
9th Mar 23rd Mar	Details will be given soon
13th Apr	Easter Service at 2.00 pm led by Revd. Malcolm Groom.

Followed by Tea & Hot Cross Buns in the Wickham Room

Shirley Henderson

WORSHIP CONSULTATION 12 January 7.30 pm Wickham Room

Please may I have any items you may wish to be discussed. We shall be looking at the Worship Calendar for the coming year. We shall be happy to have your comments on any of the services held during 2010 as we may be able to take these into consideration for 2011.

Rosemarie Jackson (Convenor)

CHURCH CARETAKER

Please note **ALL** requests for work to be carried out by Dave Boyd, our Caretaker, should be made either through myself or Keith Sargeant.

Some people are phoning Dave at home, at all hours of the day and night, and on one occasion the person got quite agitated with him when he was unable to help. Thank youfor your co-operation.

Peter Moody

DID YOU GET A NEW CAR FOR CHRISTMAS?

If you were fortunate enough to get a new car for Christmas and you intend to you use the Church car park in Queens Road then you will need to give some details to Patrick Watson.



I would appreciate it if you supplied me with the car drivers name/s, the car's make, colour, and registration number.

Plus if you are no longer using your old car then make sure I cross it off our list.

Happy New (Driving) Year

Patrick Watson

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Rosemarie and Tony Jackson will be celebrating their Golden Wedding on 11th February and will be holding Open House on that day; 10.30 - 12 noon or 2.30 - 4.30 pm for any folk who would like to join them.

RSVP (No gifts please)

MINIMARKET

Another year has passed and we want to thank everyone both visitors and members of the Church who have supported the Church Stall. This year we have raised well in excess of £700.00. We are in urgent need of items to sell to keep the stall going, crockery, china ornaments, jewellery and other items as well as books, both hardback and paperback. All must be in a clean and good condition. Unfortunately we do not have room to store electrical goods or magazines.

We wish you all our best wishes for 2011.

Lilian & Janice

TIPS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

Friendship flourishes at the fountain of forgiveness. *William A Ward* Speak your kind words soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late.

Burns Night Supper Club

Saturday 22nd January 2011 at 7.00pm

Fareham Methodist Church

Come and join us for a celebration of Robbie Burns



Live Music & Traditional Haggis Supper (Alternative food available)

Sign the list displayed in the Church Welcome Area

NEXT SUPPER CLUB

The next Supper Club will be on 22nd January. It will take the form of a "Burn's Night" (alternative dish for those not wanting Haggis), hopefully with live music, not just bagpipes. Please sign list in Welcome Area if you intend to come and enjoy it.

Eric Wheeler

PS I would like a person (or two) to provide the dessert; please see me if you are volunteering.

Prepare yourself for whatever lies ahead . . .

PRAY WITH YOUR SHOES

With the rush of Christmas almost over, we tumble into the New Year, sleep for a couple of days, take down the decorations and plod back to work, school or our normal routines. There's a pleasure about getting back to normality, but there's also the challenge of looking forward to what the year will bring.

Not all of us want this new year. For some of us we know it will bring separations and loss: children growing up and growing away, moving away, family and friends moving on. For some of us it brings extra work as we take on new responsibilities, study for exams, look after others. For some we have to start again; to learn to be on our own, perhaps through moving away or the loss of those we have lived with for many years and decades.

Just for this month, while you put on your shoes, ask God to be with you in the day ahead. To walk ahead of you, to be by your side and close behind you: to surround you with his presence. For it is his day that we are walking into and not ours. Let his will be done, and not ours.

And then as you take your shoes off, see what you can thank God for from that day together. To help to remind you, why not leave a single shoe by the main door – that might get visitors asking too.

Parish Pump

2010 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

When planning an event, repeated over 9 years, we tend to presume that by now we have covered all eventualities. Not so, as proved on 2nd December. We awoke to snow and the realisation that those of us who live on the outskirts of Fareham were going nowhere. Many thanks to those who rallied round, walked into the Church and got the whole show on the road. By the following day most of the rest of us were able to get there., However over the three days attendance and takings were down by 50%.



Despite all this the Spirit of the Festival was inspiring. 27 trees set a record and 27 different Charities will benefit from the generous donations.

Thank you to all those who volunteered to steward and do refreshments, also the singing group who led the now very popular carol singing to bring everything to a conclusion. We brought in external judges this year and whilst not all could get there, the results were:

1st: North Fareham House Group (Mercy Ships)

Runner up: Fareham Ladies Night (Hearing Dogs for Deaf People)

Sheila Dyer: came close with her tree supporting the Basics Bank

The Peoples vote was for the Strawberry Tree by Castle View W. I.

The judges found the task very difficult as they found the standard so high. Well done to everyone. (All the trees may be viewed on the Church web site.)

Rosemarie Jackson



SUNDAY LUNCH - 16th JANUARY at 12.15 PM approx

This is open to all members of the congregation and all family and friends.

There is no set price for the meal we just ask for donations for MHA If you would like to make a pudding of your choice and bring it along that would be very good - thank you.

The Menu

Starter: Soup or Egg Mayonnaise.

Main Course: Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding,

Roast Potatoes, Roast Parsnips

Vegetables

Puddings: Variety



SMILE QUOTES TO LIGHTEN DARK DAYS

If you are not using your smile, you're like a man with a million dollars in the bank and no cheque book.

Les Giblin

A smile is the light in your window that tells others that there is a caring, sharing person inside.

Denis Whaitley

Wear a smile and have friends; wear a scowl and have wrinkles. What do we live for if not to make the world less difficult for each other?

George Eliot

Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been.

Mark Twain

Peace begins with a smile. Only God knows our true needs

Mother Teresa



Fareham Methodist Church

2011 — the 400th Birthday of the King James Bible

This year is the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, and it will be a year of celebration! Look out for Biblefresh, an initiative made up of more than 100 Christian organisations, from churches and agencies to colleges and festivals. Biblefresh one big aim: to encourage churches across the UK to a greater confidence and appetite for the Word of God.

For many people the Bible is already a vital part of life. It regularly informs and shapes their lives, their attitudes and actions. But for many others the Bible is something they struggle to engage with. So often it ends up being put to one side, ignored, unopened. They don't see its relevance; they don't see its value; frankly, they don't see the point.

Biblefresh wants to change all that. It wants to encourage all of us to engage afresh with the Bible. By bringing together so many different organisations that are involved in one way or another with resourcing Bible reading, study, translation and exploring the Bible through the creative arts, Biblefresh is opening up a wealth of resources and opportunities for every one of us.

Just imagine what might happen if we all take this seriously and make 2011 a year of the Bible in our churches and in our own lives!

So how can churches, individuals get involved? Biblefresh has come up with four pledges. These are to:

Read the Bible
Be trained in handling the Bible well
Give to translate the Bible in Burkina Faso
Provide the opportunity for people to experience the Bible in
new and creative ways

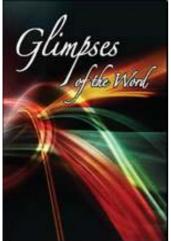
The Biblefresh website (<u>www.biblefresh.com</u>) provides a wealth of creative ideas and suggestions as to how you could explore all four areas further. Think about what you could do to help make Biblefresh a part of your church's year in 2011.

The BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship) has created a Year of the Bible Resource pack containing samples of its Bible reading notes, posters and much more. (ready early Feb). If you would like to use this in your church, contact BRF on 01865 319700.

Whether it's to read the Bible in a₁year, or to read a commentary, or to help organise an event in your church—why not resolve to do at least one thing in 2011 related to Biblefresh?

BREAD AND BUTTER FOR THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

A new publication from the same source as the popular 'In your



Pocket' booklets has been produced to coincide with the 2011 Methodist 'Year of the Bible'.

Glimpses of the Word is an inspiring pocketsized collection of images, prayers and reflections designed to support the thinking and praying alongside the Bible that Methodists have been encouraged to undertake especially throughout 2011.

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, which brought the Scripture to people in English and, when read aloud, had a dramatic effect on church attendance and

people's lives.

"Not a day goes by when I do not read the Scripture," writes The Most Revd Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster – one of a wide range of Church leaders whose thoughts are included in the booklet. "Being without Scripture would be like life without bread and butter."

Readers of Glimpses of the Word will discover contributions from authors as diverse as Martin Luther, Helen Keller and Oscar Romero – as well as the present day Archbishop of York, The Most Revd Dr. John Sentamu. He comments on the Bible's continuing contemporary relevance and says that the Bible is "the only book at my bedside."

More Information

Glimpses of the Word is available from Methodist Publishing at £5.00 for 50 copies, and can be purchased online at www.methodistpublishing.org.uk

Our days are happier when we give people a bit of our heart rather than a piece of our mind.

DEAR LORD

Every single evening
As I'm lying here in bed,
This tiny little Prayer
Keeps running through my head:

God Bless all my family Wherever they may be, Keep them warm And safe from harm For they're so close to me

And God, there is one more thing I wish that you could do; Hope you don't mind me asking, Please bless my computer too.

> Now I know that it's unusual To Bless a motherboard, But listen just a second While I explain it to you, Lord

You see, that little metal box Holds more than odds and ends; Inside those small compartments Rest so many of my friends.

> I know so much about them By the kindness that they give, And this little scrap of metal Takes me in to where they live.

Please take an extra minute From your duties up above, To bless those in my address book That's filled with so much love.

> Wherever else this prayer may reach To each and every friend, Bless each e-mail inbox And each person who hits 'send'

When you update your heavenly list On your Great CD-ROM Bless everyone who says this prayer Sent up to GOD.com

Amen

ARE YOU A CRACK-POT?

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole, which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water to the house. The cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishment, perfect for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of spilling water, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you. I have been able to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house."



The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

In life, we're all cracked pots. But our weaknesses need not destroy our lives. God only ever has imperfect people to use. Despite our flaws, God can still bless us and make us fruitful for him.

Parish Pump

Elf and Safety in Reference to Singing of Festive Songs! Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow In a one horse open sleigh O'er the fields we go Laughing all the way ...

The Elf & Safety Regulations state that a risk assessment must be submitted before an open sleigh is considered safe for members of the public to travel on. The risk assessment must also consider whether it is appropriate to use only one horse for such a venture, particularly if passengers are of larger proportions. Please note, permission must be gained from landowners before entering their fields. To avoid offending those not participating in celebrations, we would request that laughter is moderate only and not loud enough to be considered a noise nuisance

Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer

Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer Had a very shiny nose, And if you ever saw him, you would even say it glows

You are advised that under the Equal Opportunities for All Policy, it is inappropriate for person to make comments with regard to the ruddiness of any part of Mr R Reindeer. Further to this, exclusion of Mr R Reindeer from the Reindeer Games will be considered discriminatory and disciplinary action will be taken against those found guilty of this offence. A full investigate will be implemented and sanctions - including suspension on full pay - will be considered whilst this investigation takes place.

It is what we do with our solitude that makes us fit for company

17 *C S Lewis*



JANUARY COLD

Is it cold or snowing while you are reading this? January is the coldest month of the year and traditionally 14th January is supposed to be the coldest day on the year.

On at least 2 occasions on 14th January the River Thames froze in London. In 1716 and again in 1814, Londoners held Frost Fairs on the frozen river. There were ox-roasts, stalls, tents and sports on the ice – even a printing press was set up on the ice! When the thaw came some people were drowned and lots of equipment floated out to sea.



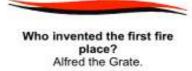
One of the ways of warming up is to light a bonfire. In some country areas bonfires were lit on the bare fields, one to represent Our Lords and one each for the 11 apostles. If a

thirteenth bonfire was lit, representing Judas Iscariot, it was stamped out just after being lit.

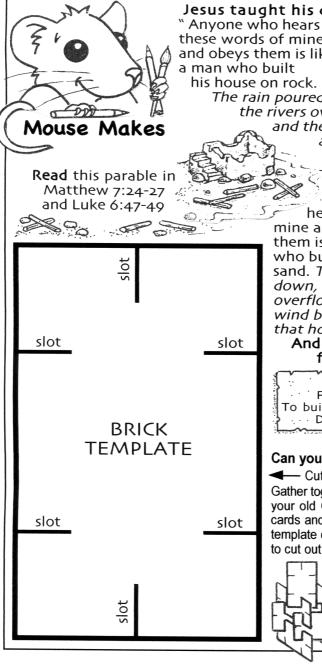
JANUARY SAINT

The answer to each question is the name of a person in the Bible. When you have all the answers, rearrange the first letter of each name to make the name of a saint whose festival is celebrated in January. Answers at the bottom of the page.

- 1. He built the Ark (Genesis 6)
- 2. Paul's assistant (Acts 19)
- 3. Father of Jacob and Esau (Genesis 21)
- 4. King Saul's father (1 Samuel 9)
- 5. Eunice's son (2 Timothy 1)
- 6. Ruth's mother in law (Ruth)
- Laban's daughter, mother of Joseph (Genesis 29)
- Giant killed by David (1 Samuel 17)
- The first woman (Genesis 3)



Answers: 1 Noah 2 Erastus 3 Isaac 4
Kish 5 Timothy 6 Naomi 7 Rachel 8
Goliath 9 Eve. The letters spell out
KENTIGERN (also known as Mungo)
founder of the church at Glasgow, whose
day is celebrated on 14th January.



Jesus taught his disciples:

these words of mine and obeys them is like

his house on rock.

The rain poured down, the rivers overflowed.

and the wind blew hard against that house,

But it did not fall, because it was built on rock.

But anyone who hears these words of mine and does not obev them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain poured & down, the rivers overflowed, the wind blew hard against that house, and it fell.

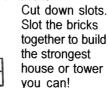
And what a terrible fall that was!

Listen to Jesus, Follow his ways, To build good foundations, Do what he says!

Can you build a strong house?

Cut out the brick template. Gather together all your old Christmas cards and use the

template on the cards to cut out lots of 'bricks'



SMILE LINES TO CHEER US UP TILL SPRING COMES OUT OF THE MOUTHS OR TEST ANSWERS

In wartime children who lived in big cities had to be evaporated because it was safer in the country.

The total is when you add up all the numbers and a remainder is an animal that pulls Santa on his slay.

A Mosque is a sort of Church. The main difference is that its roof is doomed

Sometimes in the war they take prisners and keep them as ostriges until the war is over. Some prisners end up in consterpation camps.

I would like to be an accountant but you have to know a lot about moths.

If it is less than 90 degrees it is a cute angel.

In geography we learned that countries with sea round them are islands and ones without sea are incontinents.

If you marry two people you are a pigamist, but morons are allowed to do this

Sir Walter Raleigh circumcised the world with a big clipper.

In Scandinavia, the Danish people come from Denmark, the Norwegians come from Norway and the Lapdancers come from Lapland.

(It is quite difficult to deliberately type spelling mistakes and the computer objects, so why does it not object when accidental spelling mistakes occur?!)

Dear God

Please put another holiday between Christmas and Easter. There is nothing good in there now.

Missing

Mother: "Tommy, last night I put two apples in this cupboard and now there is only one. How do you explain that?"

Tommy: "I expect it was so dark $\stackrel{20}{\Gamma}$ couldn't see the other one"

TRUTH

There are only two things a child will share willingly - communicable diseases and his mother's age!

WHY TEENAGERS WORRY

One teenager was talking to another, "I'm really concerned. My father slaves away at his job so I'll never want for anything, and down the years has set aside thousands of pounds to that I can go to college. And my mother spends every day washing and ironing and cleaning up after me. She even takes care of me when I'm sick".

The other teenager said: "Sounds perfect—so what are you worried about?".

The first teenager replied: "I'm afraid that one day they might try to escape".

Err

A thought for all Church Councils as the New Year begins: "To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a committee".

ENCOURAGING NEWS

Go on mutter to yourself

Do you ever talk to yourself? Don't worry - it is good for you. You are not going mad, but actually helping yourself to stay in control of your life.

"We give ourselves messages all the time, with the intent of controlling ourselves, whether that's telling ourselves to keep running when we're tired, or to stop eating even though we want one more slice of cake," says a psychologist from Toronto University. "We found that people act more impulsively when they can't use their inner voice, or talk themselves through a demanding task".

So - perhaps you should only worry if you have to stop and ask yourself to repeat what you just said - because you didn't catch it!

Parish Pump

FAIR FEAST

It might seem too early to be thinking about Pancake Day, but the Methodist Relief and Development Fund (MRDF) is encouraging people to start planning an event to mark the occasion.



Shrove Tuesday falls within Fairtrade Fortnight in 2011 (8th March), so the Charity is asking churches and groups to hold a 'Fair Feast' to raise money for some of the world's poorest people.

"The form that the event takes is up to you" said MRDF's supporter relations officer, Audrey Skervin. "It could be a three-course dinner, a pancake party or just a mini-feast as part of a service or event. This is a great opportunity to have lots of fun and raise awareness of fair trade, with the satisfaction that all the money you raise will help people to lift themselves out of poverty".

MRDF has produced a range of interactive materials for all ages to help you plan your 'Fair Feast'. You can download these from www.mrdf.org.uk/fairfeast

THE LITTLE BUTTON

At a jumble sale, the wife of a senior judge found the perfect green tie to match one of her husband's sports jackets. Soon after, while the couple were relaxing at a resort to get his mind off a complicated cocaine-conspiracy case, he noticed a small, round disc sewn into the tie. The judge showed it to the police, who were equally suspicious that it might be a 'bug', planted by the conspiracy defendants.

The police took the tie away for some serious analysis. Two weeks later, the judge phoned Scotland Yard to find out the results of their tests. "Well, we're not really sure where the disc came from," the police told him. "But we did discover that if you press it, it plays Jingle Bells".

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All meetings at Church unless otherwise stated)

JANUARY

9th	Big Worship Circuit Service led by Fareham Young People	19.00
11th	Local Preachers Meeting	19.30
12th	Worship Consultation	19.30
19th	Church Council Meeting	19.30
26th	Circuit Property Meeting at Fareham Manse	19.30

FEBRUARY

2nd	Ministerial Synod at Meon Valley Circuit	10.00
16th	Circuit Mission Action Team at Fareham Manse	19.30
19th	"A Bit of a Do" Concert at Gosport Church	18.00
24th	Circuit Meeting at Bridgemary Church	19.30

Mini-Market every Monday 9.30 to 11.45 am (Not Bank Holidays)

Coffee Centre every Thursday 9.30 to 11.45 am

DOOR STEWARDS

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2nd	10.30	Bobby & Patrick Watson, Liz Haigh
9th	10.30	Sheila & Graham Dyer
	19.30	Bobby & Patrick Watson
16th	10.30	Linda & Kevin Foster
	18.00	Eric Wheeler
23rd	10.30	Lynda Haydon-Jones, Judith Bramall
30th	10.30	Shirley & Keith Sargeant

FEBRUARY

6th 10.30 Mary Bailey, Jenny Chalmers,

FLOWER ROTA

JANUARY

9th Lynda Haydon-Jones 16th Lillian Tildesley 23rd Janice Collins

30th ----

FEBRUARY

6th Mary Bailey

REFRESHMENT ROTA

JANUARY

2nd	Ruth & Tony Elvery, Mary Bailey
9th	Lillian Tildesley, Una Peters, Jill Groom
16th	Linda & Kevin Foster, Marilyn Woodrow
23rd	Shirley & Keith Sargeant, Peggy Long
30th	Brownies & Guides

FEBRUARY

6th Lynda Young, Elizabeth Wilcock

PRESS DATE

All items for the FEBRUARY magazine should be placed in the Magazine box in the Welcome Area or handed to the Editor - Jill Groom by Friday, 28th January 2010

Fareham Focus is now available to be read on Fareham Church Website