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**Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine**

February



2014



Jesus presented at the Temple

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(East Solent and Downs Circuit)

Number 611

February 2014

SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY

2nd	10.30	Rev Claire Simpson	Holy Communion
9th	10.30	David Bloomfield	
16th	10.30	Jean Hooper	All Age Worship
23rd	10.30	Gerry Williams	
	18.00	Rev Steven Wright	Iona Holy Communion

SERVICES DURING MARCH

2nd	10.30	Rev Claire Simpson	Holy Communion
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LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

2nd Feb	10.15	Andrew Wilcock @ Stubbington
16th Feb	10.30	Andrew Wilcock @ Bridgemary

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

FEBRUARY

Dear Friends,

'Sitting 'Down'



We are already into the second month of the new year and I wonder whether January has proved to be a long or short month for you? Have you spent most of it continuing to rush around after the busyness of the Christmas and new year season and so you would now relish the opportunity to 'sit down' and catch your breath for a while? Or maybe January has been all too cold, wet and windy and it has gone much more slowly for you. It is a long month of 31 days and if you are not able to get out and about (for whatever reason) you may have been sitting down and watching the short days and long dark nights from your chair and wondering whether Spring is just round the corner.

If life is proving very busy for you at this time I pray that you will find some time to 'sit down' and have a break, a rest period from the busyness that, at times, takes over everything we do. Alternatively, if life is proving to be slower and, because of your circumstances you spend much of your day sitting down with barely enough to occupy yourself with, then I pray that the friendship and fellowship that our Church community offers will visit you in some way and the love of God be made known to you right where you are. I hope this Church magazine reminds you of what is happening and makes you feel a part of it all.

As you know, Malcolm 'sat down' in the summer, and retired as your minister and superintendent of the Gosport and Fareham Circuit. You will also know that since then he has unfortunately not enjoyed the best of health. However, we hope and pray that he is now on the road to recovery and we welcome him back to Fareham to 'sit down' amongst us and enjoy being part of our congregation again. Who knows, now that Malcolm is not 'up at the front' each week he may even get the opportunity to 'sit down' next to Jill during our services, which is something that I suspect he had scarce opportunity to do when he was in active ministry!

3

With love.

Claire

VESTRY JOTTINGS—February 2014

The Annual Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 16 March 2014 shortly after the morning service. The meeting will commence as soon as possible after 11.30am. We hope that as many of the congregation as possible will be able to attend.

New Stewards are required to take office from May 2014, to be appointed at the Annual Church Meeting. Jean Petter or one of the other current Stewards would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to consider taking up this essential role.

The total collected at the retiring collection following the Carol Service and at the Christmas Eve Communion service was £388.20 which was split evenly between Action for Children and MRDF.

The Church Anniversary will be on 18 May when Rev Claire Simpson has been invited to lead the service. This will be the 75th Anniversary of worship in our current building.

One of the jobs of a Steward is to arrange for members of the congregation to read the bible readings during the service. If anyone would like to be on the readers list but is not comfortable or able to do so from the lectern a microphone can be brought to your seat. Please let one of the Stewards know if you would like to join the list of readers.

The Stewards

Sub Lt. Kwadwo Forson - Ghana Navy

Many of you will recall this delightful young man who attended our Church during the first half of 2013 while he was on a Navigation Course at HMS Collingwood. The stole that he presented to us on his last day still has pride of place draped over the pulpit. It gives me great pleasure to be able to inform you that he was married on 15 December. His wife's name is Captain Dr. Mrs Eunice Forson-Adaboh. She is a Medical Doctor in the Military. He has sent us some photographs, a selection of which Malcolm Race has kindly put on our Church website. He wishes to be remembered to us all and asks that we remember him and his wife in our prayers, as he remembers us.

Ian Bagshaw - Fellow Mariner and Church Steward



THANK YOU

I wish to 'Thank You' for the flowers I received on the 4th Anniversary of Barry's passing. It is so helpful to know we are remembered at that difficult time.



Lynda Young & Family

Mavis Parish would like to thank us for the Church flowers she was given just before Christmas. Also, she and Peter send best wishes to us all for a happy and peaceful New Year.

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers that were given to me by Marion for my husband Graham following his knee replacement operation. Also thank you for the cards, good wishes and phone calls regarding Graham's recover, they have all been very much appreciated.

Liz Avison

Thank you for the lovely flowers delivered to me just before Christmas. They were very uplifting at this difficult time. Thank you also to Joan Padley for bringing them.

Sylvia Savage

Thank you for the lovely Church flowers brought to me by Liz Haigh. They were very much appreciated.

Irene Field

I would like to express a very sincere 'Thank You' for the flowers and get well cards. It is lovely to know that there are those who enquire and think of you.

Lilian Tildesley

Thank you so much for sending the many cards and good wishes during these past six weeks, following the surgery on my hip. Thank you also for the visits and offers of help, all this has been very much appreciated.

Shirley & Keith Sargeant

Thank you for the lovely flowers delivered by Joan in December and everyone for their cards and messages and for your prayers. A happy and peaceful New Year to you all.

Eric & Shirley Grant

THANK YOU FROM THE NEW EDITOR

Thank you for all your excellent work Jill as editor, over a number of years. Also can I take this opportunity to thank the rest of the team; Bobby who does so much of the typing and collating work, and Alan who spends hours at the photocopier and Nigel and Meg who staple and fold, ensuring that you all receive your copies every month. Church Council have appointed me as the new editor, so please keep the copy coming. I see Focus as a very useful means of communication and will do all I can to ensure that it continues in this way.

Ruth

OUTREACH

During the two weeks prior to Christmas, members of the Outreach Group and Church volunteers represented our Church in the Fareham Community Action Pop Up Shop in the shopping precinct. A screen projection of Church life, nativity scene, prayer tree and information were on display in the shop window. Books and leaflets were handed to members of the public.

Overall the project was a success. It gave Fareham Methodist Church a foot-fall in the hub of the community allowing us to interact with and offer the religious aspect of Christmas to the community. It is planned to repeat the project next year but with some changes and different ideas. Thank you to all those who supported the project.

Tony Elvery

2013 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Thank you everyone who helped and supported the 13th Christmas Tree Festival. It was a huge success, with almost 500 adults and children attending. Special thanks to those volunteers who set up the Church, organised the cake and gift stalls and manned the refreshments. Also we are grateful to Jill and the singing group for leading the carol singing, and to Claire for her support.

Judges choices:

- 1st. Place Titchfield W.I. Tree Cycling - £50
- 2nd Place Nutty Knitters – Fruits of our Labours -£ 25.
- 3rd. Place Titchfield Abbey W.I. Rainbow Tree - £12.50
- People's Vote – 12 days of Christmas - £25



In addition to the prize money, every tree received £ 56.32 for their charity. We hope to hold our 14th. Festival on Dec 4th 5th 6th.

Rosemarie Jackson

THANK YOU Cont ...

I would like to thank the stewards, and especially Maggie, for the Church decorations throughout December and into January. They looked wonderful and the candles ensured that the Church had a warm glow. May I also thank you for the beautiful poinsettia given to me on December 29th. Poinsettias and I usually remain friends for about week but this one is still blooming on my breakfast table as a reminder of the love and fellowship of our Church family.

Garry

Thank you to those who help me support Water Aid by buying my cakes. I was able to send off £60, the proceeds from 2013, which the Government doubled. I look forward to your continued support in 2014. I have a pamphlet detailing some of the projects carried out by Water Aid if you are interested.

Eric Wheeler

Thanks and congratulations to Stewards and the many others involved in giving us such an inspiring and often unusual way of celebrating worship this year. I was particularly impressed by the other than 'normal' carol service, and by Andrew's café style service on 29th December. Although most of us want to keep many of our traditional ways of worship, it is also important to embrace the new when new is relevant and helpful, which in my view it certainly was this year.

Mary Bailey

Once again Irene and I thank all of you who have provided flowers for Sunday worship during last year, and those who have delivered them to friends afterwards. The new diary is ready for you to choose your 'slot' as usual for 2014. If you are new to us and would like to know how to help in our flower ministry, please contact Irene or me.

Mary Bailey

Minimarket—Church Stall

We would like to thank everyone who donated items for us to sell over the past year. The total raised came to £506.70.

We are in urgent need of items in a good and clean condition for the coming year. Paperback and hardback books do very well. But please note we do not sell any electrical items, or magazines.

Lilian & Janice

THANK YOU Cont ...

On behalf for the members of Fareham Stroke Club I wish to thank everyone for the warm welcome they received on their visit to the Christmas Tree Festival and for the excellent tea served to them in the Large Hall. A perfect start to their Christmas Celebrations

Lynda Young

Fareham & Gosport Family Aid

To all members of Fareham Methodist Church

Thank you very much for all your kind donations of toys that you have so graciously given to the children in refuge.

Christmas is a very hard time for children who are staying in refuge, and being able to give them Christmas presents not only keeps the magic alive but makes them feel that they have been remembered

Both our refuges are full at the moment and we foresee that they will remain this way for the rest of the year, so your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks

Felicity Scott

Children & Young Person's Support Worker

FRIDAY LUNCH

After our New Year break we are back in business on Friday, 7th February. There are a few tickets still available, so if you fancy a 3 course lunch, which includes Lynda's homemade steak and mushroom pie, for a cost of £4, please telephone me to book a place.

Lynda Haydon-Jones

BADMINTON

Please note the new title: Badminton, T Tennis, T Football, Pool.

The sessions in February and March will be:

Feb Friday 7th

Feb Friday 14th

Mar Friday 7th

Mar Friday 14th



Mark Brooks

THANK YOU Cont ...

I wish to thank all involved in the Youth Nativity Service especially Edith for the 'vision', the children so wonderfully communicated. By request I have printed the words of the song that Katie sang, that so beautifully summarises the Christmas message of Jesus who came to us not just for Christmas but for all time.

Linda Brooks

Mary, did you know
That your Baby Boy would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know
That your Baby Boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know
That your Baby Boy has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know
That your Baby Boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know,
That your Baby Boy will calm the storm with his hand?
Did you know
That your Baby Boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little Baby you kissed the face of God?

Mary, did you know Ooo Ooo Ooo

The blind will see,
The deaf will hear,
The dead will live again.
The lame will leap,
The dumb will speak
The praises of The Lamb.

Mary, did you know
That your Baby Boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know
That your Baby Boy would one day rule the nations?
Did you know
That your Baby Boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
The sleeping Child you're holding is the Great, I am

Editor's comment. A lovely song sung with great feeling by Katie, thank you so much.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Our meetings are usually held in the Wickham Room and commence at 2.00 pm. Tea is available from 1.45 pm unless otherwise stated.

12th February Our own Minister, Rev Claire Simpson will talk on
Life Experiences

26th February Fund Raising Afternoon Tea with live music.
To commence at 3.00 pm. In aid of Methodist Women
In Britain Partnership Project.
Tickets £3.00

Please remember we have a Bring and Buy (1 item only) for our charity -
the Fareham Stroke Club.

Shirley Henderson

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 7th March 2014

10.30am and 7.30pm at the United Reformed Church

This year's service has been prepared by Christian women
of Egypt. The theme is 'Streams in the Desert'.



For the first time, this year there will be a morning service rather than
meeting in the afternoon as well as the usual evening worship. Susan
Bedford will speak at the morning service and Rev Nicky Gilbert in the
evening. Refreshments will be served after each service. If you would
like to take part in the service or need transport please let me know.
All are welcome to attend - men and women.

Linda Foster

USER GROUP'S AGM 7.30 PM THURSDAY 6th MARCH

Following the Fire Officer's audit in December there will be a training session at the beginning of this meeting which should be attended by a leader or representative from every group that meets at the Church. The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is also another important topic which will be addressed at this meeting as well as being an opportunity to discuss any issues that have arisen during the year.¹⁰

Linda Foster

EAST FAREHAM HOUSEGROUP

East Fareham housegroup meets at Joan and Jeff's normally on the third Wednesday of the month, at 7.30 p.m.

From February 19th we shall be studying a new book "Journeying with Matthew", Matthew's gospel being the dominant gospel for this church year. The book takes a season of the Christian year for each chapter, so after February, when we will look at the preface and introduction, we will read the chapter referring to the time we have reached, i.e. chapter 5 in March because we shall then be in Lent. We shall return to chapter one in Advent next November. And so on.

Dates for the next three months are:

February 19th Preface and Introduction

March 19th Chapter 5 Lent.

April 16th Chapter 6 Passiontide

We are a lively group with varying life experiences and welcome new members. The book can initially be borrowed from Joan if you are not sure whether or not it is for you. Copies on Amazon cost between £7 and £8 .

Joan Padley

SUNDAY LUNCH

16th February at 12.15 pm

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 M H A. 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 Pate

Main Course: Chicken Breast in Gravy or BBQ Sauce
Roast Potatoes, Roast Parsnips
Selection of Vegetables

Puddings: Variety

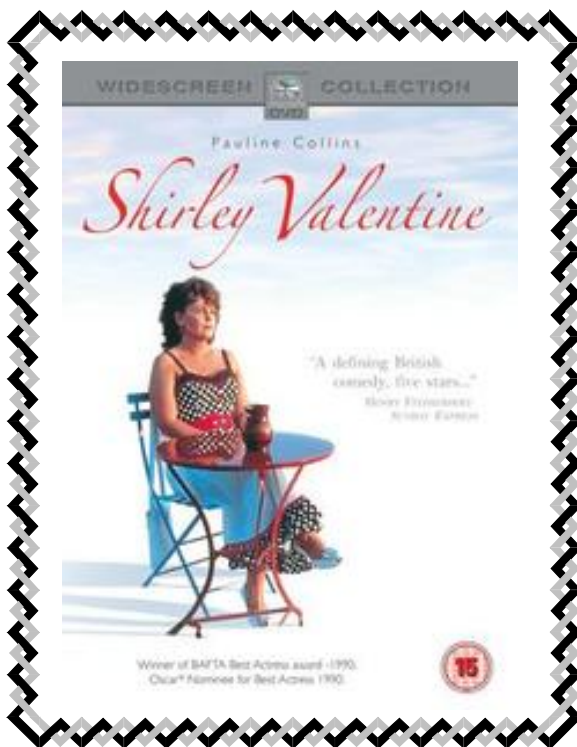
There will be a list in the Welcome Area for you to sign.
Please come along and enjoy a Sunday Lunch!

Jill Groom

Fareham Methodist Church

MEAL and FILM EVENING

6:00 pm - Friday 28th February



Shirley is a middle-aged housewife talking to the wall, wondering what her life is all about, until she sets off on a holiday to Greece with a friend and sees herself in a different light!

We will be serving a Greek Style meal - details to follow. Donations towards the cost of the meal will go to The Rowan's Hospice.

Please sign the list in the Welcome Area or contact Jill or Garry



Wednesday, 12th February 2013

**Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road, Fareham
PO16 0NU**

4.00 pm – 6.00 pm

OUR FAMILIES

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

See us on Facebook



MESSY CHURCH - A BIRTHDAY PARTY

Messy Church will be 2 years old in February so we will be having a celebration. Do come along on Wednesday, 12th February and join in all the fun. Our theme for the session is our families so it would be good to have some more of our Church family with us.



Garry

BONKERS

I know, I'm mad, in fact stark raving bonkers. Who would want to run the London marathon at my age. Sometimes you have to do things which take you out of your comfort zone and running is certainly one of those things, especially training when it's cold and wet and windy!! Sometimes we have to be fools for Christ's sake. Have a look at the first chapter of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. I guess I learned a bit about that in my time as a Methodist Minister!!

I am running for Help the Hospices charity. As you know, hospices do a wonderful job of caring for those who are in their last stages of life. They also support families and friends. Hospice care can be provided at home, in the hospice and in the community. Amazingly, hospices are entirely dependent on voluntary giving and so if you would like to donate to this very worthy cause please go to www.justgiving.com and under 'search for friends' type in my name and take it from there. Or you can text ROTH 70 with your amount (£1 or £5 or £10 or even more!!) and send it to 70070. Easy peasy!! I'm afraid you can't donate to your local hospice so if you want to send a cheque to me instead please make it out to Help the Hospices. Many thanks.



The day of the race is Palm Sunday April 13th. When most of you will be in church (!!!) celebrating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem I shall be running through Greenwich, passing the Cutty Sark and wishing I was on some form of transport – even a donkey!

Love and blessings,

Rev Malcolm Rothwell

SAFEGUARDING

There will be a foundation course training at Petersfield Methodist Church on Saturday, 15th February at 9.30 am. I have room in my car for 3 people.

Garry

CHRISTIAN AID REPORT 2013

2013 was a momentous year for Christian Aid in Fareham and Portchester in one sad respect: Madeleine Brand relinquished the role of coordinator after many years of faithful service. We are grateful to her for all she has done, and are glad that she and her family are still contributing their efforts and expertise to the group. The new coordinators are Rachel and Jeremy Hicks.

Christian Aid Week, in May saw another sterling effort by the Christians of Fareham, raising a little over £7000.00. A particular highlight was our stall in Fareham Shopping Centre, which this year ran right through the week, staffed by volunteers from many different churches, and was most successful in raising both money and awareness.

In the autumn we held a well-attended tea at the Methodist church to thank those who support us in so many ways, and a very enjoyable quiz evening and ploughman's supper at Holy Trinity. Having set the quiz up as a contest between church teams, we were particularly pleased that the team that won was the one made up of people from several different churches - just goes to show, ecumenism pays!!

Like that team, Christian Aid in Fareham and Portchester is a tremendous example of ecumenical cooperation. We have a great team of reps from the churches, and would love to welcome more. We are so grateful for the support we receive from you, the churches, without which we couldn't do what we do in support of Christian Aid. Please continue to give, act and pray, so that the good news of God's love and justice may be proclaimed in the world, and more progress made towards the vision of 'Poverty over'.

June Hayes (CTiF Secretary)

SOLENT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2014

This is being held at Horndean college, Waterlooville on Saturday 15th March if any ladies are interested. - Val Jenkins

Tickets are on sale and can be purchased on line - www.solentwomensconference.org.uk or using the booking form which can be obtained from Jean Petter

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Our Page

St BERNADETTE

In February 1858 Bernadette was 14 years old and lived with her family in the little town of Lourdes in the Pyrenees in France. While she was out collecting wood to keep the family warm Bernadette had a vision of St Mary, the Mother of Christ. The lady in blue and white appeared 18 times in all and asked Bernadette to tell the priests to make a procession to the grotto where she appeared and to build a chapel there. At first the priests didn't believe Bernadette's story because she was only a poor, uneducated girl.

People who were ill came to bathe in the spring of water that appeared at the Grotto and in time a large church was built. And still today pilgrims from all over the world visit the shrine.

What happened to Bernadette? She became a nun. When they asked her if she was sad that the visions had ended she answered: 'I was like a broom. When the sweeping is finished you put it behind the door and forget about it.'

WATER WORDS

All the answers to this Bible Quiz are to do with water. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Where the disciples fished (Mark 1).
2. It parted to allow Moses and the Israelites through (Exodus 14).
3. Jacob met his future wife here (Genesis 29).
4. Paul was on his way to Rome when this happened (Acts 27).
5. How Jonah travelled when the sailors threw him overboard (Jonah 1).
6. The river in which Jesus was baptised (Matthew 3).

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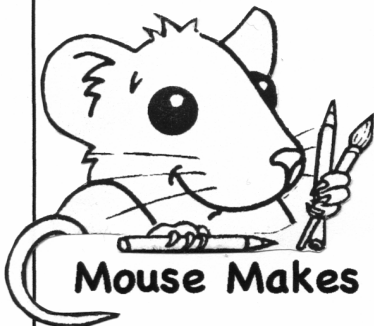


Why was Moses hidden quickly?  
**It was a rush job.**

What do you call small rivers that flow into the Nile?  
**Juveniles.**

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1. Sea of Galilee 2. The Red Sea
3. at a well 4. he was shipwrecked 5. in a large fish or whale 6. River Jordan



The Lord's LOVE
never ends,
his mercies
never stop.
They are new
every morning.

Lamentations 3:22-23



Nothing ...
... will ever be
able to separate
us from the
LOVE of God
that is in
Christ Jesus
our Lord.

Romans 8:39



God loved the world
so much that he gave
his only Son, so that
everyone who
believes in him would
not be lost but
have eternal life. .

John 3:16



1 John 4:16

"See how much our
heavenly Father
LOVES us,
for he has
allowed us
to be called
his children"

1 John 3:1



For the
Lord is **GOOD**
and his **LOVE**
endures
for ever

Psalms 100:5

Cut out and keep these cards to
remind you of God's love for us.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2014

24th February– 9th March

**Let's go
Fairtrade
Bananas!**



**THE POWER
OF YOU**



Fairtrade Stand

Fareham Shopping Centre
Saturday 22nd February
9am to 3pm

Fairtrade Displays

-around the borough.
Keep a look out!

Fairtrade Banquet

Avenue 141
Fareham College
Bishopsfield Road, Fareham
Friday 7th March
6.30pm £22.50
(by ticket only contact Jenny 01329 287757)

For more details about Fairtrade in
Fareham Borough and
events further afield visit
www.fftb.org.uk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All meetings at Church unless otherwise stated)

FEBRUARY

2nd	Holy Communion with Rev Claire Simpson	10.30
4th	Ladies Night	20.00
7th	Friday Lunch Club	13.00
	Badminton, T Tennis, T Football, & Pool	18.00
12th	Wednesday Fellowship - Life Experiences - Rev Claire	14.00
	Messy Church	16.00
14th	Badminton, T Tennis, T Football, & Pool	18.00
16th	Sunday Lunch	approx 12.15
18th	Tuesday Morning Housegroup	10.00
	Ladies Night @ Garry's - VSO in Jamaica	20.00
19th	East Fareham House Group @ Joan & Jeff's	19.30
20th	Service at Red House with Joan Padley	14.30
22nd	Fairtrade stand in precinct	9.00 - 15.00
23rd	Iona Holy Communion with Rev Steven Wright	18.00
25th	West Fareham House Group	10.00
26th	Wednesday Fellowship Fundraising Tea	14.00
28th	Film & Food evening	18.00

MARCH

4th	Ladies Night @ Meg's - Planning & Pancakes	20.00
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Mini-Market every Monday 9.30 to 11.45 am
(Not Bank Holidays)

Coffee Centre every Thursday 9.30 to 11.45 am

For further information on Church activities please refer to the weekly notice sheet or visit our Church website.

*For information on Circuit matters please visit the Circuit website. -
Addresses are on page 2*

DOOR STEWARDS

FEBRUARY

2nd 10.30	Bessie & Daniel Taabu
9th 10.30	Brenda & Peter Taylor
16th 10.30	Bobby & Patrick Watson
23rd 10.30	Patrick Watson, Keith Sargeant
18.00	Eric Wheeler

MARCH

2nd 10.30	Margaret & Bob Temple
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FLOWER ROTA

FEBRUARY

2nd	Mary Bailey
9th	Lynda Thomas
16th	Rosemarie & Tony Jackson
23rd	Marilyn Woodrow

MARCH

2nd	Maggie Allingham & Bill Batchelor
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REFRESHMENT ROTA

2nd	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland, Brenda Bennett
9th	Cath Stevenson, Janice Collins, Judith Bramall
16th	Pat Croker, Mary Bailey
23rd	Liz Haigh, Liz Avison

MARCH

2nd	Ruth & Tony Elvery
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PRESS DATE

All items for the **MARCH 2014** Magazine should be placed in the box in the Welcome Area or handed to the editor - Ruth Elvery - by **19.30** on **Thursday, 20th FEBRUARY 2014 please.**

Fareham Focus is available ²⁰on the Fareham Church Website
