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Fareham Church website:	www.farehammethodist.org.uk
Circuit website:	www.gosportandfarehamcircuit.org.uk
Number 580	March 2011

SERVICES DURING MARCH

10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom Holy Communion
10.30	Andrew Wilcock
19.00	Revd Malcolm Groom Sunday 2
10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom All Age Worship
17.00 app	rox Revd Malcolm Groom Holy Communion
	Iona Style
10.30	Rev Vincent Canning
	10.30

SERVICES DURING APRIL

3rd	10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Family Holy Communio	n
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LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

13th Mar Andrew Wilcock at Fareham

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

March 2011

Dear Friends,

Are you sitting comfortably.....

A group of frogs were hopping contentedly through the woods, going about their



froggy business, when two of them fell into a deep pit. All of the other frogs gathered around the pit to see what could be done to help their companions. When they saw how deep the pit was, the rest of the dismayed group agreed that it was hopeless and told the two frogs in the pit that they should prepare themselves for their fate, because they were as good as dead.

Unwilling to accept this terrible fate, the two frogs began to jump with all of their might. Some of the frogs shouted into the pit that it was hopeless, and that the two frogs wouldn't be in that situation if they had been more careful, more obedient to the froggy rules, and more responsible.

The other frogs continued sorrowfully shouting that they should save their energy and give up, since they were already as good as dead. The two frogs continued jumping as hard as they could, and after several hours of desperate effort were quite weary.

Finally, one of the frogs took heed to the calls of his fellows. Spent and disheartened, he quietly resolved himself to his fate, lay down at the bottom of the pit, and died as the others looked on in helpless grief. The other frog continued to jump with every ounce of energy he had, although his body was wracked with pain and he was completely exhausted.

His companions began anew, yelling for him to accept his fate, stop the pain and just die. The weary frog jumped harder and harder and - wonder of wonders! Finally leapt so high that he sprang from the pit. Amazed, the other frogs celebrated his miraculous freedom and then gathering around him asked, "*Why did you continue jumping when we told you it was impossible?*"

Reading their lips, the astonished frog explained to them that he was deaf, and that when he saw their gestures and shouting, he thought they were cheering him on. What he had perceived as encouragement inspired him to try harder and to succeed against all odds.



This simple Frog story contains a powerful lesson. Your encouraging or positive words can lift someone up and help him or her make it through the day. Your destructive or negative words can cause deep wounds; they may be the weapons that destroy someone's desire to continue trying. Your destructive, careless word can diminish someone in the eyes of others, destroy their influence and have a lasting impact on the way others respond to them.

Paul encapsulates the theology of this story in these words... "Therefore encourage one another and build up each other....." (1 These 5:11)

Is there someone you should have encouraged today?

God bless,



ANNUAL GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

This meeting follows the Sunday lunch on 20th March. Commencing at 2.00 pm. All welcome. Come and have lunch and stay on for the AGM

The time of the evening service wilkbe adjusted to follow the AGM, after refreshments, for those who wish to stay.

VESTRY JOTTINGS

We are making plans for the Annual Church Meeting which is on the 20th March 2011, at the meeting we shall be looking for another Church Steward, so we do ask that if you feel you have something to contribute to this job, or if you think someone you know would be ideal please speak to one of us.

We also shall move into the period of Lent this month and we shall be thinking of the significance of Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection in familiar and new ways. We particularly commend the Study Groups that Malcolm is running on Monday lunchtimes.

The Stewards

THANK YOU

It was a lovely surprise to receive Church flowers after a very anxious week, when Hazel suffered an anaphylactic shock and was rushed to hospital. Although still not sure what caused the problem she is back to normal, dealing with her and Addison's and family life as before. Thanks again.

Brenda & Peter Taylor

Many thanks for Church flowers so kindly delivered to Ken by Irene Russell. He was delighted to be remembered in this way.

Sheila Walters

Thank you all for the bunch of flowers delivered to my home. It was a very nice gesture.

David & Shirley Boyd

A belated thank you for the lovely flowers delivered to me by Jean and Lucy Petter. They were very much appreciated and the kind wishes that went with them.

Pat Croker

Thank you for the Church flowers given to me by Joan Moore after the service three weeks ago. They were much appreciated.

Lilwen Watkins

Many thanks for the cards, flowers and good wishes which helped us to celebrate our Golden Wedding and to Marion and Dennis who brought the Church flowers. Rosemarie & Tony Jackson



THANK YOU cont. ...

Thank you so much to all who contributed to the Burns Night supper, especially to the two gentlemen who drove Norman and I back home, and the lady who brought some flowers round to me, and all our friends.



José Barney

Thank you for the lovely Church flowers brought to me when I came home from hospital. Thank you very much to those who have sent me cards and best wishes. Many thanks to Mary, Brenda, Janice, Vic, Shirley and Keith for their much appreciated uplifting visits.

Lillian Tildesley

A sincere 'Thank You' to everyone who contributed to the gifts and cards for my birthday. Special thanks to the singing group for their generous present and celebration at the rehearsal on 10th February and to Ruth Hollinghurst for organising the 'Round Robin' birthday card from the congregation.

We were able to gather the whole family together for a wonderful weekend at 'Lindors' in the Wye valley. Thank you for the weekend off so that this could happen.

Jeffery Padley

I would like to thank everybody for their cards, kind words and support over the loss of my soul mate, Sylvia. We had eleven lovely years together until she was taken by cruel cancer. Sylvia really looked after me, she was so kind and generous and showed me what deep love is. I spent the best years of my life with Sylvia.

Now I have to continue on life's journey without her but I know that Sylvia's friends are now my friends.

Sylvia loved to go to Church to worship with you because she loved you all. May she find comfort and peace in the arms of our Lord.

Ron Pattle

(This year had Sylvia been in better health we may have got married).

I have been able to send a cheque for £56.00 to Water Aid from donations you folk kindly gave me for my cakes. I was obviously lazier last year and did not bake so often. I also sent a cheque for £25.60 from donations received at the Christmas Tree Festival. Thank you to all who so kindly support me and I do hope you enjoy the cakes as much as I do.

Eric Wheeler

CHURCH FLOWERS

There are a few places left on the flower calendar in the corridor. If you would like to donate flowers for our Sunday services, which are then given to friends who may be unwell, or, perhaps celebrating, please sign in the vacant spaces.

Remember that we can provide access for you to arrange your flowers, or, we can find a willing person to arrange them for you if it is necessary

Irene & Mary.

MINIMARKET

We are in urgent need for China, Glassware, Crockery, Cutlery, Jewellery in a good clean condition to sell on the Church Table, if you can help we would appreciate it very much

Lillian & Janice

action for

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Will those people who have a collecting box please hand them to me as soon as possible for emptying. Thank you Pat Croker children

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN (formerly NETWORK)

The Eastern Area Day this year is at Bridgemary Church. It will be held on Monday, 28th March 2011 with coffee from 10.00 am. The theme is "Travelling On" and the keynote speaker is Mrs Alison Judd. Please bring a packed lunch. Drinks will be provided. The cost for the day is £2.00. 7

Pat Croker

FAMILY NEWS Revd Donald Barber

It was with regret that we learned of the death of Revd Donald Barber at Sidmouth on 3rd January aged 83.

Donald was Minister of this Church from 1981—1992 and during that time saw several changes in the life of our community. He encouraged the formation of the new Church at Locks Heath (sadly closing after 20 years due to falling numbers). He with his wife, Pat set up the Healing prayer group and began the Healing services. Pat was an active G.P. with a local practice.

Donald and Pat retired to Sidmouth in 1992 and enjoyed many years of retirement until failing health meant that they had to enter a local nursing home.

It is a tribute to Donald's ministry that the Sidmouth Church was so full for the thanksgiving service for his life and ministry on 22nd January.

Rosemarie Jackson

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to our meetings on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. All meetings are in the Wickham Room and begin at 14.00 hours with tea available until 14.15 hours.

Autumn Programme

9th March	Talk by Tony Jackson
23rd March	Talk by Margaret & Cyril Fielder on their early days of caravanning.

Please remember we have a 'Bring & Buy' (1 item only) for our Charity — Christian Aid Church Partnership Scheme

Shirley Henderson

HEALING PRAYER GROUP

The next Healing Group will be held on Wednesday, 30th March 2011. All are welcome at 7.30 pm at 2 Archery Lane, Fareham.

BROWNIES

The Brownies are collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. We have put a box at the back of Church and we would appreciate any contributions from our Church family who do not have a local school to support. Many thanks

Brown Owl

HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE

Ladies Night are currently supporting this Charity.

Nearly New Book Sale (plus tea and coffee) On Saturday 12th March 2011 10.30 - 16.30 At Fareham Methodist Church

Please come and help us raise funds for our local branch of Hearing Dogs Charity.

Meg Cox

BACK AT CHURCH

It seems a personal invitation to go to Church is a powerful thing!

Latest figures reveal that more than 150,000 people have come back to Church since the very first Back to Church Sunday in 2004. That is enough to fill Wembley Stadium and the Emirates Stadium put together. 9

Parish Pump



Rita Jackson



GIFT AID

Gift Aid applies to all charitable organisations which includes Fareham Methodist Church. We should try to use it as widely as possible. We should ensure that our offering is Gift Aided wherever possible.

If you are a taxpayer, a donation of £20.00 Gift Aided becomes £25.00.

You do not pay tax? There may be company dividends taxed at 10% or an investment in a Building Society which pays interest after deduction of tax.

You cannot Gift Aid where the charity has given something in return, such as Jill's delicious lunches or the Supper Club and the recent Film Show. There is always a nice warm feeling when you know that George Osborne is doing his bit too!.

Gift Aiders Wanted ...

Following on from Cyril's advice, may I offer you an opportunity you might like to consider. Many of our Church folk make their Offerings by Standing Order and a fair number use the Church's Envelope Scheme. As these ways of offering can be certified we are able to make a Gift Aid claim providing the person involved has completed the Methodist Churches Declaration Form.

Please contact me, the FMC's Gift Aid Secretary, if you would like to join the growing number of our Church Gift Aiders.

Patrick Watson

Cyril Fielder

SPRING FAYRE 2ND APRIL 2011

Plate for a Cake Competition!

We are running this popular competition again this year and the plates will be available in the Welcome Area from Sunday, 6th March.

Many thanks



Sheila Dyer

"THE GLORY BELONGS TO GOD"

I am a fan of American Football. This year the Super Bowl (the equivalent of the FA Cup Final and Premier League Championship) was won by the underdogs, a team from the smallest town in the League and one owned entirely by the fans. It was a popular result.

Many American Football players, when they score a touchdown (cf goal/try) kneel down for a short prayer. It happened in the Super Bowl. In an interview after the game the player who had scored 2 touchdowns, remarked at the beginning and end of the interview "The Glory belongs to God". I know that there are many players in British soccer who are practising Christians but I have never heard nor seen any expression of their faith in matches. If there were, would the player be hounded out of the game because of political correctness?

> ***** SPRING FAYRE 2nd APRIL 2011 9.30 am - 1.30 pm Books Bric-a-Brac Cakes

All items above are urgently needed for the Fayre. If you are able to provide any of these, please see me or ring me on: 01329 663229.

Help is also needed on the day, especially in the Coffee Bar. Please sign the list in the Welcome Area if you are able to help in any way.

Eric Wheeler

SUNDAY LUNCH 20th MARCH at 12.15 p.m. approx.

This is open to all members of the congregation and all family and friends. There is no set charge 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 MenuStarter:Soup or Pate and SaladMain Course:Chicken breast in BBQ.sauce,
Roast Potatoes, Roast Parsnips,
Vegetables

Puddings: Variety

There will be a list in the vestibule for you to sign. Please come along and enjoy a Sunday Roast!

A G M

The Annual Church Meeting will be held on 20th March at 2.00 p.m. following the Sunday Lunch that day. Come and share a meal with us and save the time and effort of going home and coming back again. Come and have your say at the AGM.

The time of the evening service has been adjusted and will now follow the AGM after a short interval for refreshments.

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO MAKE YOUR MUM PERFECT?

- 1. On the inside she's already perfect. Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery!
- 2. Diet. You know, her hair. $I^{12}d$ diet, maybe blue. ??!

Fareham Methodist Church Lemt Study

RICH INHERITANCE Jesus' legacy of love



 A five session ecumenical discussion course.

If you want to:

- Iearn more about the Christian Faith
- tackle the biggest questions facing humanity
- examine your own beliefs, in fellowship with others

then this Lent Study is for you!

It will take place in the Welcome Area directly after Mini-Market on the following days...

12:15pm on 21st & 28th March 4th, 11th & 18th April

Join us for a lunchtime Soup and a Roll..... Followed by Lent Study & Discussion Groups.

If you'd like to take part, please fill in the application form and return to Rev. Malcolm Groom with £3.50 for the course booklet

THE SOUND OF MUSIC & THE CLATTERING OF CUTLERY

Have you been to Salzburg recently? If so, you may be aware that many of the scenes in the film 'The Sound of Music' were filmed in the city. You may also be aware that the city was the birthplace of Mozart and that his music can be heard everywhere. 'Mozart' dinners are held each week providing an excellent meal with inspiring music. The concept is coming to this church on **May 14th 2011**.

The Singing Group's Concert this year is using the Salzburg format of some singing interspersed with food. The Supper Club has kindly agreed to provide a two course buffet meal. Details of the music to be sung will be provided later. It is sufficient for now to know that 'Oklahoma' and 'Oliver' are being rehearsed. Will you be there?

The Methodist Church

News Release

25 February 2011

Only 17% of Brits would invite a neighbour to dinner if they had food going spare, says survey

• Celebrity chef Gary Rhodes backs Fair Feast to bring people together on Pancake Day

Only one in six people (17%) would invite a neighbour for dinner if they had food going spare, according to research conducted for the Methodist Church by YouGov. The survey found that if people had a spare place for dinner 56 per cent would invite a friend, 18 per cent a work colleague and only 17 per cent a neighbour. A quarter (25%) of those asked said they wouldn't invite anyone.

The survey also found that 18 - 24 year olds were more likely to invite a neighbour (20% vs. 17% overall) or friend (78% vs. 56%), as were those who live in the East of England (20% vs. 17% and 60% vs. 56% respectively). Women were slightly more likely to invite a friend than men (58)

per cent compared to 54 per cent), but slightly less likely to invite a neighbour (16% vs. 18%) or colleague (17% vs. 19%).

"Sharing a meal together is a key part of community," said Revd Dr Martyn Atkins, General Secretary of the Methodist Church. "We know people are incredibly busy, and that it can be harder to connect with our neighbours and local communities these days, but I hope that we can all find ways to spend more time with friends and neighbours. It is too easy to see these results as a sign that society has lost its sense of community, but I believe people want to share hospitality and sometimes all they need is an excuse to get together."

Pancake Day, also known as Mardi Gras or Shrove Tuesday, has been a traditional time of feasting since medieval times. Marking the start of Lent for Christians, it can also be a time of general celebration. This year it falls in Fairtrade Fortnight, so the Methodist Relief and Development Fund is encouraging people to hold a Fair Feast – celebrating Pancake Day with Fairtrade ingredients. There is also the chance to take part in the Big Bible project, an online digital community promoting regular Bible reading, during Lent. The Big Bible project is launching this year's Big Read with *Tom Wright's Lent for Everyone: Matthew*.

MRDF has a savoury pancake recipe from Gary Rhodes, and the BBC is offering a variety of Pancake Day recipes from Delia Smith and other chefs.

Celebrity chef Gary Rhodes said: "I'm delighted to be a part of this campaign. It's a fantastic opportunity to get together with friends and neighbours but with the satisfaction of knowing that the money raised will be used to help people make their own living and fight hunger themselves."

Dr Martyn Atkins added: "I hope that people will take advantage of the tradition of feasting and celebration on Shrove Tuesday to reach out to others. I know that during the current downturn many people will choose to save spare food to stretch their budget, but time spent sharing meals together is a powerful way to build our communities and enrich our lives."

REAL EASTER EGG COMPETITION REVEALED

Would you like to design an advert for The Real Easter Egg - the UK's first and only Easter egg to mention Jesus and the events of Holy Week on the box?

Top prize is £1500. £1000 of this goes to the winner's church or school, and the remaining £500 is for the winner's private use. There will be five runner-up prizes of £200, and each winner will also receive six Real Easter Eggs. The winning entry will be professionally produced or released online.

The aim of the advert must be to encourage people to buy The Real Easter Egg this Easter.

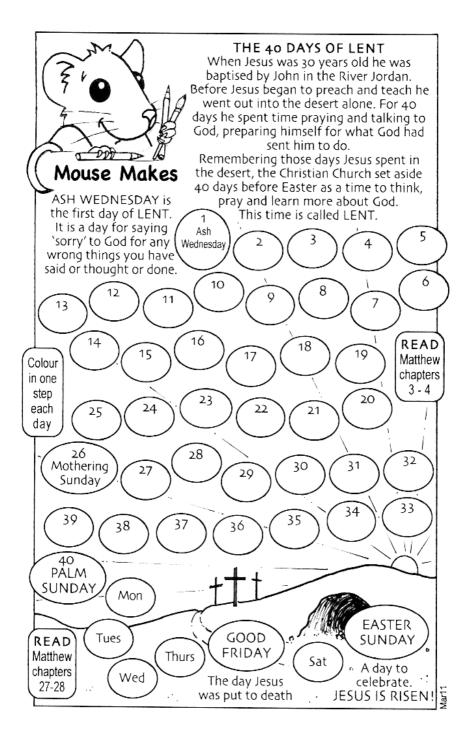
David Marshall, from The Real Easter Egg team says: "The advert might be a radio ad, a poster or a video for YouTube. Youth groups, Sunday schools and schools might enter or individuals or ad agencies. The winning ad has a chance of appearing on bus stops, the radio, or online. We would like to thank Ecclesiastical Insurance who has provided the prize money and support for this competition."

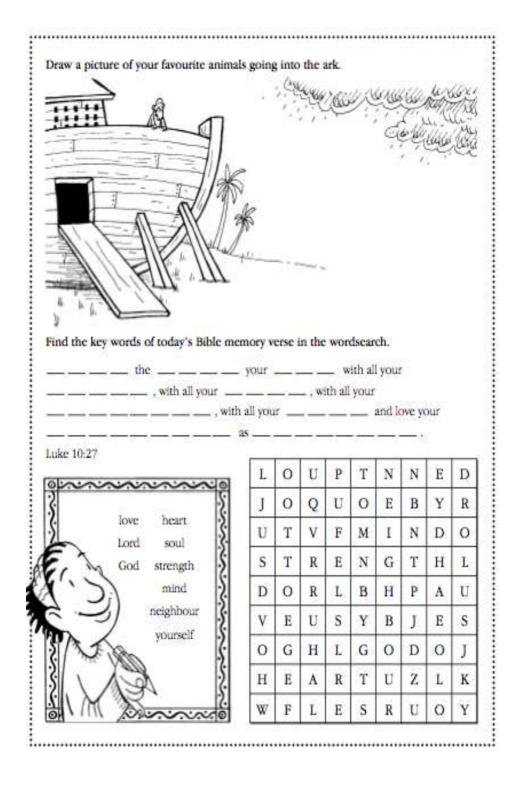
You can read more about the competition from

www.realeasteregg.co.uk/comp. The competition closes 14th March. Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter eggs are sold each year in the UK, the Real Easter Egg is the UK's first and only Fairtrade Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the pack.

(How about it. Would the Junior Church, Brownies, Youth Club or even an individual have a go at this?)









TRAVELLING WITH THE WORD

We take cars, buses and trains for granted today but years ago it was far more difficult to get around. Let me tell you about 2 people who lived centuries apart but travelled all over England spreading the good news.

The first is St Chad who lived in the 7th century and walked every where throughout the Midlands converting the ancient kingdom of Mercia to Christianity. When he was given a horse he didn't want to ride until the Archbishop insisted that if he rode it would help him to convert more souls for Christ.

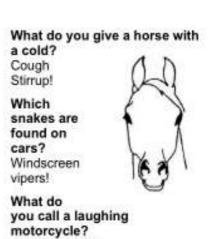
The 2nd is John Wesley who travelled the length and breadth of England on horseback. In the 50 years before he died in 1791 he travelled over 250,000 miles preaching some 40,000 sermons saying 'I look upon the world as my parish'.

Both covered huge distances and reached out to so many people way before the advantages of modern communication like the Internet!

WHERE TO?

Can you travel your way through the maze to find your way to the jokes?





A Yamahahaha!

What do bees do if they want to use public transport? Wait at a buzz stop!

CIRCUIT QUIZ EVENING



Date Saturday 2nd April Time 7.00pm

Location FAREHAM Methodist Church

fundraising for Bridgemary's Methodist Homes Live at Home Scheme

£5.00 with a Ploughman's supper

Contact Person: Jean Hooper on 01329 232069 or email: jeanhooper@btinternet.com

SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU LAUGH!

A new pastor was visiting the homes of his parishioners.. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a card and wrote "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10".

Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter.

Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold I stand at the door and knock". Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid, for I was naked".

Solent Promoter

FRIENDS OF CHERNOBYL'S CHILDREN SOLENT

It was with great sadness that the Executive Members of the local Charity felt obliged to put a resolution to a General Meeting of the local branch of the Charity, "that the said Charity should cease to function"

The vote of the meeting concurred with the Executive Members, and so after 11 fruitful years, and a year (2010) to take stock without the children coming over from Belarus, the members are now beginning the process of "winding FOCCS up"

The main reason for the resolution was our inability to recruit "host families" and without them, we were helpless.

Many of you have supported the Charity with gifts of clothing, toiletries, money and time over the past 11 years, and without you, we would have been unable to achieve anything at all. So our very grateful thanks come to you all. The local branch commenced as a result of viewing a video showing the plight of the children who were being looked after in a very "contaminated" area following the Nuclear meltdown, and were, if they were able to received just 4 weeks clean air and non-contaminated food, then their life expectancy would significantly increase.

All the money held in our Bank Accounts has to be given to Charities who are working in similar areas to ourselves, and the Accounts will need to be examined by an Independent Examiner at the end of the day, with copies of the final accounts being lodged with the Charity Commission.

> Derek J Slaymaker (Treasurer and Trustee) February 2011

BRAINZ WANTED

For the Quiz Team on Saturday, 2nd April to represent Fareham at the Circuit Quiz evening in support of the MHA Bridgemary Live at Home Scheme. Please see Nigel Cox for details. Together we will beat Cancer CANCER RESEARCH



Concert by

Fareham 50+ singers

To be held at: Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road, Fareham

On Saturday 26th March 2011 Time 7.30pm

£5.00 to include Coffee and Biscuits

Tickets can be obtained from Maggie Nobes 01329 312023, any Cancer Research UK Committee Member or any member of the 50+ Singers.

Registered as a charity in England and Wales No. 1089464

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All meetings at Church unless otherwise stated)

MARCH

1st	Faith & Worship - Unit 12a, at the Manse	19.30
2nd	Healing/Prayer Group 2 Archery Lane, Fareham	19.30
	Premises User Group Meeting	19.30
4th	Monthly Lunch	12.30
	Women's World Day of Prayer- both at	14.00
	Sacred Heart Church	19.30
8th	Circuit Fresh Expressions Meeting, at The Cloisters	10.00
9th	Wednesday Fellowship	14.00
15th	Faith & Worship - Unit 12b, at 2 Archery Lane	19.30
20th	Sunday Lunch approx	12.15
21st	Lent Study Group - Welcome Area	12.15
23rd	Wednesday Fellowship	14.00
28th	Lent Study Group - Welcome Area	12.15
29th	Faith & Worship - Unit 13a, at the Manse	19.30
APRIL		
1st	Monthly Lunch	12.30
2nd	Spring Fayre	10.00
	Circuit Quiz	19.00
4th	Lent Study Group - Welcome Area	12.15
6th	Pastoral Meeting	19.30
11th	Lent Study Group - Welcome Area	12.15

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

MARCH

6th	10.30	Rosemarie & Tony Jackson
13th	10.30	Brenda & Peter Taylor
	19.00	A N Other
20th	10.30	Margaret & Bob Temple
	18.00	Eric Wheeler
27th	10.30	Garry Bagshaw & Lucy Petter
APRI	L	
3rd	10.30	Gwen & Harvey Brosgall, Lynda Haydon-Jones

FLOWER ROTA

MARCH

6th	Maggie Allingham & Bill Batchelor
13th	Bobby & Patrick Watson
20th	Brenda Taylor
27th	Tony Emberson
APRIL	

3rd Mavis Parish

REFRESHMENT ROTA

MARCH

6th	Betty Phillips, Rosemarie Jackson, Jill Groom
13th	Sheila Dyer, Margaret Boyd, Sarah Brooks
20th	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland, Brenda Bennett
27th	Cath Stevenson, Vic Collins
APRIL	
3rd	Pat & Robin Croker, Shirley DeAth

PRESS DATE

All items for the **APRIL** magazine should be placed in the Magazine box in the Welcome Area or handed to the **Editor - Jill Groom** by **Friday, 25th March 2011**

Fareham Focus is now available4to be read on Fareham Church Website