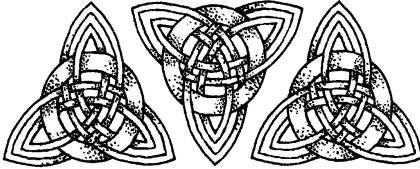


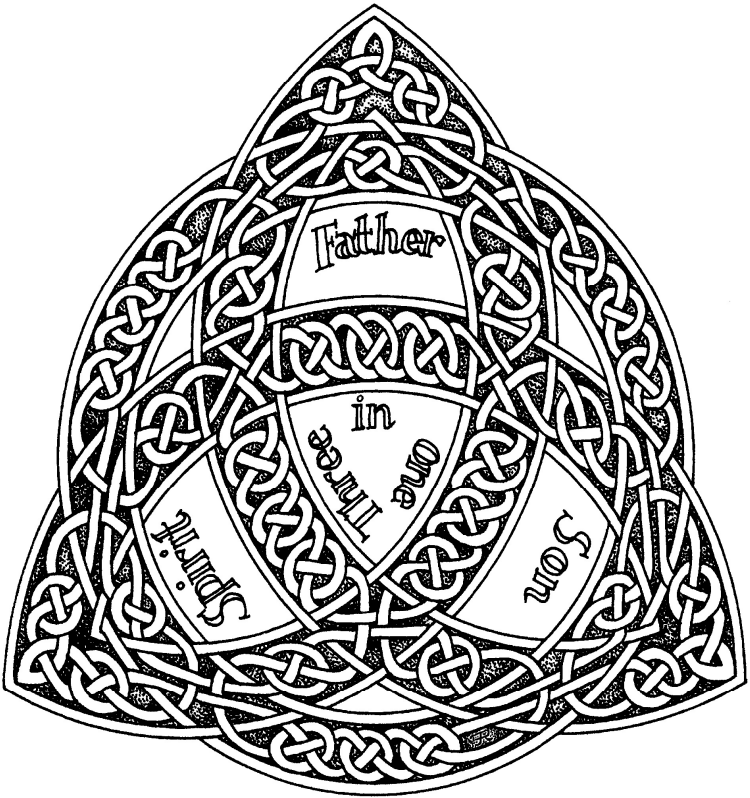
# FAREHAM

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May  
2015

Fareham Methodist Church  
Magazine



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## **MAY**

<b>3rd</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev Claire Simpson –Holy Communion</b>
<b>10th May</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Jean Hooper</b>
<b>17th May</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev Jeanette Richardson All Age—Church Anniversary</b>
	<b>18.30</b>	<b>Easter Offering at Portchester</b>
<b>24th May</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Andrew Wilcock</b>
	<b>18.00</b>	<b>Rev Jeanette Richardson—Ioana Holy Communion</b>
<b>31st May</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev Claire Simpson</b>

## **JUNE**

<b>7TH</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Rev Claire Simpson</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
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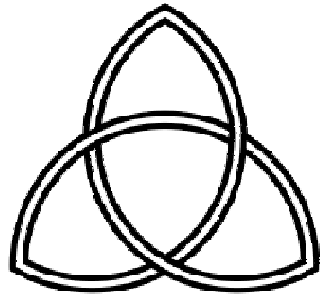
## **LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS**

<b>3rd May</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>Andrew Wilcock Liphook</b>
	<b>10.15</b>	<b>Tracy Cooper Stubbington</b>
<b>10th May</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Andrew Wilcock Portchester</b>
<b>31st May</b>	<b>10.15</b>	<b>Andrew Wilcock Stubbington</b>
<b>7th June</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Tracy Cooper Lee-on-Solent</b>

Dear friends

As the season of Easter draws to a close we are encouraged to continue to think about beginnings and endings, or is that endings and beginnings?! Whichever way round we want to put them, they are both part of the cycle of life and faith.

I feel a bit sorry for the disciples and those who experienced the presence of the risen Christ with them, because no sooner had they revelled in the joy of Jesus' resurrection than he makes it clear that he isn't staying and he's going again to the Father. They were told to wait (again!) for what would happen next as part of God's plan. After Jesus ascended into heaven (Ascension Day is May 14<sup>th</sup> this year) there was a waiting time before the Spirit came at Pentecost. Our liturgical year says that it is 10 days or so. I wonder if that waiting was a little similar in mood to the shorter time that the disciples had had to wait between Jesus' death and resurrection. On both occasions, Jesus had gone from their sight and they weren't sure what would happen next. Something had ended and a new beginning had been promised but it wasn't here yet. There was an ending and an 'in between' time of waiting. When the Spirit eventually came at Pentecost, it was a powerful new beginning for those who were now to preach, witness and testify to all that God had done in Jesus Christ his Son. Things were never the same again.



Endings, beginnings and periods of waiting are not always comfortable times. They can be both traumatic and enlightening; making us apprehensive but be exciting as well. Ultimately they can be times in our own lives that enable us to grow as human beings and discover more about ourselves, about others and about God and his plans and purposes for us. Jesus' words to his disciples, recorded at the end of Matthew's gospel before he leaves them to go back to the Father reassure us that in all our experiences of life he is there for us, for he says 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'. May his presence find you right where you are at this present time.

With love,  
Claire

# CHURCH NEWS

## VESTRY JOTTINGS

Welcome to this month's jottings. We are celebrating our Church Anniversary this month, it will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>, and we welcome Rev Jeanette Richardson who will be leading our worship.

The wedding of Paula Hale and Mark Crawshaw takes place on the 30<sup>th</sup> May to which everyone is warmly invited. The family have involvement with Parents and Toddlers and Brownies and they come to our monthly all-age worship. Please remember Paula and Mark and their children Emily and Carrie-Ann in your prayers at this special time for them.

We will also have a Christian Aid service May 10<sup>th</sup> when there will be a retiring collection following the service for those who wish to donate.

If we can help in any way, please contact a member of the team, Maggie

### AN EXTRACT FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES OF 16TH APRIL

There will be a Circuit farewell to Reverend Anna Bishop at Bridgelyon on 28<sup>th</sup> June in the afternoon. Kate McFarlane will be appointed Deacon in Charge at Hartplain on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. There will be Circuit Fire Training at Hartplain on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May which could be of use to User Groups.

Prepared by Cath Stevenson

There will be a meeting of the Church and Community Group on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May in the Church at 19.30. All are welcome to attend.

Lynda Young

The minutes for the Annual Church Meeting are displayed on the board in the corridor. If anyone wants their own copy let me know. The minutes of Church Council are always there too if anybody wants to know what we get up to.

Catherine

Healing Group

The next meeting is on Wednesday May 20th at 10am at the home of Joan and Jeff Padley.

On Sunday May 31st at 14.30 a Healing Service will be held at Stubbington Methodist Church.

Rita Jackson

We are in urgent need of items to sell on the Church Stall at Mini-Market, but please note we do not sell electrical items. Please will you mark stuff for Mini-Market thank you.

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

Coffee Centre every Thursday 10.00 to 11.45 am

Janice and Brenda

***With Trinity Sunday to remember ...***

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence. - *John Wesley (Quote from Parish Pump)*



**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015**  
**Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road,**  
**Fareham PO16 0NU**  
**Unity in Community**  
**4.00pm – 6.00pm**

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



## WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP SUMMER PROGRAMME

- May 13th Visit to Emsworth. Meet at the Emsworth Methodist Church at 12.30pm. Fareham Bus Station No. 3 bus to Hilsea Lido (every 10 minutes) Cross road to catch the 700 bus to Emsworth (every 20 minutes).
- May 27th 2.00pm in the Wickham Room. Tea from 1.45pm.  
Mr Bill Burt - Life in the NCH in the 1930's
- June 10th Visit to Warsash Common. Fareham Bus Station No. X5 Bus at 1.38pm.
- June 24th Visit to Petworth House & Gardens. Minibus from Church at 10.00am Must be booked in advance as numbers limited.
- July 8th Garden Party at the Home of Joan & Jeff Padley at 2.00pm.  
Garden Stalls, usual sandwiches, savouries, cakes and strawberries & cream. Tickets £3.50  
Shirley Henderson

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Friday, May 8th 2015,

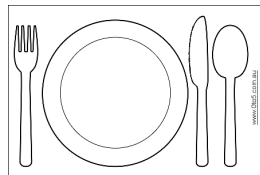
The singing Group is preparing for another evening of music and food. This year, we will be singing film music, including Rogers and Hammerstein, Henry Mancini, Leonard Bernstein and many more. Tickets are now available from Garry or Brenda. The proceeds of the concert will be going to Fareham Stroke Club and The Methodist Relief and Development Fund – “All We Can”



## SUNDAY LUNCH May 17th

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 Christian Aid this month. If you would like to make a pudding of your choice and bring it along that would be very good – thank you.

The menu will be:



**Prawn Cocktail**

**Roast Pork**

**a variety of sweets.**

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

### ACTION FOR CHILDREN

It is time to empty the house collection boxes once again. Would anyone with a box please hand them to me any time during May ready for opening at the beginning of June.



Pat Croker





**QUIZ AID  
THIS WILL BE THE EIGHTH QUIZ AID  
held for Christian Aid Week**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME ,GET A TEAM TOGETHER  
OR COME ALONG ON YOUR OWN TO**

**BRIDGEMARY  
METHODIST CHURCH  
GREGSON AVE  
PO13 0PP**

**FRIDAY 15TH MAY  
6PM.**

**REFRESHMENTS, RAFFLE AND LOTS OF FUN**

**COST £3**

## TOPICS OF INTEREST

### Laying down their lives at Pentecost

As you celebrate Pentecost, pause for a moment to ask yourself one question – how is it that you are standing here, as a Christian, on this day in 2015?

It's because somebody told you about Jesus, right? But who told them?

We're all links in a chain that stretches back to Pentecost, when Peter emboldened by the Holy Spirit, first told others about the faith. He, and countless others since, paid the ultimate price, so that you might live.

And Christians are still laying down their lives around the world today for their faith. Christians are persecuted under authoritarian states, in communist and post-communist countries, under Hinduism and even under Buddhism.

But today, few face persecution more severe than that suffered by Christians under extreme Islam in the countries which first heard the gospel after Pentecost.

At the first Pentecost, 3,000 devout Jews had gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the giving of the Law. They returned to their respective nations bearing an even greater gift – the Gospel, which spread like wildfire.

Yet today, 2,000 years later, that Christian presence is dwindling to the point of extinction.

Take Iraq, ancient Mesopotamia and the birthplace of Abraham, where today Christians are being driven from their land by Islamic State. “Are we seeing the end of Christianity?” asks the Vicar of Baghdad, Canon Andrew White. “We have had people massacred, their heads chopped off. It looks as though the end could be very near.”

Further north, in Erbil, Chaldean Archbishop Bashar M Warda, ponders the same question.

“Since 2003, half the Christians have left the country,” he says. “The attack has been immense. We were above 1m, now you hardly find 300,000.”

He, too, fears the exodus of Christians may be unstoppable.

The one beacon of hope is Iraqi Kurdistan, which has flung open its gates to the persecuted, and claims to be the only region in the Middle East where the Christian population is growing. The Kurds understand persecution. They were gassed by Saddam. And these Kurds who are remembering Christians in their hour of need are Muslims.

May our own memories be not so dulled by the freedoms we take for granted that we fail to remember our persecuted Christian family this Pentecost.

Cont. on page 11

*Cont. from page 10*

*Andrew Boyd -Release International supports persecuted Christians in 30 nations. Release is working with partners in Baghdad to keep the flame of the gospel alive, and in Kurdistan to help refugees – some of whom are coming to faith in Christ. Parish Pump*



The past six months have seen hundreds of All We Can supporters taking part in campaigning and awareness-raising activities to amplify the voices of people standing against inequality and injustice in some of the world's poorest communities. Thank you for encouraging your church and wider contacts to engage in these important issues.

During [London Fashion Week](#), we called for safer working conditions for garment workers around the world. In the autumn, over 600 supporters contacted 200 MPs calling on political parties to make strong commitments to tackle climate change as part of our Harvest Appeal. We have also continued to work closely with Jubilee Debt Campaign, calling for the [cancellation of unjust international debts](#) and for the UK government to give aid as grants not loans. Thank you to all of you who added your voices to our campaigns.

We are excited to be able to provide a new selection of resources for you to share and use with your church and community. See below for ideas for action ahead of the UK general election and international climate talks in Paris this December.

You can keep up to date with all the latest news, resources and prayer points from All We Can by subscribing to our [monthly e-news](#) but do contact us on 020 7467 5132 or [info@allwecan.org.uk](mailto:info@allwecan.org.uk) if you would like any more information or to book a speaker for your church.

Thank you for continuing to stand in solidarity with people speaking out against poverty, injustice and inequality around the world.

## **Summarised responses to ACM discussion about Holy Communion**

At our ACM held on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015 we had a short discussion on the celebration of Holy Communion. See below for the collated responses to the questions that were discussed in small groups

### **Question One**

During the last 18 months in our morning communion services we have used the ‘rolling’ communion on most occasions with the opportunity to come to/ kneel at the communion rail on 3 occasions per year (Easter, Christmas and Covenant Service).

What do you think about that? Does that feel like a good balance?

The balance is fine.

Like the rolling communion.

Like the variety and different styles.

It’s a good mix.

Could 3 occasions be increased to 6 – an alternating pattern of rolling and rail communions?

Once a quarter kneeling at rail, rest of time rolling HC.

More kneeling at the rail HC.

Like kneeling at rail – more personal.

Kneeling at the rail is a more peaceful, spiritual space – an opportunity for prayer and re-dedication.

If time is an issue then we could sing one less hymn.

Those who are physically less able like the opportunity to remain seated.

When communion is at the rail – congregation need to be reminded of the procedure.

There is an element of rush and speed away from the rail.

Should be greater awareness of when to join the queue when led from the back – enabling adequate preparation of personal prayer.

Do not like start at the back – can’t see when it is nearly your turn.

### **Question Two**

Are there other ways that we could share HC together that you would like to sug-

Communicants should be encouraged to use either side for wine.

Rows should be split coming forward to keep things going.

Could we have continuous HC but kneeling at the rail?

Could we pass bread and wine from person to person – this may be better

Could we stay in seats – have elements brought to us and eat and drink together?

Some people do not like sharing the peace – best done just at evening Iona service.

I am getting used to sharing the peace.

### **Question Three**

We use a range of liturgy in our communion services (both morning and evening). Sometimes we use the Methodist Worship Book (MWB) and on other occasions, alternative words.

Prefer non-use of MWB

Use variety of HC services in MWB in rotation.

Liked recent shorter liturgy without MWB.

Like Iona style

Like use of alternative words.

Should use MWB in the morning – keep Iona and alternatives to the evening.

We like variety but feel that there should be more conventional communions than other types.

Are there any other comments that you would like to make about the way that we celebrate Holy Communion together?

Occasionally the cubes of bread are too big

Smaller bread please.

How do we cater for allergies with the new legislation? Gluten-free plate?

Children are too young to take the elements – blessing only!

At present it is all pretty efficient.

### **In summary**

Thank you for the open and honest discussion and responses to the questions. As you can see there are a range of opinions and ideas that will be taken forward and considered at the next Worship Consultation meeting to be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June (all welcome) . Any recommendations that this meeting makes will be taken forward to the next Church Council on July 7<sup>th</sup>. Watch this space, as they say!

Rev

## SAFE PASSAGE

Roy Crowder, Partnership Coordinator for Europe, on calls for protection of migrants.

Immigration has been a major political topic since the opening shots were fired in the general election campaign.

However, Churches across Europe are trying to offer a united voice on migration and people movement.

More than 3,400 people died in 2014 crossing the Mediterranean to find refuge. Hundreds have drowned already in 2015.

The Italian Protestant Federation, including the Methodist Church, has established an 'Observatory' on Lampedusa Island, where 366 people drowned in 2013. The staff assist migrants and document the situation.

In 2013 the Italian Navy extended search and rescue operations, saving many lives. But when Italy was left on its own to fund the high cost it could not continue. Nor can Italian Churches address the crisis alone. Europe as a whole must tackle the issues and Churches need to stand together.

The Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME) addresses these issues. It commemorated the Lampedusa anniversary by calling on EU countries to establish 'safe passage' procedures to protect people.

Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant leaders drafted 'Recommendations for Safe and Legal Paths to Protection' for recognising Protection Status and distributing people fairly. The recommendations point out that EU member states have signed international agreements, such as the Refugee Convention, binding governments to recognise the dignity of those fleeing violence.

Refugee resettlement and humanitarian admission could increase with proper coordination. Currently, Germany offers far more places than others.

Across Europe, congregations actively support migrants and asylum seekers, helping them learn their language and navigate officialdom.

As we approach an election where immigration is a contentious issue, church members can ask politicians to make 'Safe and Legal Paths'.

The commission's recommendations can be downloaded at [www.ccme.be](http://www.ccme.be).

Churches can use them to challenge candidates to endorse its contents.

Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May  
St Columba Church  
Hillson Drive, Fareham  
10 – 2pm



Games on the Green, plants, books,  
sweets, toys,  
handicrafts, cakes  
and refreshments

*In aid of the St Columba Development Fund*



\*\*\*\*\*

The lunchtime concert at  
Holy Trinity this month is:

26th May 13.05 The Star Lights-

Singers of a lighter style of music

# ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN



## PENTECOST

24<sup>th</sup> May

Do you know what happened on the first Pentecost? On that day what really amazed all the people was that everyone there heard the message of the Good News in their own language. You can read about this in Acts, chapter 2.

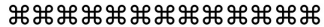
How many languages can you speak? We all speak English but most of us know at least a few words in more than one language. I bet you know some French, even if it is only 'bonjour' or 'merci', perhaps you know some Urdu, Spanish or Polish too.

There are so many languages in the world we couldn't hope to learn more than a few of them – but Jesus knows our language... He can speak everyone else's language too. His gospel can be translated into every possible dialect and tongue because, whatever words are used, that gospel is the same. It is for all people, everywhere. Jesus speaks to everyone in His own language.

## P - QUIZ

All the answers in this Bible quiz begin with the letter P - can you find them all?

1. Paul wrote to the people of this town.
2. The Roman Governor who washed his hands.
3. Where the last book in the Bible was written.
4. Short stories Jesus told.
5. Goliath was one.
6. What Amos and Hosea were.
7. To begin with he was called Saul.
8. The Egyptian ruler who argued with Moses.



**Where would you look for a lost vicar?**

The Bureau of Missing Parsons.

**What is wet, round, and taste of peppermint?**

Water Polo.

**What did the policeman say to the naughty frog?**

Hop it.



ANSWERS: 1.Philippi 2.Pontius Pilate  
3.Patmos 4.parables 5.Philistine  
6.prophets 7.Paul 8. Pharaoh



## FLOWER MINISTRY

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers Mary gave to us. We really appreciated them.



Thank you for the flowers delivered by Irene Russell and for everyone's thoughts and prayers during our recent bereavement.

Tracy Cooper, Matthew and Tahlie

Thank you for the beautiful flowers delivered at Easter and lasting well. Also for all the good wishes and for your prayers. Eric and Shirley Grant

Thank you for the colourful flowers brought to me by Tony after my fall in the Precinct.

Dennis Bright

A big THANK YOU to Claire, Joan Padley and Linda Brooks for attending the funeral of Matthew and Tahlie's late father Kevin and for the support we received on the day.

Tracy Cooper

Irene and I are gratefully aware of the tasteful flower decorations in our welcome and corridor areas provided by Sheila and Una.. They spend a good deal of time and effort doing this and we would like them to be recognised by being considered members of the flower ministry team. So, now we are four! We would also like to thank those friends who help on special occasions, and of course, those on our two rotas who help on a regular basis.

Mary and Irene.

## DIARY DATES FOR MAY

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>4</b> B.H.	<b>5</b> 9.45 Parent and Toddlers	<b>6</b> 19.00 Guides	<b>7</b> 10.00 Coffee Centre 10.15 Prayer Circle  17.30 Brownies	<b>8</b> Singing group Concert	<b>9</b>
<b>11</b> Christian Aid week 9.30 Mini-Market	<b>12</b> 9.45 Parent and Toddlers 10.15 Snug H.G. 20.00 Ladies Night	<b>13</b> 14.00 Wed Fellowship 16.00 Messy Church 19.00 Guides 19.30 PAX Housegroup	<b>14</b> 10.00 Coffee Centre  17.30 Brownies	<b>15</b> 18.00 Christian Aid Quiz Bridge-mary	<b>16</b>
<b>18</b> 9.30 Mini-Market	<b>19</b> 9.45 Parent and Toddlers	<b>20</b> 10.00 Healing Grp at Padley's 19.00 Guides 19.30 E Fareham House Grp. 19.30 Church and Community Group	<b>21</b> 10.00 Coffee Centre 10.15 Prayer Circle 10.30 Transport enthusiasts 14.30 Service at Red House 17.30 Brownies	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>25</b> B.H.	<b>26</b> 10.00 West Fareham H.G. 13.05 Concert Holy Trinity 20.00 Ladies Night	<b>27</b> 13.00 Men's lunch at Sailmakers 14.00 Wed Fellowship	<b>28</b> 10.00 Coffee Centre	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>JUNE 1</b> 9.30 Mini-Market	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 19.00 Guides	<b>4</b> 10.00 Coffee Centre 10.15 Prayer Circle	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

*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..*

**An Affirmation of Faith repeated by everyone at the Good Friday Service in the precinct (in the rain!).**

**We believe in God,  
Who made the sun and the sky, the stars and the sea,  
Who calls us to live responsibly.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Who became human, who healed the sick,  
Who talked to children, who made friends with sinners.**

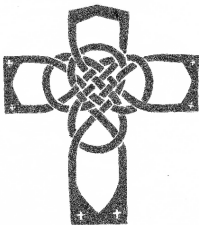
**He burned brightly and offended many.  
His journey was one of life and death and resurrection.  
His light continues to shine in darkness.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Who inspires the scriptures,  
And whose breath we breathe.**

**We believe that God calls us to be a community,  
Committed to one another,  
Offering a welcome to everyone  
Old and young, rich and poor, strong and weak**

**We believe God calls us to be peacemakers  
Workers of justice, brothers and sisters  
A light for our world. Amen**

***Writ-  
shop***



***ten by two 14 year old boys at a worship work-  
on Iona.  
From Eggs and Ashes; by Ruth Burgess and  
Chris Polhill***

## **DOOR STEWARDS**

May

3rd 10.30 Bobby and Patrick Watson  
10th 10.30 Sue and Bob Metcalf  
17th 10.30 Judith Brammall and Keith Sargeant  
24th 10.30 Rosemarie and Tony Jackson  
31st 10.30 Bessie and Daniel Taabu

June

7th 10.30 Brenda Bennett and Sally Bland (possibly!)

## **REFRESHMENT ROTA**

May

3rd Pat and Walter Metcalf  
10th Marilyn Woodrow and helper  
17th Brownies and Guides  
24th Ruth and Tony Elvery  
31st Shirley and Keith Sargeant and Peggy Long

June

7th Lynda Young and Elizabeth Wilcock

## **FLOWER ROTA**

May

3rd Irene Russell  
10th. Flower fund  
17th. Flower fund  
24th. Lynda Hayden-Jones  
31st. Marion Bright

June.

7th. Maud Lovell

## **PRESS DATE**

All items for the **JUNE 2015** Focus should be emailed to [ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk) or if this is not possible placed in the box in the Welcome Area by noon of **Thurs 28th May 2015**.

**Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website**