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Number 593 May 2012

SERVICES DURING May

6th	10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Holy Communion
13th	10.30	Lynne Matthews	
	19.00	Andrew Wilcock	Sunday Two
20th	10.30	Revd Richard Tanner	Church Anniversary
27th	10.30	Christine Hargrave	
	18.00	Revd Malcolm Groom	Holy Communion Iona Style

SERVICES DURING June

3rd 10.30 Revd Malcolm Groom Holy Communion

LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

27th May Andrew Wilcock at Portchester

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

MAY 2012

Dear Friends

Many thanks for all the cards, emails, get well messages and prayers during the past few weeks. I hope to be back with you all very soon. This month please accept this poem instead of my usual letter.



The will of God will never take you,
Where the grace of God cannot keep you,
Where the arms of God cannot support you,
Where the riches of God cannot supply your needs,
Where the power of God cannot endow you.

The will of God will never take you,
Where the Spirit of God cannot work through you,
Where the wisdom of God cannot teach you,
Where the army of God cannot protect you,
Where the hands of God cannot mould you.

The will of God will never take you,
Where the love of God cannot enfold you,
Where the mercies of God cannot sustain you,
Where the peace of God cannot calm your fears,
Where the authority of God cannot overrule for you.

The will of God will never take you,
Where the comfort of God cannot dry your tears,
Where the Word of God cannot feed you,
Where the miracles of God cannot be done for you,
Where the omnipresence of God cannot find you.

"Everything happens for a purpose. We may not see the wisdom of it all now, but trust and believe in the Lord that everything is for the best."



The way to be anxious about nothing is to be prayerful about everything.

Written By: © Author Unknown

God Bless



VESTRY JOTTINGS

We would like to thank Joan Padley and Janice Collins for their service as Stewards during the last three years as they are now stepping down from the role. Jean Petter, Ian Bagshaw and Maggie Wheeler welcome Jenny Chalmers onto the team.

Following the Church Anniversary Service on Sunday 20 May, led by Richard Tanner, coffee, cake and biscuits will be served in the large hall instead of the welcome area.

Looking ahead to the Autumn, anyone, or a group, wishing to volunteer to co-ordinate the displays for Harvest (30 September) – both at the front of the church and the window sills in the church – please contact Jean Petter as soon as possible.

The Stewards

THANK YOU

Betty Phillips had asked if we could try to sell the remainder of her Greetings Cards at the Minimarket. We carried out her request and eventually raised £53.00. A cheque for that amount was forwarded to the McMillan Cancer Trust and I have received a lovely letter back from Joanna Stuttaford saying how grateful they are for the donation.



I feel Betty would have been very happy with this amount.

Vic Collins

Spring Fayre

We would like to take this opportunity to express a very sincere 'Thank You' to everyone who offered their services in setting up, helping on the day and also giving us donations and visiting us on the day.

The Brownies singing was lovely and a big 'Thank You' goes to all of them as well as Alison Humby, Ruth Elvery and Jill Race.

The Event raised £567.00 this will be split between The Rainbow Centre, Rowans Hospice and The Church.

Spring Fayre Group

Dear Friends of Fareham Methodist Church, this is a very belated thanks for prayers, flowers, and visits. I will probably express myself orally to Bob Temple when he is available. I might be able to help regarding the West Street Wesleyan Chapel where I first met Bob and his first wife, Pauline and her sisters, June and Gillian and their husbands. Thanks again

Doreen (Dot) Phillips

Many thanks for the lovely Church flowers so kindly delivered my Marion Bright. Suddenly a cold, wet day seemed much brighter.

Sheila Walters

I was surprised and happy to receive a bunch of flowers from the Church - to the best of my knowledge the first I have received in my life - a most pleasing gift and unexpected - the reason being - I'm a bloke! Thank you all.

Scott Peters

THANK YOU cont...

I would like to thank the Church for the beautiful spray of flowers brought to me by Jean Petter during my recent hospital admission. They really cheered me up.



Gill Thomas

Thank you so much for the flowers that have been brought round to me and also for the visits from Bobby Watson and Mary Bailey. They were much appreciated.

Peggy Long

Thank you so much for the lovely Church Easter Day Spring flowers - which my neighbour passed on to me. They were a joy all the week. I don't know who delivered them, but I would like to thank you too. With Love

Maude Lovell

We wish to thank the Church for the lovely flowers, delivered to us by Marion Bright. The flowers and love cheered us up greatly as we were feeling very sorry for ourselves!

Glad to say we are quite recovered now. Thank you again

Shirley & Keith Sargeant

Thank you Marion for delivering the lovely Church flowers to me. They brightened up my day.

Eileen Long

I am sure you have all noticed the lovely displays that appear in the Welcome Area. As with all things - we don't have fairies but a very dedicated lady - so thank you Sheila Dyer for all your work and imagination!!

Linda Young

Update on José - Health and Wellbeing

I am doing O.K. especially with the help and support from members of the Church who give me Home Communion once a month. My walking is going very well indeed so far. I can reach the other end of the corridor, where you first turn into, opposite the lounge. My next thing is to be able to sit and stand, and to be able to walk out of the front door, and to get to Church and join you again. Then to be able to walk to the shops. It is taking a long time! My patience is getting a bit thin sometimes, then I

remember I must be able to look after myself

I will have to learn how to write so that you can understand it. I used to be quite neat, I must practice. See you all again very soon, I hope.

José Barney

PS Many thanks for the flowers which are much appreciated.

FAMILY NEWS

Eric Wheeler has changed his email address to **e.wheeler907@gmail.com** Although if things don't speed up he may change again.

PRAYER GROUP

The next Healing Prayer Group will be held on Wednesday, 30th May at the home of Joan and Jeff Padley. All are welcome at 7.30 pm at 2 Archery Lane, Fareham.



Rita Jackson

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WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to our meetings usually on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month except in the Summer. Most of our meetings are in the Wickham Room and begin at 2.15 pm with tea available from 2.00 pm.

Summer Programme

23rd May Mini-bus trip to Stansted Park.

Departure from Fareham Methodist Church at 12 Noon

27th June Garden Party at Joan & Jeff Padley's Home

2 Archery Lane, Fareham from 2.30 pm

Bring and Buy and Garden Stalls.

Tickets £3.50 Proceeds for the MWiB Project supporting

the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia.

18th July An afternoon with Jill & Malcolm Race at their home

4 Poyner Close, Fareham, where you will be warmly

welcomed at 2.30 pm

7

Shirley Henderson

PLAYGROUP OFSTED

In case you have not seen the report in the News - Congratulations to the Trinity Playgroup for their superb OFSTED Report. It could not have been better - well done to Patsie and all her staff for their hard work.



Lynda Young

SUNDAY MORNING REFRESHMENTS

Responsibility for this now belongs to Pat Pickering. Please consult her about any rota changes or other concerns relating to Sunday refreshments. My thanks go to all rota members who have supported me whilst I have had this responsibility.

Mary Bailey

SPRING QUIZ

The promised Spring Quiz is now ready and will be until May 20th. We think it is easier than some of our earlier quizzes, so have a go and support Water Aid to which the profits will go.

Mary Bailey.

PUBLICITY

I am going to continue as publicity rep for Church activities to be advertised etc. Please send any information of activities or notices that has to be forwarded to the Council notice boards or The News.

My e-mail is finnartlass@yahoo.co.uk

Edith Livingstone

DATE FOR THE DIARY

There will be a display of silk paintings at the Holy Trinity Church from 29th June to 9th July. This is a must see! More information in next months Focus

Edith Livingstone

VISION OF EAST FAREHAM HOUSEGROUP Further Information

Our aim is to provide a warm safe location with access to toys and other play/recreational facilities, with tea coffee and squash provided. Parents would be responsible for looking after and entertaining their own children.

At our latest meeting we decided that we shall open the church hall from 2.00 - 4.00 pm on each Sunday afternoon in October and November. We will call the activity "Sharing Space", making it clear that it is a place for non-resident parents to bring their children.

We would welcome more volunteers to help with getting the facilities ready and providing refreshments, say one Sunday afternoon each of the two months when we are testing this venture. Please speak to Eric Wheeler if you can help as soon as possible.

Joan Padley

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Several appointments were made and post holders clarified.

Jenny Chalmers will be a new Steward. Joan Padley and Janice Collins are stepping down so there is still one vacancy if anyone would like to do it.

Sally Bland and Karen Ferguson will become joint Pastoral Secretaries to replace Jenny Chalmers.

Linda Brooks will take over Young People's coordinator from Kevin Foster.

Geoff Jarman will become Property Steward.

Judith Bramall is now in charge of the weekly notices.

Pat Pickering will take over the Sunday Coffee rota from Mary Bailey.

Edith Livingstone is in charge of publicity but needs to be told of events and services that need publicising.

Anyone who would like to become a Member of the Church should let Malcolm Groom know within a month

There is a new Welcome Booklet in production and an Open Day is being planned.

A better way of providing books to buy or borrow is being considered.

Richard Tanner will be preaching at the 200th Anniversary service on May 20th followed by refreshments.

MHA Live at Home scheme is grateful for our support as 75% of the fundraising has come from us, mostly from Sunday lunches.

A small freezer will be purchased.

Cath Stevenson



4.00 - 6.00 pm

Everyone is welcome

The theme is the story of Esther.

There will be crafts,
games, worship and a meal







From the Messy Church Group

We are very pleased to let you know that our first 3 sessions of Messy Church have gone very well. On the first occasion 21 parents and children attended. 40 the second time and 37 at the last meeting which was during the Easter holidays. We feel this was very encouraging with several people coming each time

Our next meeting is on 9th May so please come along and see what is going on, join in with the fun and perhaps lend a hand with some of the activities if you wish - all are welcome! We thank everyone for the prayers, support and encouragement.

Jill Groom

NORTH FAREHAM NEW COMMUNITY PROPOSAL

At the Annual Church Meeting the issue of a Christian presence in the new community development planned for North Fareham was discussed. It was recommended that we all write to the leader of the Council regarding this matter. Mike Petter was asked to prepare a pro-forma letter that we could use either to copy or adapt to send to Councillor Woodward. It is printed below..

Cllr Sean Woodward
Fareham Borough Council
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Fareham
PO16 7A7

Dear Mr Woodward

New Community Proposal – North of Fareham

I understand that Fareham Borough Council is in the early stages of preparing the North of Fareham Area Action Plan. I also understand that this plan will include planning policies on a number of aspects of the development including community facilities.

As a member of the Christian Community in Fareham I would like to take this opportunity to ask that the Council makes provision for consultation with Christian Groups within the Borough possibly through Christians Together in Fareham or directly with the town centre churches.

The refurbishment of the Methodist Church in Kings Road to allow Trinity Pre-School and other groups to transfer from the old Community Centre is a good example of a multi-functional building serving both the Christian and wider Community. It is hoped that a similar vision might be applied to the development to the North of Fareham.

Yours sincerely

Please take a few minutes to copy and send or adapt using your own words.

SMILE-LINES

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in the dark!

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13 - 19 MAY 2012

The week begins with a walk at Holly Hill Woodland Park on Sunday, 13th May 2.00pm – 5.00pm which I hope that lots of you will support – you can be sponsored for as many 1km circuits as you would like to do or simply come along to enjoy the walk and give a donation if you are able to do so. The more the merrier!

As well as the usual house to house collections there will also be a stand in Fareham Shopping Centre on the Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th May.

If you would like further details on any of these activities or a sponsor form please contact Linda Foster.

Some exciting news announced at the beginning of April. The UK Department for International Development (DFID) (also known as UK aid) has agreed to match the first £5 million of money raised by supporters, pound for pound, this Christian Aid Week. (Note: matching only covers the gift and not the Gift Aid element).

This good news should help to inspire us to raise at least £5 million during Christian Aid Week!

Linda Foster

13 – 19 May brings Christian Aid Week

This year Christian Aid Week tells the story of change within a community in Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone is a place with vast natural resources of fertile land and mineral wealth, but in spite of this abundance, its turbulent past has left the country with deep challenges. These challenges have meant that many people's lives are defined by hunger, and their prospects limited by the urgency of finding enough to eat. In a society where women and young people are widely marginalised, decision-making can be weighted against people who are naturally more vulnerable in society, and the cycle of hunger and poverty continues.

A group of three Christian Aid supporters – Mike, Peter and Llinos – travelled to Gbap (pronounced Bap) in rural Sierra Leone in summer 2011. There, they saw first-hand the work of Christian Aid's partner, the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone (MCSL), who encouraged the people of Gbap to set up a village development committee. MCSL also gave local farmers some simple tools that hugely increased the amount they could grow. Now that the community is free to think beyond their immediate hunger, their lives have changed beyond measure. For more details, and to give, please visit www.caweek.org



QUIZ AID

THIS WILL BE THE FIFTH 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 OUE

FRIDAY 11th MAY 6.00 pm

REFRSHMENTS, RAFFLE AND LOTS OF FUN

COST £3

CONTACT JEAN 02392 430657



By Request

Saturday 26th May at 19.00

An evening of popular songs performed by

The Singing Group

With a two course meal

Tickets £5

From Lynda Haydon-Jones and Garry Bagshaw

Proceeds to the Christian Aid Church Partnership Scheme



MHA LIVE AT HOME SCHEME at BRIDGEMARY

Do you have a skill or talent that can help us please?

We have a table at HMS Collingwood on Saturday 26th May.

We want to be able to use it to make some money for the Live at Home Scheme and would like to sell a few small items, home made book marks, knitted or sewn or crocheted novelties, cards, in fact, any art and craft items you have made.

If you can help us with donating some of the above items, please contact Lucy on 01329 317846 and she will arrange for them to be collected.

Jill Groom

A CASCADE OF PRAYER



The Olympic Torch relay starts at Land's End on 19 May. It will be carried on a 70-day journey across the UK, arriving at the Olympic Stadium on 27 July for the Olympic Games Opening Ceremony.

As the torch begins its journey across the UK, so too will a prayer relay. Christian leaders will launch a cascade of prayer at Land's End.

They will then travel to the next main torch-stopping place (Plymouth). Here they will bring prayers of blessing and hand on a symbolic prayer baton to Christian leaders there. This simple process will continue day by day. That means, the next day, Plymouth leaders will travel to Exeter – and so on through the 70 days.

It means each community receives and releases prayers of blessing. It is up to the churches in each place that receives the baton to decide when and how the prayer chain of blessing is moved on. The More than Gold local link person can be contacted through torch@morethangold.org.uk

STREET PASTORS

Christians Together in Fareham have been exploring the possibility of running Street Pastors (or a similar initiative) in Fareham over the last few months. The journey began when the local police and Council collaboratively approached CTiF about running Street Pastors. Subsequently a management committee of



Dan Whitehead (Fareham Community Church), Peter Hall (St. John's, Redlands Lane), Sally Davenport (Holy Trinity) and Paul Bedford (URC) have been meeting to try and take the project forward.

The process thus far has included an information evening for all Church leaders across Fareham to hear more, and a 11.30 pm-1.30 am patrol for Dan and Paul accompanying Fareham town centre police on their late night patrol's.

At this stage the management committee are asking for an idea of numbers from churches, of people who may be interested in getting involved with a future street pastor project.

For those that don't know, Street Pastors is a late night chaplaincy role, where volunteers act as a presence on the streets during peak pubs/clubs opening hours to be available to the many people who can sometimes be worse for wear after a night out. The statistics from town/cities that run Street Pastors have been impressive with a crime reduction of up to 65% in some areas.

But even more then this, Street Pastors offers a fantastic opportunity for the Church to embody the good news by practically caring for the people in our communities in their hour of need.

For more information on Street Pastors please see: www.streetpastors.co.uk And if you're interested in being part of Street Pastors in Fareham town please let your Church CTiF rep/leader know so they can inform the management committee.

(Our Rep is Edith Livingstone)

SMILE-LINES

You do not need a parachute to skydive—you need a parachute to skydive twice!

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 to every nation on earth. A task that is for us today too!

HOW GOD WORKS

A grandmother was taking her young grandson for a walk in the park. The daffodils were in bloom, and it was a beautiful Spring day. Wanting to encourage her grandson's spiritual understanding of the world, she said: "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God did all this?"

Her grandson replied: "Oh yes, and God did it left handed, too". In astonishment, the grandmother asked what he meant. "Well, he must have done, because we learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand" he replied.

JUBILEE SUNDAY LUNCH 3rd 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

Vegetable Soup or Prawn Cocktail Starter:

Main Course: Roast Beef or Chicken Breasts,

Roast Potatoes,

Roast Parsnips, Vegetables

Puddings: Variety

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









To support Fareham Guide Hut

Saturday May $19^{th} 2012 \sim 11am - 12.30pm$



St John's Church Hall St Michael's Grove, Fareham Homemade Cakes, Plants, Games Teas, Bacon Rolls and much more.









Senior Section ...



Come on and celebrate, celebrate and sing for our Queen!



Please come along and join us at Bridgemary Methodist Church on Wednesday 6th June for afternoon tea.

Please arrive at 3pm to celebrate 60 years of OUR QUEEN'S REIGN.

Wear your posh hats ladies, and gents your best ties.

Please bring an unwrapped gift 'Fit for The Queen' which will be part of a silent auction.

There will be a Royal Raffle & Royal quiz, with high tea being served at approx. 3.30 pm, rounding off with a sing-song!

Need any further details? Then please call Anne Ford or Jean Plummer, Bridgemary Church

(see Poster in Corridor)







St MATTHIAS May 14th

There is no mention of a Matthias among the lists of followers of Jesus in the Gospels but we assume that he was part of the larger group, outside the 12 disciples, during Jesus' ministry.

According to chapter one of Acts, after Judas betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, the disciples sought to replace him. They nominated two men; Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias to replace Judas out of a group of about 120. The disciples prayed, and then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles. Acts, chapter 1, verses 23-26.

And that is all we really know about Matthias. That he was chosen.

But we do know that he was one of the witnesses of Jesus's ministry. He was one of the great cloud of witnesses that includes us today, to the power of God in changing lives.

CHANGE OVER

Can you rearrange these letters to make the names of people mentioned in the Bible? Answers at the bottom of the page.

- 1. AC BOJ
- 2. NANA
- 3. MAT HAR
- 4. NI SOME US
- 5. HAT BATI
- 6. KOZAD
- 7. SHAM ITAT
- 8. LIRE BAG

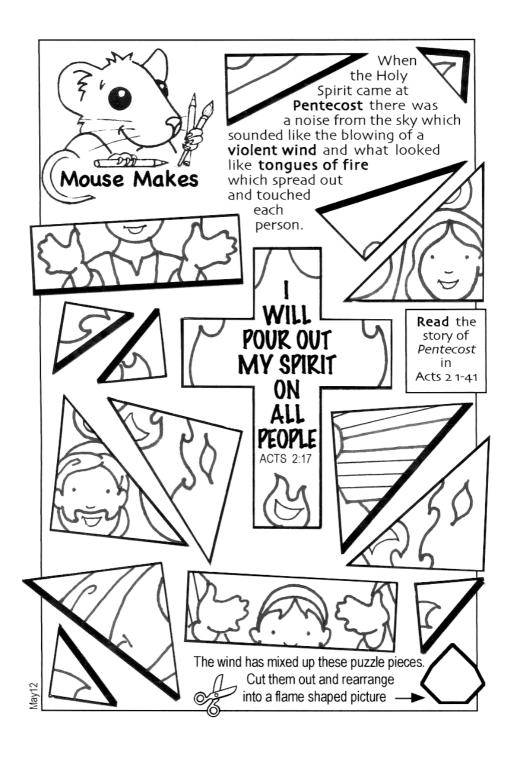


What do you call a bee born in May? A maybe.

What is green and fluffy? A sea-sick poodle.

What do you call a person who can't weave?
Unbeweavable.

Answers: 1.Jacob 2.Anna 3.Martha 4.Onesimus 5.Tabitha 6.Zadok 7.Matthias 8.Gabriel

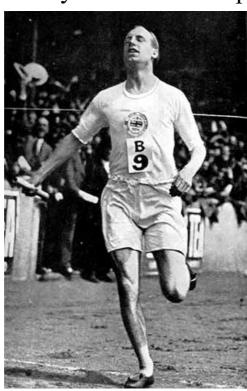


Fareham Methodist Church

MEAL and FILM EVENING

Friday 29th June at 6 pm







We will be serving a special OLYMPIC MEAL followed by the film CHARIOTS OF FIRE

The film is the story of two British track athletes, one a determined Jew, and the other a devout Christian who compete in the 1924 Olympics

Please sign the list in the Welcome Area or leave a message at the Circuit Office

Donations for the meal will go to Action for Children

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All meetings at Church unless otherwise stated)

MAY

MIMI		
1st	Circuit Leadership Team @ Circuit Office	10.00
4th	Friday Lunch	13.00
9th	Messy Church Circuit Meeting	16.00 19.30
11th	C A Quiz @ Bridgemary	18.00
12th	District Representative Synod @ Weymouth	9.30
13 - 19th	Christian Aid week C A Walk @ Holly Hill 2.00	- 5.00
14th	C A stand in Shopping Precinct 9.00	- 5.00
15th	C A stand in Shopping Precinct 9.00	- 5.00
19th	May Fayre @ St Johns 11.00 -	12.30
20th	Church Anniversary	10.30
23rd	Wednesday Fellowship outing to Stansted Park	12.00
26th	MHA Live at Home scheme table at Collingwood MacMillan Coffee Morning @ 16 Crawford Drive "By Request" Concert & Meal	10.00 10.30 19.00
30th	Healing/Prayer Group	19.30
JUNE		
1st	Friday Lunch	12.00
3rd	Jubilee Sunday Lunch approx	12.15
6th	Jubilee Tea @ Bridgemary MC	15.00
13th	Wednesday Fellowship Messy Church Worship Consultation	14.00 16.00 19.30

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

Coffee Centre every Thursday 9.30 to 11.45 am

DOOR STEWARDS

MAY	
6th 10.30	Rosemarie & Tony Jackson
13th 10.30	Mary Bailey, Judith Bramall
19.00	A N Other
20th 10.30	Jenny Chalmers, Lynda Haydon-Jones
27th 10.30	Liz Haigh, Lynda Young
18.00	Eric Wheeler
JUNE	
3rd 10.30	Margaret & Bob Temple

FLOWER ROTA

M	Α	Y

6th	Janice & Vic Collins
13th	Gwen & Harvey Brosgall
20th	Lynda Haydon-Jones
27th	Marion Bright

JUNE

3rd Shirley Sargeant

REFRESHMENT ROTA

MAY

6th	Sheila Dyer, Sarah Brooks, Meg Cox
13th	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland, Brenda Bennett
20th	Cath Stevenson, Vic Collins, Judith Bramall
27th	Pat Croker, Mary Bailey

JUNE

3rd Liz Haigh, Liz Avison

PRESS DATE

All items for the JUNE Magazine should be placed in the box in the Welcome Area or handed to the editor - Jill Groom - by Lunchtime on Friday 25th May 2012 please.

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