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November



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Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine

Registered Charity No. 1127814

MINISTER: The Revd. Malcolm Groom
6 St Thomas Close, Fareham. PO16 7BZ
Telephone 01329 828706

E-mail malcolm.groom@methodist.org.uk

EDITOR: Mrs. Jill Groom
6 St Thomas Close, Fareham. PO16 7BZ
Telephone 01329 828706

Email: jill.groom@btinternet.com

Mobile: 07999 558524

Fareham Church website: www.farehammethodist.org.uk

Circuit website: www.gosportandfarehamcircuit.org.uk

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NOVEMBER

6 th	10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Holy Communion
	16.00	Revd Malcolm Groom	Family Remembrance Service
13 th	10.30	Mrs Val Jenkins	Remembrance Service
	19.00	Mr Stephen Oliver	Sunday2
20 th	10.30	Mr Andrew Wilcock	All Age Worship
27 th	10.30	Revd Paul Bedford (Minister of URC)	
	18.00	Revd Malcolm Groom	Iona Holy Communion

LOCAL PREACHERS and TEAM APPOINTMENTS

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

6th November Mr Andrew Wilcock at Stubbington

27th November Fareham Team at Portchester

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

I guess we all wish we were able to "*put the world right*" when we see and hear such sad and appalling stories as those that fill our news every day. Some, a very few people, seem to have a huge influence on the world, but for most of us we struggle to come to terms with what desperately little we are able to do. A short story I heard the other day may throw some light on our predicament.

The young mother was ready for a few minutes of relaxation after a long and demanding day. However, her young daughter had other plans for her mother's time.

"Read me a story, Mummy," the little girl requested. *"Give Mummy a few minutes to relax and unwind. Then I'll be happy to read you a story,"* pleaded the mother.



The little girl was insistent that Mummy read to her **now**. With a stroke of genius, the mother tore off the back page of the magazine she was reading. It contained a full-page picture of the world. As she tore it into several pieces, Mum asked her daughter to put the picture together and then she would read her a story. Surely this would buy her considerable relaxing moments.

A short time later, the little girl announced the completion of her puzzle project. To her astonishment, she found the world picture completely assembled. When she asked her daughter how she managed to do it so quickly, the little girl explained that

on the reverse side of the page was the picture of a little girl. "You see, Mummy, when I got the little girl together, the whole world came together."



Each of us has the responsibility to put our world together. It starts by getting ourselves put together. We can become better parents, friends, spouses, employees, and employers - in other words better Christians! The first step is focussing on improving our relationship with God.

Is there anything you could do to help this poor world of ours?

God bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the signature.

Baroness Warsi:

Britons should be proud of their Christianity

British Christians should not be afraid to speak publicly about their faith, Baroness Warsi, the Muslim co-chairman of the Conservative Party, has said. Writing in the Daily Telegraph, she said the Government wants 'to create a country where people don't feel like they have to leave religion at the door...It means encouraging people to say that their faith inspires what they do.' Lady Warsi said it was 'a mistake' to 'compromise your identity' in an effort to build bridges with people of other faiths.

Source: *Daily Telegraph* (28/10)

Vestry Jottings – November 2011

The church is in need of a Rep for Christians Together in Fareham to attend meetings. Anyone who could fill this position please speak to one of the Stewards.

The Stewards are taking on the arrangement of the Carol Service to be held on Sunday 18 December at 6pm. If anyone has strong views with regard to Carols that they would like to be included please let Maggie Wheeler know by Sunday 13 November.

The Stewards are pleased to say that Richard Tanner, our Minister from 2000 – 2004 will return to take our Anniversary service on 20 May 2012.

The Stewards

THANK YOU!

I'm writing to thank you on behalf of Two Saints' clients for the wonderful gifts of money and produce from your Harvest Festival this weekend. Georgina, John and Maureen really appreciated the opportunity to come and tell you about the work we do and the needs of people who have been homeless in our community. And your support means a lot to us.

Thank you again,
Regards, Louise

Louise Barnden
Chief Executive, Two Saints
35 Waterside Gardens, Fareham, PO16 8SD
Tel: 01329 234600
www.twosaints.org.uk

The Total raised was £409.63

Thank you to the Church family for once again remembering me with lovely flowers. They are so much appreciated.

Mavis Parish

Thank you Joan for bringing me Communion. I do enjoy it!
Thank you also to Mary Bailey for bringing me the Church Flowers. I must be thankful that I can do as much as I do.

Dorothy Freemantle

Eileen and Julie Long would like to thank you all for your kindness shown to us after Richard passed away on September 15th, messages, phone calls and cards are a comfort to us. Thank you to Malcolm for a lovely Service, and to Sheila and Margaret for the refreshments. God bless you all.

Many thanks for the beautiful flowers delivered by Marion Bright. They are helping me through another difficult time. -

Sheila Walters

The three sisters, sister-in-law and families of Betty Phillips wish to thank the friends who joined with them at the Thanksgiving Service for her life. Also to the Wednesday Fellowship for arranging the Refreshments and clearing up afterwards –
Thank you!

Dot Phillips and Louie Clement

(Dot and Louie are giving a donation to charity instead of Christmas cards)

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers that were delivered to my new home and to Joan Padley who very kindly brought them.

Liz, Graham Avison and Family.

As from October 28th Liz and Graham Avison's new family address will be..... XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXX

XXXXXX

XXXXXX

Our home phone number will remain the same.

Thank you. - Liz Avison.



Change of address

Mrs Olive Shepherd has moved to:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXX

The Nursing Home's telephone number is XXXXXXXXXXXX



Want to be happy? Switch on the radio

If you want to feel positive and far more energetic, listen to the radio. A recent survey has found that our mood and energy levels soar when we tune in. By contrast, watching TV and browsing the internet, while also raising happiness and energy levels, come nowhere near what radio can do for you. It seems that simply listening to media, as opposed to also watching it, stimulates very positive brain engagement levels. The study was 'Media and the Mood of the Nation'.

Parish Pump

Children say what we all think?

A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered,

"Mummy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

Notes from Church Council 18th October 2011

The minutes will be on the notice board in the corridor but here are the main points:

- Many people have generously offered to sponsor a copy of the new hymn book “Singing the Faith” so we will be replacing “Hymns and Psalms” with it, keeping a few copies so that we still have access to it.
- The back door will cease to be used as the front door is now openable by key and push catch.
- The Church will support the Saturday Drop-in Group which is having difficulties due to lack of funding.
- Nobody has volunteered to fill the posts of Property Steward or User Group Liaison and Bookings Person. This is **serious** as somebody must ensure that our buildings and property are well maintained and safe and also used to the maximum to benefit us and the community. The Property Steward needs to ensure that the property is correctly maintained but does not have to do it themselves. If nobody within the church is willing to take on either of these roles we will have to employ someone at expense to the church.
- Parents are to be asked for their permission for children’s pictures to appear on the website.
- 2 people in the church are to be funded for minibus driver training (1 in memory of Betty)
- The copyright licence is to be extended to non music items. Let Garry Bagshaw know if you are copying.
- We need someone in the church to act as a contact for MHA.

Healing Prayer group

Our small group continues to meet from time to time and when we are not meeting we pray for those on our healing prayer list particularly on Wednesday evenings. Our prayers are valued by those who ask for them, and we know that there are many in the church who are unable to come to meetings who join in our prayers . At a recent meeting we used a prayer which comes from the current Magnet magazine and we wanted to share it with everyone:

*O Christ our Lord,
As in times past,
Not all the sick and suffering
Found their way to your side,
But had to have their hands taken,
Or their bodies carried,
Or their names mentioned.
So we, confident of your goodness,
Bring others to you.
As in times past,
You looked at the faith of friends
And let peace and healing be known.
Look on our faith,
Even our little faith
And let your kingdom come.*

I have one copy of the new Prayer Handbook left! Price £3.40. First come first served !

November is the time when I place the annual order for Magnet magazine. From next year the magazine will be published three times a year rather than quarterly, to avoid raising the annual subscription of £10. Please contact me soon if you wish to subscribe, or cancel your subscription. - Joan.

Wednesday Fellowship

Everyone is welcome to our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. - All the meetings are held in the Wickham Room and begin at 2.15 pm. (tea available from 2 pm.)

9th November Norman Clarke – “*As the saying goes*”

23rd November Christmas Tree Preparations

Please remember we have a “Bring and Buy” for our Charity – Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital

From the Outreach Committee

On Sunday 4th December at 3.p.m. we will be holding our afternoon Christmas Service and tea for the residents of local care homes. The invitation is extended to the residents of the sheltered flats in our area and any members of our congregation who would like to attend. We would be grateful for contributions of food and help with serving it. There will be a list in the Welcome Area in Mid November for you to sign if you can help, or phone Lynda Young. We would also be grateful for any help with transport. If any one holds a current MIDAS certificate and would be willing to drive for the residents on this day please let Lynda or Tony Elvery know. Thank you.

A once-in-a-century Remembrance Day – 11-11-11-11

At 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month of 2011, the nation will pause to remember those who have given their lives in fighting for this country.

This year is doubly special: 2011 is The Royal British Legion's 90th anniversary, and also this is a once-in-a-century Remembrance Day.

At 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month in 2011 -11-11-11-11 - we will be remembering those who lay down their lives for their country.

The British Legion is inviting people to be a special part of this unique occasion, by leaving a message to go on a poppy to be planted at Wootton Bassett. That is the town where thousands of people have paid their respects during repatriations in recent years - you may have seen this on TV.

The British Legion explains: "Many people associate Remembrance Day with heroes of D-Day or the Battle of Britain's Spitfire pilots. Some people think of the deeds of the SAS during the Falklands conflict or, of course, Flanders Fields from World War I, carpeted in poppies growing where so many men lost their lives. But in the last few years it's also been about the nation showing its support for the soldiers returning injured and traumatized from current conflicts."

So if you would like to put your name to a poppy, please visit:
<https://donations.britishlegion.org.uk/RBLDonation/>

Parish pump

When Darkness Comes - Fear Not and believe in Him

This poem arises from the tale of Jairus' Daughter in Mark 5. Jairus asked for Jesus' help: "*My little girl is dying!*" But Jesus, instead of rushing to Jairus' house in a blaze of drama, actually stops on the way to help a lady who'd had a haemorrhage for 12 years. It's not how they prioritize things in the NHS, and you can't blame the messengers from Jairus' house for saying, with heavy irony, "*your daughter is dead, don't bother the Teacher anymore.*" But, as we know, of course, Jesus' timing was in fact perfect, so he says in v36 '*Don't be afraid, just believe.*' (If a tune is wanted for this, it goes to¹Thomas Tallis' Canon: Glory to Thee my God this night).

When Darkness Comes

*When darkness comes upon our lives
And death's black shadow clouds our eyes -
Our Lord helps us, when news is grim,
To fear not, and believe in Him.
Yet sometimes, though we try to pray
It seems He tarrys on the way,
Though faith grows weak, and vision dim,
Still fear not, and believe in Him.
For He, like us, wept tears of woe;
He cried 'My God, where are you now?'
We only tread where He has been -
So fear not, and believe in Him
In grief, in tears, or in despair
Recall that Jesus is still there.
O strive not to find faith within,
But fear not, and believe in Him.
He's Lord of Lords and King of Kings
He is the Ruler of all things -
He's triumphed over death and sin,
We'll fear not, and believe in Him!*

By Nigel Beeton

There is an Interfaith Forum "*Exploring how Christianity, Islam and Judaism relate to each other*", Holy Trinity Church, Gosport 7-30pm, Thursday 17th November 2011. It will be lead by Hampshire & Dorset Three Faiths Forum, and organised by Churches Together In Gosport

The link to advertising poster is....

[http://together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/gosport
docstore/45.pdf](http://together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/gosport/docstore/45.pdf)

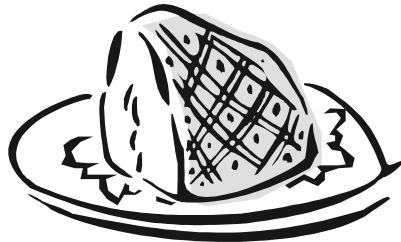
SUNDAY LUNCH 20th NOVEMBER
at 12.30 p.m.approx.

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. 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 Prawn Cocktail

*Main Course: Roast Turkey, Chipolatas, Stuffing,
Roast Potatoes, Selection of Vegetables.*



Puddings: Variety



There will be a list in the vestibule for you to sign. Please come along and enjoy a Sunday Lunch! Please note the time change because of the carol singing in West Street. (see below)

Sunday November 20th at 12.00 - the church has been invited by the Fareham Borough Council to sing at the West Street Podium for half an hour. Church³lunch will be served when the singers return!

Action for Children



For those who wish to donate to Action for Children by displaying a Christmas Card in the Welcome Area this year the board will be available at the beginning of December. I have ordered 10 A.f.C. diaries, they will cost £2.50 each and will be available from mid November. Look out for the Action for Children Christmas Tree at the Christmas Tree Festival this year.

Tony Elvery

Toy Service

Our annual Toy Service is being held on Sunday, 27th November and all toys donated will be received by a member of Social Services and distributed to needy children. All contributions of new and nearly new toys will be appreciated. They should be unwrapped and in a good condition. If you need a home collection, please let me know!

Alison Humby

Apple Cake (from the Harvest Supper) - by popular request....

- 8 oz Self-Raising Flour
- 5 oz Margarine (melted)
- 8 oz Sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 large eggs (beaten)
- 1 tsp vanilla essence
- 14 oz cooking apples (peeled, cored & chopped or sliced)
- Demerara Sugar for topping.

Grease loose bottomed round 8" tin. Put all ingredients except apples in bowl and mix well until smooth. Spread half of mixture

over base of tin. Spoon prepared apples over and dot with teaspoonfuls of remaining mixture. Sprinkle top with Demerara sugar. Cook at 160°C (320°F, Gas 3) for about 1½ hours until pale golden and shrinking from sides of tin.

10th Christmas Tree Festival - December 1st, 2nd, 3rd.

WOW ! Last year we had a record number of entries. This year, we have already passed that number and four more are in the pipeline.

As last year, the winning tree will be chosen by a panel of independent judges and there is a separate prize for the tree voted by popular vote (yours).



As always we need your help to ensure everything runs smoothly. The list is up in the Welcome Area. Jobs, these vary, we need help with refreshments, stewarding the display of trees, setting up and dismantling.

We also need items for the Christmas Stall. The proceeds from this will go towards defraying the costs of the festival. Items such as table decorations, gift wrapping, handmade cards, tags. Gifts specifically aimed at the festive season e.g. jars of pickle with a Christmas ribbon. Please note this is not a bric-a-brac stall, such items will be welcomed by Monday mini market. We have sold out of items in the past in the first 2 days, so please give this some thought. Items may be given to me or Shirley Henderson.

Finally, please come and visit us – see separate advert – and encourage visitors to come. (Why not come for a snack lunch and enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and/or a variety of sandwiches?)

FAREHAM METHODIST CHURCH
Kings Road



Christmas Tree Festival



Thursday Dec.1st .10.30a.m – 6pm.
Friday Dec.2nd 10.30am – 6pm.
Saturday Dec.3rd 10.30am – 4pm.

Admission £1.50 inc. refreshments

Accompanied children free entry

Christmas stall

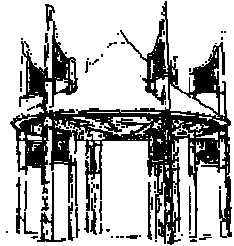
Carol singing around the crib
Saturday 3.30pm.



Supporting national and local charities

December Activities

Monday, December 19th at 12.00 - carol singing at the West Street Podium. This is in place of the Shoppers Service that was held at the church on the last market day before Christmas last year.



Wednesday, December 21st at 12.00 - an impromptu Nativity service at the West Street Podium. We are hoping to involve passing children and adults in the service. More details in the next Fareham Focus.

Friday, December 23rd at 16.00 - A Christingle Service at Knowle Community Centre followed by mince pies and a drink.

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*According to a recent survey, only 12% of adults know the Christmas story – and just 7% amongst 18-24 year olds. (ComRes survey see [www.tinyurl.com/3byr2qt](http://www.tinyurl.com/3byr2qt))*

**Real Easter Egg company.....**

**reveals.....**

**.....Choccy Christmas Tree Campaign**

A campaign to make the UK's 20 million Christmas trees a bit more meaningful this December has been launched by the company behind The Real Easter Egg.

To help parents, grandparents and godparents communicate the Christmas story to the next generation, The Meaningful Chocolate Company has produced the UK's first ever interactive set of chocolate tree decorations, based on the characters of the Nativity story.

Each box of Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations contains a limited edition Christmas card, a sticker set and six hand wrapped, high quality, Fairtrade chocolate decorations. The Christmas story, which can be found on the card, enables adults or children to read the story while placing character stickers on the decorations. Once completed, the decorations can be hung on the tree as a reminder of the real meaning of Christmas.



David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said “We estimate that most of the UK’s 20 million Christmas trees don’t have anything religious hung on them. The Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations are an opportunity to buy a gift that allows the telling of the Christmas story at home.

“The card also includes an invitation for people to go to church to hear the Christmas story. So, not only is it educational, it’s also a piece of evangelism.”

The Meaningful Christmas Tree Decorations cost £3.95. Orders can be made through [www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk](http://www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk) or exclusively from Traidcraft. Orders should be made by mid November 2011 as supplies are limited.

Last year the Meaningful Chocolate Company launched The Real Easter Egg, the UK’s first and only charity Fairtrade Easter egg to mention the religious understanding of Easter. By Christmas 2012 the company expects to have helped raise over £60,000 for charitable projects, as a result of Meaningful Chocolate sales. Find out more at

[www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk](http://www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk)

## **Minibus Driver**

There are now funds available for two places on the MIDAS minibus driver training course through Community Action Fareham. One place has been taken. If there is anyone who feels that this is a role they could be involved with or know of someone interested please contact Tony Elvery, Lynda Young, Graham Dyer or Liz Haigh. Having two drivers will allow the church to increase its outreach programme and help to guarantee bus availability for existing events ie. worship and tea for elderly

Tony Elvery

## **DEPRESSION: some ways of dealing with it**

Depression is a treatable illness, and there is every chance of beating it with determination, support, and medical expertise. There is a huge spectrum of illness encompassed by the term "depression", from the mild to the totally incapacitating- and where a person is on the spectrum will determine which will be the most effective means of treatment. Most people will find a scattergun approach is a good idea- try a bit of everything and see what helps. Let's consider some of the options available. Self-help strategies. These might include journaling, identifying daily black spots (some people find that certain times of day are always harder) and then planning how to deal with them, list-writing, reading upbeat fiction or spending time with a friend's pet- anything that is within your power to implement yourself. Healthy habits. Exercise is known to be a huge help in fighting off depression- it produces endorphins, takes you out of your mind and helps maintain better general health. A good balanced diet, enough sleep and not overdoing alcohol consumption are also helpful.

The support of friends and family. No-one is self-sufficient. Lean on the people who love you - that is what they are there for. Doing things for other people. You can become very self-

absorbed when you are depressed and it really helps to make yourself give to someone else in some way.

Disciplining thoughts. This takes effort, but you can take authority over destructive self-talk and choose where you let your mind take you.

Spending time with the Psalms. David's prayers are a precious gift to us when our own words run out. They give voice to the deepest sorrow and anger, and yet never let go of the greater truth that God is ever present and always loving.

And then there are the heavy guns - medication and talk therapy, on which more next month.

*Jo Swinney is a writer, speaker, curate's wife and mother of two pre-schoolers. She is author of "Through the Dark Woods: a young woman's journey out of depression" (Monarch 2006).*

Parish pump

## **Fareham Stroke Club**

.....would be very grateful if there is anyone free on the afternoon of December 9<sup>th</sup> who could provide some music for Christmas Carols for about half an hour. The meeting takes place at the W.I. hut in Oak Road at 2.30 p.m.

For more details ring Lynda Young

### **There but for the grace.....**

The Sunday School Teacher asks, "*Now, Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?*"

"*No sir,*" little Johnny replies,

"*I don't have to. My mum is a good cook.*"

## **Fareham Community Innovations Team**

This service is run by Hampshire County Council to support older people aged 55+ who do not meet the council's eligibility criteria for care services, but who are struggling to maintain their independence at home.

The team consists of a Social Worker, Occupational Therapist and Support Worker who can provide advice, guidance and support to individuals who are becoming concerned about their health and wellbeing, or who are experiencing difficulties managing everyday activities. The team also provides assistance to those who are socially isolated who would like to get out and about more within the local community.

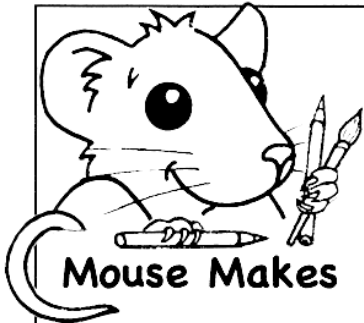
The service is short term and aims to address the needs of the individual within 3 months by supporting them to connect with relevant local resources and services.

Free of charge.

Tel no 01329 514116  
Fareham Area Office, Fareham Reach,  
166 Fareham Road, PO13 0FH

### **Church Announcement**

There is the story of a preacher who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: *"I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."*



## REMEMBERING

How do you remember things?

In bible times God's people sometimes built a large pile of stones as a monument to remember what God had done for them and held festivals and celebrations to give thanks to God.

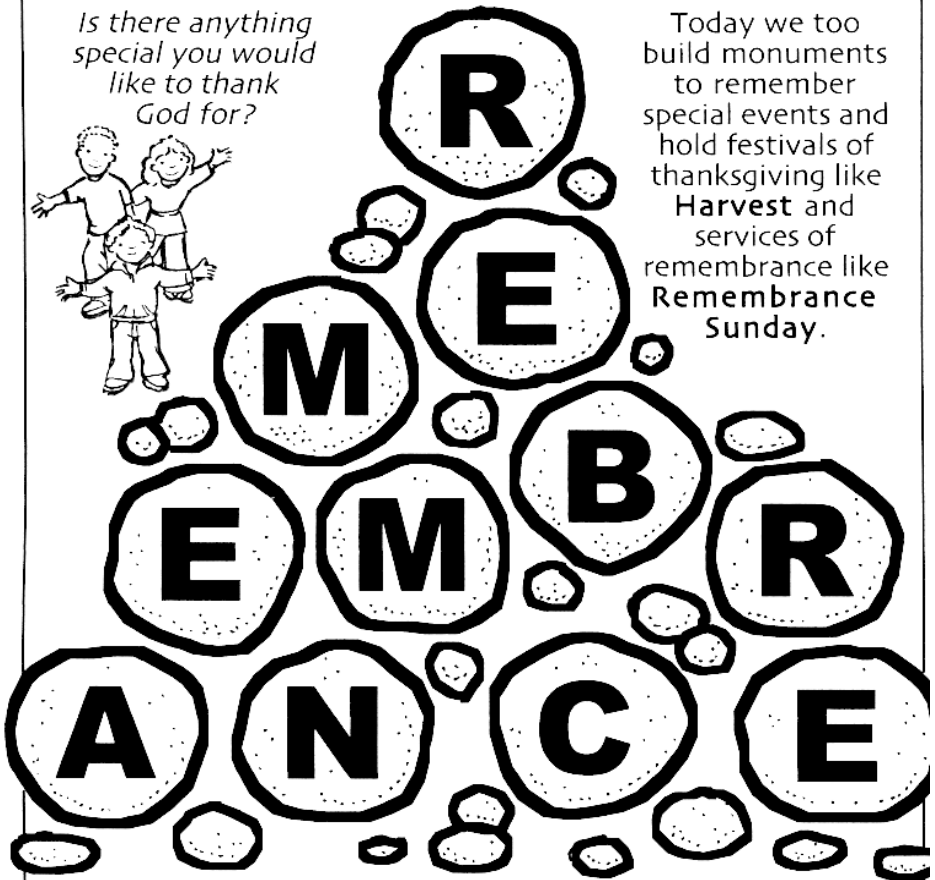


*Read Joshua 4:1-9 and Exodus 12:1-14*

*Is there anything special you would like to thank God for?*



Today we too build monuments to remember special events and hold festivals of thanksgiving like **Harvest** and services of remembrance like **Remembrance Sunday**.



Cut out each letter stone and move around to spell the word **REMEMBRANCE** then see how many other words you can make...

...here's one to start you off:





## REMEMBRANCE: Cenotaph

Every year, on Remembrance Sunday, the television will show pictures of the Queen, politicians and those who have served in the armed forces at the Cenotaph in Whitehall. They stand in silence for 2 minutes to honour those who have given their lives for others.

But do you know what the word 'cenotaph' means? It comes from two Greek words 'kenos' meaning empty and 'taphos' which is a tomb. The cenotaph is a monument to people whose bodies are somewhere else. Have you ever seen a war cemetery? They have rows and rows of simple tombstones and while there are flowers and the grass is carefully mown there is such a sense of sadness.

The Cenotaph was unveiled in 1920, the same year that the body of an unknown soldier was buried in Westminster Abbey. So many people have had their lives taken in wars and each one matters, not just to their families, or us, but to God.

## WORK IT OUT?

The drawer where you keep your socks has five pairs of grey socks and five pairs of black socks. If you can only take one sock from the drawer at a time and you can't see what colour sock you're taking until you've taken it, how many socks do you have to take before you know you will have at least one matching pair to wear to school?



Answer at the bottom of this page.

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### Who always goes to bed with his shoes on?

A horse.

There is a girl who lives in a bungalow. Everything in her home is pink. The lamp is pink, the bed is pink, the television is pink, the computer is pink, the mirror is pink, the kitchen is pink, the windows are pink, even the plants are pink. What colour are the stairs?

There are no stairs – it is a bungalow.

---

Answer: Three. At worst, the first two socks you take out will be one black sock and one grey sock. The next sock you take out will match one or the other.

## Photocopies from non-music publications

The church now has a Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) licence to make photocopies from non-music publications. This is an addition to the licence that we have had for a number of years allowing us to copy music. Our CLA licence does **not** allow us to make copies from maps and charts, newspapers, workbooks, workcards and assignment sheets or any work on which the copyright owner has expressly stipulated that it may not be copied under a CLA. There is a list of excluded works at [www.cla.co.uk/licences/excluded\\_works/excluded\\_categories\\_works/](http://www.cla.co.uk/licences/excluded_works/excluded_categories_works/)

If you make photocopies under the CLA licence, you must keep a record of the publications from which copies have been made (book title, author, publisher and ISBN/ISSN) and send a copy of this record to Garry Bagshaw in September each year for inclusion in the church's annual return. It is not necessary record the number of copies made or the parts of the publication that has been copied. The information in our return is used to determine how church licence fees are shared between copyright owners. It does not affect what we have to pay.

## Mini Market

September saw the end of an era for Mini Market. Betty Phillips was already helping with the refreshment stall at Mini Market when I started, which I believe was autumn 1987 when Anna started school! Mini Market has seen some big changes since then (anyone remember the baby-bath?!!) but Betty continued to help with refreshments **every** Monday until last year - holidays, illness, the Drama Festival and Titchfield Carnival excepting! Even when she 'retired' from serving refreshments Betty continued to come and run the card stall whenever she was well enough. Quite simply,<sup>24</sup> her commitment over the years was vital in keeping Mini Market running and is testament to



how important she believed its outreach to the community to be. Betty will be sorely missed by helpers & customers alike – and most certainly by me.

Last Christmas funds raised through Mini Market over the previous 2 years were used to purchase the following group/organisational gifts through SH2OP (Water Aid) & Present Aid (Christian Aid):

- capping a spring + a hand-pump & training
- a year's education for 30 children

This came about due to the 2008 Turn on the Tap harvest appeal! Those of us involved with organising Mini Market at the time, which included Betty, felt that as Mini Market is a community-based outreach activity it would be good to support through it a large scale project to improve the lives and of lasting benefit to a whole community less fortunate than our own. It is particularly apt that this goal was achieved whilst Betty was still involved with Mini Market.

It seems fitting at this point to say that Mini Market Refreshments & Church Stall raised a total of £1959 between Sep 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 – Aug 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 from which, in addition to contributing to church funds, donations were made during the year to the following: Christmas Tree Festival; Help for Heroes; Schools 4 Schools; Children in Need; Action for Children; DEC East Africa Famine Appeal; Christian Aid (Partnership fund); Ukranian Project (Jill Groom).

For me as for Betty it's the outreach which is the most important aspect of Mini Market and I'd like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt 'thank you' to everyone who helps in any way to keep Mini Market going – it couldn't happen without you!

Liz Haigh

## **The Historic Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride**

I have been doing this, off and on, for about 35 years, and in that time it has changed its name, in some areas, to “Stride and Ride”, to incorporate those people who walk in between churches. Winchester is an ideal place for this. When I first started taking part, I was living in Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk. I was fascinated — and surprised — that some of the pupils that I taught who lived in the village of Barrow were taking part. The surprise came because they were not from church going families and were not particularly interested in R.E. at school. When challenged on this, they told me that they were doing it because they were supporting “their church”. It is like many people — they don't go to church, but it is part of their home town/village, and they don't want to lose it.

Each year I try to visit a different area, so that I can visit new churches. I came and did the Portsmouth churches while living in Eastbourne! This year, Elizabeth and I went to stay in Oxford for the week end. While she was enjoying the splendours of Blenheim Palace, I cycled round 19 churches — 2 Methodist, 1 Orthodox, 2 Roman Catholic, the local religious broadcasting unit and the rest were Anglican. As always, you meet people of all ages, and often build up a fleeting relationship, swapping stories and experiences with those you meet at several churches. I saw some wonderful architecture, visited what was claimed to be the oldest public library in Britain and was reminded by my aching knees why I no longer cover 60 to 70 miles in a day any longer! Thank you for all who supported me. £212 was raised, of which our church gets half.

Andrew Wilcock

## **Christmas Carols & Songs Concert**

A date for your diary! On Wednesday 7th of December at 7.30 G.M.T.P. (Gosport Musical Theatre Productions), formerly known as GAGS, will be putting on a programme of Christmas songs and carols. The seniors will be sharing the concert with JUCE (the Juniors), so come along and continue the season of Christmas — we follow the Christmas tree festival — and enjoy some of your old favourites, sprinkled with a few less well known ones. Tickets will be available from Andrew and Elizabeth, and all profits go to church funds.

Andrew Wilcock

## Dates for your Diary

### November

|      |                                                                              |       |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 6th  | Family Remembrance Service                                                   | 16:00 |
| 7th  | Private Remembrance @ Mini-market                                            | 10:00 |
| 9th  | Wednesday Fellowship - speaker Norman Clarke – “ <i>As the saying goes</i> ” | 14:15 |
| 11th | Fresh Expressions Meeting @ Manse                                            | 10:00 |
| 16th | Stewards' Meeting @ Manse                                                    | 19:00 |
| 20th | Carol Singing @ Precinct                                                     | 12:00 |
|      | Church Sunday Lunch                                                          | 12:30 |
| 23rd | Wednesday Fellowship - Christmas Tree Preparations                           | 14:15 |
| 27th | Annual Toy Service                                                           | 10:30 |

### December

|         |                                                |                  |
|---------|------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 - 3rd | Christmas Tree Festival                        | 10:30 -<br>18:00 |
| 4th     | Care Homes Carol Service & Tea                 | 15:00            |
| 11th    | Nativity Service                               | 10:30            |
| 13th    | Parent & Toddler Christmas Party               | 10:30            |
| 18th    | Carol Service                                  | 18:00            |
| 19th    | Carol Singing at Podium                        | 12:00            |
|         | Brownies Nativity Procession & Carol Service   | 15:00            |
| 21st    | Impromptu Nativity at Podium                   | 12:00            |
| 23rd    | Christingle Service at Knowle Community Centre | 16:00            |
| 25th    | Christmas Morning Worship @ URC                | 10:30            |

## **Door Stewards**

### NOVEMBER

|                  |       |                                   |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30 | Mary Bailey (+tba)                |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30 | Bessie and Daniel Taabu           |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30 | Lynda Haydon- Jones, Lynda Young, |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30 | Judith Bramall, Liz Haigh         |
|                  | 18.00 | Eric Wheeler                      |

### DECEMBER

|                 |       |                                         |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30 | Margaret and Bob Temple, Jenny Chalmers |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|

## **Flower Rota**

### NOVEMBER

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Janice Collins                      |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Una Peters                          |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Maggie Allingham and Bill Batchelor |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Phyllis Spencer                     |

### DECEMBER

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Marion Bright |
|-----------------|---------------|

## **Refreshment Rota**

### NOVEMBER

|                  |                                          |
|------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Liz Haigh and Liz Avison                 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Ruth and Tony Elvery, Mary Bailey        |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Lilian Tildesley, Una Peters, Jill Groom |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Linda and Kevin Foster, Marilyn Woodrow  |

### DECEMBER

|                 |                                        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Keith and Shirley Sargeant, Peggy Long |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------|

## **Press Date**

All items for the November Magazine should be placed in the box in the Welcome Area, emailed or handed to the editor

– Jill Groom – by **FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> November** please.