















Fareham Methodist Church (Magazine

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Number 583 June 2011

SERVICES DURING JUNE

5 th 10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Family Holy Communion
	Biblefresh at Bridgemary	
12 th 10.30	Mr Alex Jameson	
19.00	Revd Malcolm Groom	Sunday2
+h		

19th 10.30 Mrs Pam Davey All Age Worship

18.00 Revd Malcolm Groom Iona Holy Communion

26th 10.30 Revd Vincent Canning

SERVICES DURING JULY

3rd 10.30 Revd Malcolm Groom Holy Communion

LOCAL PREACHERS and TEAM APPOINTMENTS

5th JUNE Mr Andrew Wilcock at Stubbington

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

Minister's Letter - June 2011

Dear Friends,

You'll have to excuse me this time, but as you know I'm a grandparent!

- I know what you're saying,"there's nothing wrong with being a grandparent!" Well, of course, I know that, but us grandparents do have the habit of thinking our grandchildren are the most wonderful children in the world, don't we?



GRANDPA

Just recently we discovered that our eldest granddaughter has a beautiful singing voice and, having found this the family persuaded her to have singing lessons. She was a little reluctant at first, as she is quite a shy retiring sort of person, but she has been going along to her singing teacher about once a week for the last few months. We didn't know how she was getting along though, because no-one (apart from her music teacher) had heard her sing.

Finally, her mother persuaded her to record a song onto the computer (and then a CD) for the family to listen to so that she wouldn't have the embarrassment of singing "live" in front of us. As I was the only family member with the computer skills to do this I had the great privilege of being the only "technician" allowed in the recording studio (my office). I was, to use a modern phrase, "blown away" by her singing and felt that it was such a great privilege to be there. When the family heard it they to were astounded at how beautiful her singing is. All our granddaughter could say was "... this is <u>so</u> embarrassing!", but she did enjoy all the encouragement she got from the family.

Someone then put her song onto an internet programme called "Facebook" so that the rest of the family far and wide and her friends could also hear her. (If you'd like to hear her sing and see the video then look up my Facebook page!) She thought this was also highly embarrassing, but revelled in the praise that she received.



After a lot of nervous thought (and because of the encouragement of her adoring new fans) she decided that she would, after all, sing at a private concert for about 50 people that she had been invited to by her singing teacher.

This went so well that they have been invited back to do another concert in a couple of month's time. Where will this end? - We don't know of course, but it has been a real privilege to see

her find and cultivate something she's really good at. It's also come about because of the encouragement of others - family and friends.

In a way this is a sort of parable for two things that the Bible encourages us to do. Firstly we are told to develop and make the best use of our talents (Romans 11, 1 Cor 7, 1 Cor 12, 1 Peter 4) and secondly to encourage each other in them (Proverbs 12:25, 1Thess 5, Eph 4).

Have you got any talents you're still hiding away or is there anyone you need to encourage today?

MLL

God bless,

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?"

Vestry Jottings

We celebrated the Church Anniversary on 15th May, 2011 in a very different way and the comments we received showed us it was a success. Both young and old people joined into the spirit of the service and people were said they felt uplifted.

We are desperately in need of someone to take over the role of Church Property Steward as soon as possible. This can be a co-ordinating role: it is not essential that the person has to be able to practical work themselves. Is this a way that you can offer service to the church? Please give this your consideration and if you are interested and would like some more information please contact one of the Church Stewards.

The main tasks are:

- To be a member of the Church Property and Finance Committee (4-6 meetings per year).
- To be a member of Circuit Property Committee (1 meeting per year).
- To maintain the property log book for the premises.
- To complete the annual schedule for presentation to the Autumn Church Council.
- To co-ordinate the maintenance requirements of the building and to arrange that repairs are carried out within the delegated budget.
- To ensure that the annual servicing of boilers and fire extinguishers is completed and that the annual gas safety certificate is obtained.
- To liaise with the caretaker and cleaner is as required (not line manage).
- To accompany the inspector at the 5 yearly building inspection to receive the report of that inspection and advise the Property Committee of its contents.

Thank You!

Thank you very much for the Church Flowers given to us by Liz for our Wedding Anniversary. - Janice and Vic Collins

Thank you so much for my lovely Church birthday flowers. They have given me such a lot of pleasure. - Maude Lovell

I would like to say thank you to all those involved in preparing our Easter Labyrinth. I found it a most moving experience and came away thoughtful, refreshed and uplifted. Please can we have one next year.

- Marion Bright

I don't know where to begin to say thank you to everyone for their cards, flowers, lifts and prayers both during Robin's short stay in hospital and since his death. The loving concern and generosity in helping me at this sad time has been overwhelming and I cannot express my gratitude enough. Thank you very much to all the Church family for their loving support and kindness. - **Pat Croker**

I should like to express my thanks to the church for the lovely flowers given to me, on the news from Australia that my brother Michael had died.

It is good to know that the church is holding me and my family in their thoughts and prayers. Australia is so far away at times like these.

Many thanks to Mary Bailey for giving them to me. -

Shirley Sargeant

Christian Aid Week

Many thanks to everyone who supported Christian Aid Week.



This year our Church raised £989.65! This included £53.69 tax recovered through gift aid and £126.50 from the Church Anniversary lunch – the donations for this

lunch were split between Christian Aid and MHA. Many thanks to all the door to door collectors, those who helped at the count or manned the Christian Aid stall in the town and all those who were involved in the Church lunch – a great team effort which raised almost £1,000. Thank you! - Linda Foster

Flower Ministry



Most of you know----but some new friends may not-----that the church flowers on Sundays are later passed on to friends or church family members. Those friends who no longer join with us at services due to age or infirmity, are given flowers on a regular basis to show that we still care, even though we don't see them regularly.

Some times flowers are given to those who have special birthdays or anniversaries, or who are going through a special time of ill health or family concern. We do have a list of our regular receivers, but cannot always know of other circumstances when flowers would be appropriate. Therefore we would appreciate your letting us know of anyone you think we should remember on a Sunday in this way.

- Mary and Irene

Ukraine 2011

I am joining the Mission to the 3 villages in Ukraine again this year and will be teaching in the school for the week. We are flying to Budapest on 29th July and from there travelling by coach to the villages which are about 20/30 miles over the border.



If anyone would like to help with donations or items for school use I would be very grateful.

We are in need of: stickers, felt tip pens, coloured pencils, writing pencils, play-dough, pegs and washing lines (to hang children's work on!) please and I will place a box in the Welcome Area for any contributions. Many thanks.

Jill Groom

Healing Prayer Group



There is a healing group on Wednesday 8th June at 19:30 at the home of Joan and Jeff Padley at 2 Archery Lane.

Rita Jackson

Easter Offering Service

June 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Circuit Service at Gosport Methodist Church.

The theme of this service is **Seeds of ife**, looking at the way noney given in Easter Offerings is used to stimulate self-sufficiency in poorer countries.



HARVEST, HOPE AND WHOLENESS FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

EASTER OFFERING 2011

Film and Food Evening - Friday 17th June 6 for 6.30 p.m.

We will be showing the film "*The Blind Side*" after supper at 6.30 pm

The film stars Sandra Bullock and is based on a true story about a homeless young man and the family who took him with life-changing consequences.



The supper will be:

<u>A choice of:</u> Tuna Plait, Cheese and Onion Pie or Quiche with new potatoes and salad, followed by Pavlova and Jelly Yogurt Mousse.

Donations will be shared between MHA and Action for Children and tickets will be available from 15th May from *Jill Groom* and *Garry Bagshaw*.

Please come and join us!

+++++++++

<u>The London Welsh Male Voice Choir</u> - are in concert at the Ferneham Hall in Fareham on 18 June 2011 at 7:30. I am an active member of this choir.

This concert is in aid of Dee Symonds' (a Methodist preacher) charity 'Harmony Gambia'. I am assisting Dee as she is in poor health. I have tickets for this event and they cost £15. I can be contacted on 07931462813 for cheque or cash sales. Cheques should be made out to 'Harmony Gambia'. The Ferneham Hall box office is 01329 231942 and they will charge the charity 10%!!

Barbecue for Hampshire & IOW Air Ambulance

"SQUIRES IN GOSPORT" are holding a BBQ in aid of the HAMPSHIRE AND IOW air ambulance on Saturday 18th June 2011 from 6pm at 22 Linden Grove, Alverstoke.

The cost is £4 per head and there will be a RAFFLE.

Thanks a lot.

Brian McPhee

SUNDAY LUNCH 19th June at 12.15 pm 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 Menu

Starter: Vegetable Soup or Egg Mayonnaise



Main Course: Roast Beef or Salmon Fillets,

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 Lunch!

Garden Party - 2.30 - 22nd June - at 2 Archery

Lane Fareham.

K

This annual event, provided by Wednesday Fellowship will be raising funds for a *Christian Aid Partnership*.

This is a scheme where an agreed amount raised by a church or group of churches is multiplied NINE TIMES by the European Union.

The money has to be in addition to regular fund raising for Christian Aid and is used for a specific project, in this case in Zimbabwe. (more details on the church website)

A group of churches in Fareham, of which we are one, has pledged to raise £5,000 over two years, and our share is £500 each year.

Last year Wednesday Fellowship raised over £200 at this event for their project. How much can we raise this year with the support of all who read this magazine?

Everyone is Welcome

Tickets £3.50 from members of Wednesday Fellowship.

Joan Padley

Worship Consultation

The next meeting will be held at Church on Tuesday June 28th at 7:30pm. Please may I have any items for the agenda by Sunday June 12th

Rosemary Jackson (Convenor)

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An Ignatian Approach to Listening to God

A Silent Retreat with Individual Guidance

Friday 4th - Sunday 6th November

At Acorn Christian Healing Centre, Whitehill Chase, Bordon, Hants.

- a safe place for healing -

£160.00 Fully residential.

Booking form from Malcolm Rothwell (01329 317846) (email: revmalcolm@ntlworld.com)

Of an Age?

A couple was invited to dinner by their elderly neighbours. The old gentleman endearingly preceded every request to his wife with "Honey", "Darling", "Sweetheart", "Pumpkin", etc..

The neighbours were impressed since the couple had been

married almost 70 years.

While the wife was off in the kitchen. the neighbour said to the gentleman, "I think it's wonderful that after all the years you've been married, you still refer to your wife in those terms."

The elderly husband hung his head. "Actually, I forgot the old lady's name about ten years ago."

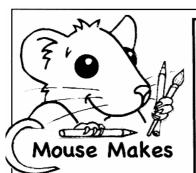
June 2nd Ascension Day

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: "When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands - and blessed them."

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with his return to his Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless his disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: "While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven." (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: "I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God..." (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have him look on you with love. No wonder, then that Luke goes on: "they worshipped him - and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God." (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! "I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel tb³ every nation on earth.



Jesus said:
"I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **Helper**, who will stay with you forever. He is the **Spirit** who **reveals** the **truth** about God."

John 14:16,17

Read the story of Pentecost in Acts 2

The Fruit of the Spirit

"The Spirit produces



JOY



PEACE
PATIENCE
KINDNESS
GOODNESS
FAITHFULNESS

HUMILITY and SELF CONTROL"

Galatians 5:22

Cut out, keep and learn these Holy Spirit Bible verse cards.





Jesus said:
"..how much
more shall your
Heavenly
Father give the
Holy Spirit to
them that ask
him?
Luke 11:13"



"Let the Spirit direct your lives"

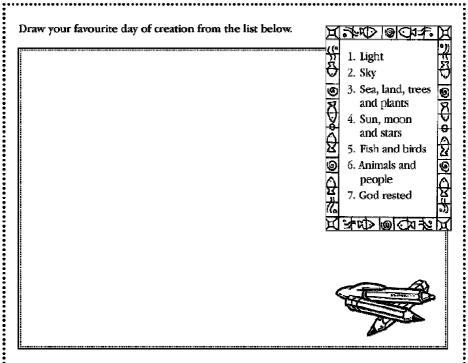
Galatians 5:16



"...the spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us"

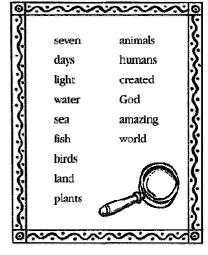
Romans 8:26"

Creation Appreciation!



Find the words in the grid.

В	Ī	R	D	S	S	В	X	S	D
E	E	D	A	E	0	Y	Т	N	L
A	J	O	Н	V	L	F	Н	A	R
F	U	L	D	Е	Y	I	E	M	0
Т	P	L	A	N	Т	S	G	U	W
E	Z	N	Y	N	W	Н	o	Н	A
R	A	Т	S	P	D	o	D	L	Т
A	N	I	M	A	L	S	R	S	E
Н	A	M	A	Z	I	N	G	D	R
F	A	D	Е	T	A	E	R	С	I_5





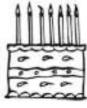
PENTECOST 12th June

Of the three main festivals in the Christian year, Pentecost or Whitsun is the least celebrated today.

Christmas celebrates the birth of a baby in a stable. Easter celebrates that baby grown to a man, our Risen Lord. And Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the beginning of the Christian Church.

Pentecost is the birthday of all Christian Churches. It was the start of all those ripples that spread wider and wider to cover the whole world. From the 11 disciples and Matthias (who replaced Judas Iscariot) to us today.

But we don't send Whitsun cards or give sweets or presents to mark Pentecost, do we? Nowadays it isn't even a Bank Holiday. How do



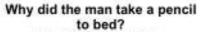
Holiday. How do you think we should celebrate Pentecost?

PEN-THINGS

Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter. PENTA means 5 so a pentagon has five sides and the first five books of the Old Testament are called the Pentateuch

There are quite a number of words that begin with the letters PEN, so can you say which PEN is... (answers at the bottom of the page)

- 1. A free kick in football?
- 2 A female swan?
- 3. Someone you write to?
- An early kind of bicycle?
- A sporting event?
- 6. A small coin?
- 7. A flag?
- A black and white bird that can't fly?



To draw the curtains.

What did the pencil say to the rubber?

Take me to your ruler.

Why is it bad to write on an empty stomach?

Because paper is better.

Answers: 1. penalty 2. pen 3. pen friend 4. penny farthing 5. pentathlon 6. penny 7. pennant 8. penguin

That awkward little comma thing!

It's because of its awkwardness that it's often spelt wrongly; its roots go back to long-forgotten grammar. It's part of the he/him/his, she/her/hers, it/it/its heritage. Lynn Truss, in her best seller "Eats, shoots and leaves" devotes a whole chapter to the use and misuse of the apostrophe without much success. Not only does English possess a minefield of pronunciation* as so humorously** published in last month's "Focus" but it is a quagmire of grammar too, and as for spelling!!

(* c.f. pronounce ** c.f. humour)

Eric Wheeler

P.S. Lynn Truss "blames" the printers of the 16th & 17th century for introducing the apostrophe presumably to save space, use of letters, etc.. The language is constantly being amended to suit the circumstances, hence text grammar & spelling today.

P.P.S. (Ed) - w'r | I 4 btr gramA bn uzd!

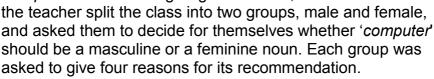


Is a computer masculine or feminine?

A Spanish teacher was explaining to her class that in Spanish, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine. 'House' for instance, is feminine: 'la Casa.'

'Pencil,' however, is masculine: 'el lapiz.'

A student asked, 'What gender is 'computer'?' Instead of giving the answer,



The men's group decided that 'computer' should definitely be of the feminine gender ('*la computadora*'), because:

- 1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic;
- 2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else;
- 3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval; and
- 4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending money on accessories for it.

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be masculine ('el computador'), because:

- 1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on;
- 2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
- 3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem; and
- 4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

18

The women won!

Record demand for 'Jesus Egg' shows people were not afraid to talk about faith at Easter

In the weeks leading up to Easter, supermarkets and independent retailers across the UK were inundated with calls from customers searching for the first release of The Real Easter Egg. It is the first and only Fairtrade egg to mention Jesus and the events of Holy Week on

the box.

Morrison's, Waitrose, Co-op and Booths stocked a limited 'trial listing' of the Real Easter Egg and Traidcraft's network of 6,500 retailers, a number of independent shops and a selection of cathedrals also stocked The Real Easter Egg. Schools ordered a further 30,000 eggs.

Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ben Kingsley and a host of Coronation Street stars have backed the egg and Ecclesiastical funded a national competition for schools and churches. With their help, with the support of Archbishops, bishops and hundreds of schools and churches, The Real Easter Egg became the biggest mail order egg in the UK before going into stores. David Marshall, speaking for Manchester based Meaningful Chocolate Company, which developed the egg, said; "Response was overwhelming and we went to four production runs to meet demand." For more details, visit:

www.realeasteregg

Parish Pump

Make a Lig chunk of difference Charity donation from every enal





Last month one of our members
- Peter Moody was awarded the
- "Silver Acorn" for distinguished service to
Scouting.
Well Done Peter!
- We're proud of you! -

The following article was written for and discussed in District Synod on 7th May. "Regrouping for Mission" is a Connexional initiative and this article is a District response. We as a Circuit are asked to discuss our response to it in the light of what we see as the future of our Circuit.

If you feel moved to respond, please let me have this (in written form email, typed or hand-written) and I will make sure your views are represented in the Circuit discussions. *Malcolm*

RESHAPING THE DISTRICT

- a response to Regrouping for Mission - Matthew Reed

Introduction

Regrouping for Mission (R4M) starts by highlighting that our organisational structures developed and grew at a time when our membership and resources were very much greater, but has not been rethought as our numbers and resources have reduced. More importantly, it has not been altered to respond to the changing nature of God's world around us, and the phallenges and calls He now presents to us.

The ReShaping Agenda

From September 2008, the District Development Enabler (DDE), in conjunction with District Chair Andrew Wood, worked with circuits on a number of projects helping them explore their mission potential, with particular reference to R4M. They also looked at situations around the Connexion for parallel experiences. It became clear that mission was being limited by our circuit structure in six areas:

- The administrative burden
- Big issues swamping circuit life
- Resource sharing
- Discernment and decision making
- Isolated ministers and other staff
- Vision restricted by boundaries

The Benchmark - A starting point based on best practice and aspirations.

Key to the agenda is a group of benchmarks that suggest a viable size for circuits. Based on best practice from around the District and elsewhere in the Connexion, they offer rough guidance as to what might reasonably be expected, as a starting point for discussions. Circuits are encouraged to consider how they fit the benchmarks, and to question whether that is appropriate for them, given their local circumstances: churches (and staff) should expect to be organised according to the Benchmark for the District, unless they can justify a different position.

- Circuits should have between 160 and 220 members per minister.
- 2. Circuits should have between four and nine ordained staff (640 to 1980 members).
- 3. Circuits should have a maximum drive time of 60 minutes for the journey between key centres.
- 4. Circuits should include more than one larger church (100+ members).
- 5. Circuits should have geographical and community coherence.

The Response

Almost all circuits are engaged with the agenda in some way. In many cases there was already an emerging understanding that a new bigger shape would be helpful to their work, and the Agenda has provided a necessary catalyst to the negotiations. In other areas, open discussion meetings between circuit teams have led to a clearer

understanding of the nature and identity of the circuits involved, leading to the forming of new relationships and potential formal relationships emerging. Not all circuits see combining with other circuits as the way forward, but have looked to other relationships or strategies to fulfil their needs, including working ecumenically or through federations.

Almost inevitably the initial response has focussed on the structural aspects of *reorganisation, but in most cases the teams have quickly realised that this as an opportunity* to refocus their circuit life on mission, with the opportunity to leave behind much of our existing practice in order for a new circuit to be clearly tasked with building God's kingdom. Structural matters are important in that they manage the resources for mission, but should not be the steering factor in establishing a new way of working. For this reason most negotiations concern the building of new circuits, with a new style and identity, rather than merging of existing circuits.

Procedures

It has quickly become clear that a new approach to the administrative procedure of creating new circuits was needed both to cope with the numbers of such situations expected in the next two years, and to be in keeping with the new mood for a lighter administrative burden. The District Policy Executive (DPE) meeting in February approved a new process for implementing Standing Order 501(3) which is simple and clear, the key points being:

- The formal consultation is triggered by a request from the Circuit Leadership Teams (CLT) of all the circuits involved, and can be started without waiting for a meeting of DPE.
- The DDE, in conjunction with the Chair and DPE Secretary, works with the circuits involved through the consultation process and reports back to DPE.

Summary

The District "Ground-up" approach to R4M is resulting in progress that is firmly based in the wishes of the circuits themselves, and that the Reshaping Agenda has helped this process to move forward significantly. As a result of this work, three pairs of circuits have already requested DPE to start formal consultation procedures towards the creation of new circuits. The challenge now is for circuits to seize the moment to ensure a focus on relevant and sustainable mission, based on the needs of their area and the wider Methodist Church.

Dates for your Diary

JUNE

5 th	Biblefresh - Bridgemary MC	14.00
7 th	Fresh Expressions Meeting - Fareham MC	10:00
8 th	Healing Group - 2 Archery Lane	19.30
	Wednesday Fellowship to Bishops Waltham	13.25
12 th	Circuit Service - Gosport MC	18.00
14 th	Youth Council - Manse	19.30
15 th	Outreach Meeting - Manse	19.30
17 th	Film and Food Evening - Fareham MC	18.00
18 th	Welsh male Voice Choir - Ferneham Hall	19.30
18 th	BBQ Squires, Gosport	18.00
19 th	Sunday Lunch - Fareham MC	12.15
22 nd	Wednesday Fellowship Garden Party 2 Archery Lane	14.30
24 th	Church Stewards Meeting - Manse	19.00
28 th	Worship Consultation Meeting - Fareham MC	19.30

<u>JULY</u>

12th Church Council - Fareham MC 19.30

Minimarket every Monday 9.30 to 11.45 am (not Bank Holidays)

Coffee Centre every Thursday 9.30 to 11.45 am

Door Stewards

JUNE

5th 10.30 Brenda and Peter Taylor, Judith Bramhall

12th 10.30 Rosemarie and Tony Jackson

19th 10.30 Margaret and Bob Temple,

18.00 Vic Collins

26th 10.30 Gwen and Harvey Brosgall

JULY

3rd 10.30 Sheila and Graham Dyer, Lynda Young

FLOWER ROTA

JUNE

5th Liz Avison

12th Lillian Tildesley19th Jose Barney26th Mayis Parish

JULY

3rd Garry Bagshaw

REFRESHMENT ROTA

JUNE

5th Irene Russell, Meg Cox and Tony Emberson 12th Pat and Tony Pickering, Lynda Haydon-Jones

19th Betty Phillips, Rosemarie Jackson

and Judy Bramhall

26th Sheila Dyer ,Margaret Boyd and Sarah Brooks

JULY

3rd Margaret Temple, Sally Bland and Brenda Bennett

PRESS DATE

All items for the **JULY/AUGUST** magazine should be placed in the magazine box in the Welcome Area or handed to the **Editor** - **Jill Groom** by **lunchtime** on **Friday 24th June 2011**

Fareham Focus is now available to be read on Fareham Church² Website