

FAREHAM

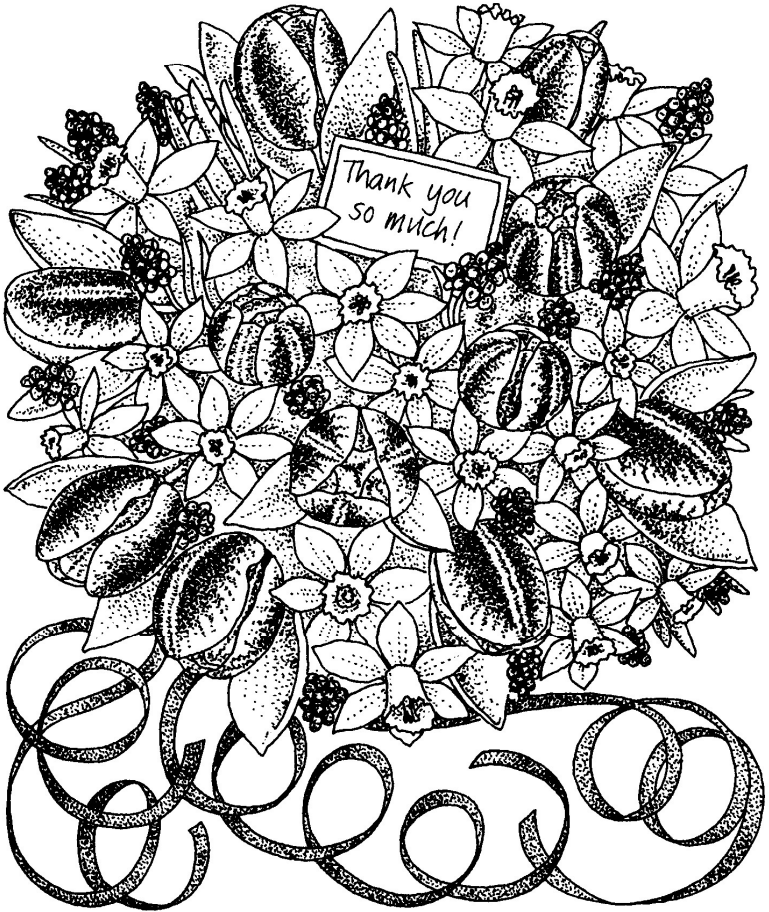
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March
2015

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Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine

Registered Charity No. 1127814

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MARCH

**1st 10.30am Rev Claire Simpson/Penny Thorne
Holy Communion followed by Annual meeting**
8th 10.30 Gerry Williams
15th 10.30 Songs of praise arranged by Nigel Cox
19th 14.30 Red House Service
22nd 10.30 David Bloomfield
18.00 Rev Claire Simpson—Iona Holy Communion
**29th 10.30 Rev Claire Simpson—All age worship and
Baptism**

APRIL

5th 8.00 Service at Beach—Hill Head
10.30 Rev Claire Simpson Family Holy Communion

LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

29th March 10.30 Fareham Team at Bridgemary
10.30 Andrew Wilcock at Bedhampton
5th April 10.30 Tracy Cooper at Portchester

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

Dear friends,

I was alarmed - and a little distressed - to discover that a Cadbury's Crème Egg is no longer what it seems. Some of you may have seen it reported that this year's batch that are now in our shops ready for Easter are smaller than they used to be and (even worse in my opinion) they are no longer covered in Cadbury's signature milk chocolate. A cheaper version of chocolate is now manufactured and has been used instead. But the eggs still retail at the same price and are covered in the same foil wrapping. They still bear the name of Cadbury's and, in some ways, it is as if nothing has changed.

Many of you know my love for all things chocolate, and so this story grabbed my attention and after a bit more thought I wondered if it had something to say about the period of Lent that takes us to the events of Holy Week and Easter.



The symbol of the cross which is the focus for our Lenten journey is a reminder to us that in the life of Christ we have a God who, out of love, is willing to give **all**. In Christ we are faced with the real thing and not a cheaper, dumbed-down version of a Saviour. In Christ we are faced with not a smaller, stingy and half-hearted love that short changes us, but a love that completely and genuinely empties itself and gives everything for our sake.

And we are called to follow in the footsteps of this Christ who gives everything. To take up that same cross that is our focus and walk with Him day-by-day. This means that in our discipleship, we too have to be the real thing. To give and not to count the cost. To give genuinely from our heart and to not short change God, ourselves or other people. Jesus Christ calls us to an authentic 'lived-for-others' life in which we seek to serve Him fully and completely because we experience that deep authentic love that He offers to us.

I shan't be buying any Crème Eggs this year. There is to my mind something a bit false about them now. If it's not the real thing - then what's the point?

With love

Claire

CHURCH NEWS

VESTRY JOTTINGS

As stewards we would like to thank Linda Press for organising this year's Lent course. I hope this is helpful to those who attend

March is a busy month in our church with a couple of changes to note. All Age Worship this month will be on the 5th Sunday of the month, the 29th, as Linda and Kevin Foster's grandchild is to be christened. We give a very warm welcome to the family on this happy occasion and look forward to welcoming baby Eleanor to our church family.

On the 3rd Sunday of the month, which is Mothering Sunday, we have a planned Local Arrangement. Following the success of the last one Nigel Cox will be leading us in a Songs of Praise' style worship and we thank him for organising this. Lunch will follow this service. Please note there will be NO car park available on this Sunday.

We look forward to welcoming new stewards to our team following our Annual Church Meeting on March 1st.

If we can help in any way please contact us.

Maggie Contact Steward

PASTORAL MEETING

The next Pastoral Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 4th March at 7.30pm in the Worship Area of the Church.

Sally Bland and Karen Ferguson
Pastoral Secretaries

BROWNIES

Can you please collect Sainsbury's Active Kids' vouchers again this year and place them in the box at the back of the church. The equipment provided through this scheme is very varied and is shared by all youth groups.

THANK YOU

A grateful thank you to all those who buy my cakes. I am pleased to report that last year I collected £95 for Water Aid. Please keep it up; I will try to continue.
Eric Wheeler



Eric Wheeler says

"I am often kindly and politely asked "How are you?" to which I can reply:"

There's nothing the matter with me
I'm as healthy and fit as one can be
I have arthritis in both my knees
And when I walk it's not with ease
I have a paunch, I'm no longer thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

My left leg's short, my hip's misplaced,
But I can walk if not quick-paced.
I visit the loo three times in a night;
My vision is good if the light is bright.
It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin
Than to let folk know the shape I'm in.

My memory is failing, "I've forgotten your name
But I'm awfully glad, dear, that you came."
When I was young my slippers were brown,
I could touch my toes right the way down,
Now I'm old my slippers are black;
I walk to the shore and puff my way back.

How do I know my youth is all spent?
Well, my "Get up and go" has got up and went.
But I've travelled afar by ship and by plane.
But I don't think I'll go down to Oz again.
But I really don't mind when I think with a grin,

FLOWER MINISTRY

Thank you for the lovely flowers given to me by Lynda welcoming me to my new home at Acacia Lodge. My telephone no., is 01329 481288.

Pat Croker

Thank you so much for the lovely Alstroemeria Church flowers which Mary Bailey brought to me. They have been such a joy. Thank you to Mary for staying a while so that we could get up to date with our family news. With love

Maude Lovell

Thank you very much for the lovely church flowers that were very kindly delivered to my house by Marion Bright when I had not been well, they were very much appreciated.

Liz. Avison.

Edith Livingstone says thank you for church flowers.

Thank you for church flowers given to me on my special birthday also for cards and good wishes.

Janice Collins



A big thank you to the team which enables your monthly Focus magazine to be ready for the first Sunday of the month. Thank you especially to Alan for his careful photocopying and to Meg and Nigel for collating and stapling.

You may be surprised at how much concentration and effort is involved in photocopying a booklet in the quantity that is required. To this end, would you please make sure that Alan is not interrupted when working on this production. I know that he tries to find quiet times when the vestry is not in

FORTHCOMING CHURCH EVENTS



Coffee Morning

At

Fareham Methodist Church

King's Road, Fareham

On

12th March from 9.30 to 11.30

Come and enjoy coffee and cake and a raffle

Providing Conductive Education to children and adults who are affected by Cerebral Palsy, Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinsons and Head Injury.

www.rainbowcentre.org

01329 289500

enquiries@rainbowcentre.org

Registered Charity No: 1096603



NEW PRAYER MEETING

Plans are underway to begin a new venture of a Prayer Meeting to be held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each Month starting after Easter on 16th April. It will be held in the Sanctuary from 10.15 am to 11.15 am giving anyone who wishes the opportunity to purchase a cuppa before the meeting commences.

It will be led by a team from our congregation on a rota basis. The aim is to concentrate our thoughts and prayers on supporting : Church activities, particularly any that are struggling or any new ventures.; Circuit matters; Community issues within the extended Borough Council area; and National and International events.

It is true that this timing will exclude those of our congregation that work full time, but many are retired, and it will offer the opportunity to contribute and support through the power of prayer. Please consider joining and support us twice a month after Easter.



Bobby Watson

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

I have taken over from Tony Elvery as our church contact for Action For Children. Some people may not know that this charity was started in the 19th century by a Methodist minister, Thomas Bowman Stephenson, as the National Children's Home. It no longer runs homes but changed to Action for Children because there are still many needs and it is doing sterling work in these straightened times. If anybody has a good idea to raise money for them and would like materials or information please ask me and we will see what we can do. One good way of raising money is to have a money box for the League of Light at home where odd bits of loose change can be placed. If any one hasn't got one of these boxes and would like one please ask me or Pat Croker for one.





Wednesday, 11th March 2015
Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road, Fareham
PO16 0NU

4.00pm – 6.00pm

**Everyone is welcome to join us for games, craft,
worship and a meal.**



See us on Facebook

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in each month.

Our meetings commence at 2.00pm in the Wickham Room unless otherwise stated.

Tea is available from 1.45pm.

March 11th Tea Towel Tales with Elizabeth Wilcock

March 25th Easter Service in the Worship Area at 2.00pm. Followed by tea and hot cross buns in the Wickham Room.

Shirley Henderson



METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

MWiB are holding Roadshows again this year and the venues are as follows:

5th March Yeovil

18th March Shirrell Heath

26th March Winton, Bournemouth

All will be 10.00 for 10.30 and will cost £3 for the day to include refreshments, but please bring your own packed lunch.

They will be similar in content with circuit variations and will be entitled “Why Bother!”

SUNDAY LUNCH 15th 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 to 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 Greek salad

Main Course: Roast pork, sausages, 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!

FRIDAY LUNCHES

Will you please note that due to Good Friday being the first Friday of April this year, there will be no Friday lunch on 3rd April. However, the good news is that there will be two Friday lunches in March. The first on the 6th March and the second on the 27th March.

The Friday Lunch Team



Live at Home Manager - Gosport Live at Home - Gosport - Hampshire

- Salary: £21,800 per annum pro rata
- Submission Deadline: Sunday 8th March 2015
- Locations:
Gosport, South East, Hampshire, United Kingdom
Part time 18 hours per week

This is an exciting opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of older people by managing a Live at Home Scheme in Gosport.

You will assess, manage and develop a range of services to meet the requirements of older people within the local community. Services are delivered by volunteers and may include one to one befriending, outings, coffee mornings, lunch clubs, shopping services, information and signposting, to enable older people to live independently.

You will enjoy the company of older people and have a good understanding of supporting them through community services and networking with local organisations. Raising funds and knowledge of making funding applications will be an advantage. Experience of working positively with volunteers and managing people is essential.

Please follow the link below:-

http://www.mha.org.uk/careers/current_vacancies/vacancy/32929/

Prayer: The Soul's Desire

on **Saturday 14th March, 10am – 3pm**

Porchester Methodist Church, Castle Street,
Porchester, PO16 9PS

Taize
Silence
Open
prayer



Healing
prayer
Art
Music
Sharing re-
sources

Time to discuss how we might pray together as a Circuit

A chance to explore various forms of prayer

A space to share and learn

Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring your own lunch

To reserve a place, contact Deacon Laura Evans

Tel: 023 92479728

Email: laurajevans@me.com

All are welcome: it would be great to see you there!

EXTRACT FROM FEBRUARY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

Staff News

Rev Anna Bishop will be starting her maternity leave in February 2015 and will be moving to Salisbury later in the year to be closer to where her husband, Dan, works. Our thoughts and prayers are with Anna and Dan throughout this time of change. A farewell service will be arranged for later in the year.

Reports on the work of Rev John Mills and Deacon Laura Evans have been completed ready for their next District Probationers meeting in March. We ask you to hold them and their work in your prayers.

The Rev Kate MacFarlane will be licenced as Deacon in Charge of Hart Plain Church on April 23rd. She will be working closely with Rev Jeanette Richardson who has pastoral oversight of the church. The adjacent parish of Cowplain will be licencing Rev Ian Snares to be priest in charge of St Wilfrids. Both Kate and Ian will be licenced to each other's parishes so that they can support each other in mission.

Notes From A Student Ministers Desk!

In many ways time seems to be flying by at the moment. It doesn't feel as if I've been at college very long and yet I will be leaving in June to take up a post as a Probationary Minister in September. Many of you will already know that I am being sent to Nuneaton which is in the Coventry and Nuneaton circuit. We will be moving up there in August. It is a little further away than we had hoped for and I would ask for your prayers as Lynne works out how she is going to care for her mum from that distance.

I will be working across three churches, Nuneaton church and the village churches in Old Arley and Ridge Lane. It is a very positive station for me with lots going on and I'm looking forward to getting started. All I have to do now is crack on with the next five essays that I have lined up to write! Thank you once again for allowing me to 'practice' on you as I shadow Claire during my training. It's been a real pleasure. I'd like to say a particular thank you to those who attended the Amos Bible Study morning. The group was a huge help and I gained a good mark in that particular assignment.

Every Blessing
Penny Thorne

**AN EXTRACT FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH IN BRITAIN
WEBSITE**

Six short prayers for the Lenten period

Lord, as we enter Lent help us to draw near to you in praise, stripping away all that distracts us from worship. **Amen**

As Jesus resisted temptation by the devil in the wilderness, help us reflect on his faithfulness to God, his rejection of worldly values and hold these thoughts in our hearts throughout Lent and beyond. **Amen**

Jesus, you prayed and fasted. As your disciple teach me about spiritual discipline in my relationship with you. **Amen**

Lord may Lent be a time of inward searching that makes me more able to look with compassion at the needs of the world. **Amen**

Thank you Lord for desert experiences, when being confronted with myself makes me realise my need of you. **Amen**

Lord, you've guided us through the difficult days of Lent, encouraging us along the way. We pray as we move towards the darkest day, that you'll not forsake us but remind us of our Saviour's ultimate gift and promise of new, abundant, eternal life for all who believe and trust in him, your precious son, Jesus. **Amen**



St ANGELA

It is not that long ago that most girls never had the chance to be educated. But one determined woman started the process, and her name was Angela Merici. She was born in Italy on 24 March 1474. Both her parents died when she was only 10, and then when Angela was 13 her elder sister died too, which led her to dedicate her life to God. When she was only 22 she started a school for young girls in her home town and this was so successful that she was invited to start schools in other places. Her faith led her to make pilgrimages to the Holy Land and to Rome.

It was when she was in Rome in 1524 that she suddenly lost her sight. Pope Clement VII asked her to stay in Rome to take charge of an order of nursing nuns but she refused and went home to Brescia. When she was almost 60 she started the Order of St Ursula, which is still involved in teaching today. Even though she was blind, St Angela Merici had a vision of what was possible with God's help.

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

This timetable has the lessons scrambled up – can you unravel the school subjects? Answers below.

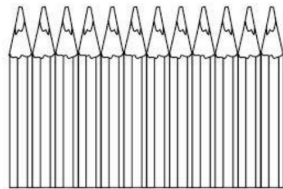
Period 1	CATESTHAMIM
Period 2	ROYTHIS
Period 3	GHELSIN
Period 4	CHNFER
LUNCH	
Period 5	RAT
Period 6	MYITCHERS
Period 7	MESAG

What did I get for my history test?

Well, first the good news – you spelled your name correctly.

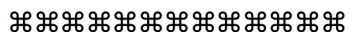
Teacher: You missed school yesterday, didn't you?

Pupil: Not really.



What do elves learn in school?

The elf-abet.



Answers: 1.Mathematics 2.History
3.English 4.French 5.Art 6.Chemistry
7.Games

**CAMPAIGNERS IN FAREHAM CALL TO SUPPORT
FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2015
(23 FEBRUARY – 8 MARCH)**

Fairtrade campaigners in Fareham are calling on the local community to support Fairtrade Fortnight 2015 and bring about positive change for millions of farmers and workers in developing countries.

We are a bit late in promoting this event. However did you know that it is happening, organized by Fareham Borough?

**Haslemere Methodist Church
Lion Green, Weyhill**

A concert for the Community

featuring the

Haslemere Town Band

Friday March 6th at 7.30pm

**Admission £8 but no charge for
accompanied children aged 16 and under**

**Tickets available at the door
on the evening of the concert**

***Tickets also available at the church
on Tues / Wed / Fri / Sat
between 10am and 12 noon --- and with coffee available***

DIARY DATES FOR MARCH

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
2 9.30 M Market	3 9.45 Parent and Toddlers 20.00 Ladies Night	4 19.00 Guides 19.30 Pastoral meeting	5 9.30 Coffee Centre 10.30 Lent grp 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing Grp	6 13.00 Fri Lunch Women's World day of Prayer 15.00 and 19.30 at St Peter and St Paul	7
9 9.30 M Market	10 9.45 Parent and Toddlers	11 14.00 Wed Fellowship 16.00 Messy Church 19.00 Guides 19.30 PAX H Grp.	12 9.30 Coffee Centre in aid of Rainbow Centre 10.30 Lent grp. 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing Grp	13	14 10.00 Circuit day at Portchester
16 9.30 M Market	17 20.00 Ladies Night	18 19.00 Guides	19 9.30 Coffee Centre 10.30 Lent Grp 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singin	20	
23 9.30 M Market	24 9.45 Parent and Toddlers 10.00 W Fareham H Grp.	25 13.00 Men's Lunch at Sailmakers Gosport 14.00 Wed Fellowship 19.00 Guides	26 9.30 Coffee Centre 10.30 Lent Group 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing Grp	27 13.00 Fri. lunch	28
30 9.30 M Market	31 9.45 Parent and Toddlers 20.00 Ladies Night	APRIL 1 19.00 Guides	2 . 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Maundy Thurs HC	3 Good Friday	4

The diary dates as provided on these pages are presented in the same format as the Church website. They are as accurate as the information held at the time of going to press, but should only be used as a guide, which can be updated with information from the weekly notice sheet..

*Martha
Loved
Him Too*

A poem by Elwood McQuaid

We've been too hard on Martha
Because of that rebuff.
I think somehow we feel
She didn't love her Lord enough.

No, quite to the contrary,
Martha's love was such
That in her eagerness to serve,
She tried to do too much.

For there's a time for serving,
And there's a time for rest.
Everything in season;
Choosing what is best.

That hour had its "good part"
In sitting at His feet,
Taking in the blessed Word
Which is our bread and meat.

Things must stay in balance,
So let us pray from youth:
"God, give me Martha's diligence
And Mary's love for truth."

DOOR STEWARDS

MARCH

1st	10.30	Bessie and Daniel Taabu
8th	10.30.	Rosemarie and Tony Jackson
15th	10.30`	Judith Bramall and Keith Sargeant
22nd	10.30	Liz Haigh and Lynda Haydon-Jones
	18.00	Eric Wheeler
29th	10.30	Anna Marie Mitchell and Amber Terry

APRIL

2nd	18.00	Brenda Bennett and Sally Bland
5th	10.30	Margaret and Bob Temple

REFRESHMENT ROTA

MARCH

1st	Jean and Mike Petter & Anne Isom
8th	Irene Russell and Tony Emberson
15th	Lynda Haydon-Jones and Rae Shepherd
22nd	Sheila Dyer, Sarah Brooks, and Meg Cox
29th	Margaret Boyd and Jenny Chalmers

APRIL

5th	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland and Brenda Bennett
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FLOWER ROTA

MARCH

1st	Lynda Young
8th	Liz Haigh
15th	Irene Russell
22nd	Liz Avison
29th	Margaret Temple

APRIL

5th	Tony Emberson
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PRESS DATE

All items for the **APRIL 2015** Focus should be emailed to ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk or if this is not possible placed in the box in the Welcome Area by **Thurs 26th March 2015**.

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website