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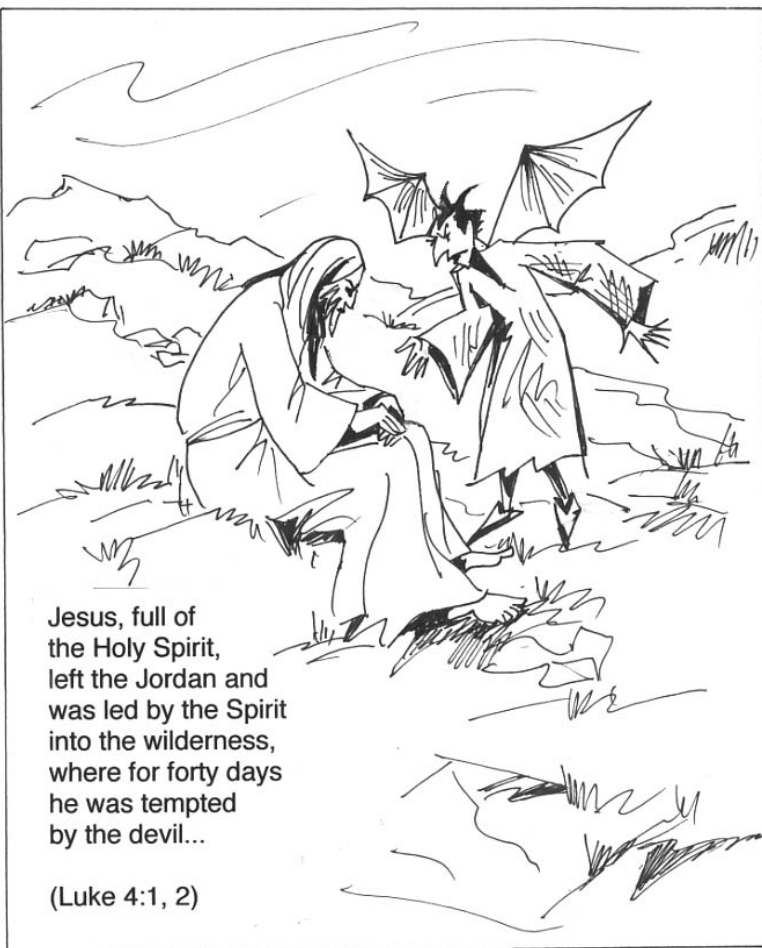
**Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine**

FAREHAM

March



2014



Jesus, full of
the Holy Spirit,
left the Jordan and
was led by the Spirit
into the wilderness,
where for forty days
he was tempted
by the devil...

(Luke 4:1, 2)

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Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk
(East Solent and Downs Circuit)

Number 612

March 2014

SERVICES DURING MARCH

2nd	10.30	Rev Claire Simpson	Holy Communion
5th	19.30	Rev Claire Simpson	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion
9th	10.30	Stephen Oliver	
16th	10.30	Rev Claire Simpson	All Age Worship followed by Annual Church Meeting
23rd	10.30	Rev Patrick Harrower	
30th	10.30	Duncan Riddell	
	18.00	Rev Claire Simpson	Iona Holy Communion

SERVICES DURING APRIL

5th	10.30	Rev Claire Simpson	Family Holy Communion
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LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

2nd Mar	10.30	Fareham Team	@ Lee on Solent
2nd Mar	18.30	Andrew Wilcock	@ Portchester
16th Mar	11.00	Andrew Wilcock	@ Wymering
23rd Mar	10.30	Andrew Wilcock	@ Eastney

Please remember these preachers in your prayers, as they prepare and conduct their services in our Church and in the²Circuit.

MARCH

Dear Friends,

As you read this, February is drawing to a close and the beginning of March is upon us and we are about to begin a journey together. The journey is the time of Lent. The word 'Lent' has its origin in the German language. Lent is associated with the word 'spring' and the Germanic root of the word Lent is 'long' – the days lengthen as the season of spring begins to take hold. I wonder how you traditionally approach this time of 40 days? If you are someone who gives something up for Lent then I suggest that it can seem a very lengthy period!



I have a confession to make. I have never, ever, given something up for Lent. I have never even started to try and then failed. However, I have always treasured this time of year not to give something up, but to do something different that will help me in my relationship with God.

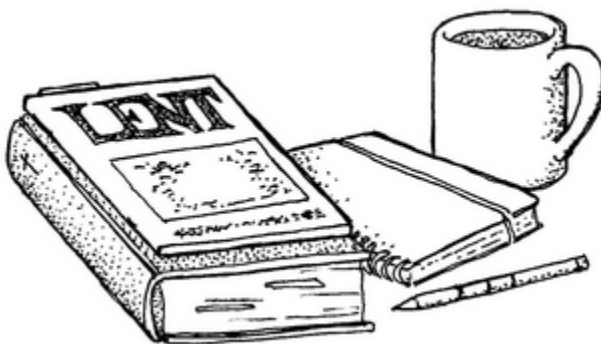
It seems to me that Lent, a little like Advent, is a period of time when we have permission to be different and try something new that will deepen our faith and draw us closer to God. This could be setting aside some time each day to read and reflect a little more on life, the Bible, and what your faith means to you. Or it might mean doing something active in terms of social action and practical discipleship. If you're someone who is naturally very hard on yourself then it might mean learning to be a bit kinder to yourself amidst the bustle of life. There are opportunities too to come together as a community of faith. Our Ash Wednesday service on March 5th is a good way to begin the season of Lent. There is a Circuit Pilgrimage organised by David and Alison Rice which also provides opportunities on the Saturdays of Lent to journey with others and grow in faith. I shall be running some Bible Studies at the manse on Wednesday mornings – see next page for more details.

Whatever you do, I pray that it will be a meaningful time in your journey of faith.

Blessings

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Claire



Lent Bible Studies 2014 - 'Build on the Rock'

'Build on the Rock' is a series of five studies for Lent compiled by Canon John Young, Canon Emeritus of York Minster and co-founder of the York Courses.

I shall be running this course at the Manse on Wednesday mornings throughout Lent. Refreshments served from 10am followed by Bible study from 10.30 - 12noon. See below for dates and the focus for each session. Bring along your Bible!

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| March 12 th : | Romans 8: 37-39 | 'Believing and Doubting' |
| March 19 th : | Matthew 11: 25-40 | 'Faith, doubt - and Jesus' |
| March 26 th : | 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 | 'Jesus - our Saviour' |
| April 2 nd : | Revelation 21: 1-4 | 'Jesus - conqueror of death' |
| April 9 th : | Philippians 2: 1-11 | 'Jesus - Lord and brother' |

Claire

VESTRY JOTTINGS - March 2014

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

One or two new Church Stewards are still required to take office from May 2014, to be appointed at the Annual Church Meeting. Jean Petter or one of the other current Stewards (Maggie Wheeler, Jenny Chalmers, Ian Bagshaw

Cont. ...

VESTRY JOTTING Cont. ...

and Andrew Wilcock) would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to consider taking up this essential role.

After the first Sunday in Lent the Lenten Cross will be placed in the Welcome area and a different symbol added each week at the beginning of the morning service.

David Rice, from Haslemere Church has planned some short Pilgrimage walks on the six Saturday mornings of Lent. More details can be found separately in this magazine and in the Welcome area. Anyone who would like to assist with serving of tea and coffee with breakfast on 12 April at Fareham please contact Jean Petter.

Please note that for this month only, the Iona Communion service has been planned for the fifth Sunday, 30th March.

The Stewards

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers given to me, from the Church, by Irene Russell. It is a comfort to know that people's thoughts and prayers are there in times of stress.



Rosemarie Jackson.

Bob Temple also says thank you for his 'Birthday' flowers and thanks Irene and Mary for their excellent flower ministry, as does Mavis Parish who found the flowers particularly cheering during the wet days.

Lilian Tildesley says thank you for prayers, cards, best wishes and cheering visits while she was in hospital. She is now back home again

PASTORAL VISITORS REQUIRED

We are in need of new pastoral visitors if anyone is interested or would like more information please contact Karen Ferguson or Sally Bland . Thank you

BADMINTON -T.TENNIS-T.FOOTBALL POOL

As Badminton etc is not on every week and to avoid confusion, here are the planned dates for the next few months.

March 7th

March 21st

April 4th

May 2nd

May 16th

May 30th (includes Church 75th Anniversary Treasure Hunt)

June 6th

June 20th



Mark Brooks

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

It has been arranged to have a market stall to raise funds for Action for Children for four successive Monday mornings from 3rd. March at the Church Mini Market. We intend to sell craft, plants, cakes and preserves and we would welcome donations which can be brought in during the morning or collected by Tony Elvery, who will store prior to each morning. This fund raising effort is supported by the Fayre Group and if successful will continue through the year to support other charities. For further information or to discuss details please contact Tony



Tony Elvery

BROWNIES



Brownies are collecting the Active Kids vouchers again to enable all the youth groups to benefit from sports equipment and various activity toys. The box is at the back of the Church so please collect the vouchers when you shop in Sainsbury's. You can collect them when you buy petrol too.

Many thanks.

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Alison Humby (Brown Owl)

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 2.00pm. Tea is available from 1.45pm unless otherwise stated.

12th March DVD illustrating the work of the MWiB in Bulgaria. This is our Circuit Charity for this year.

26th March Easter Service in the Worship Area at 2.00pm followed by tea and Hot Cross Buns in the Wickham Room.

Shirley Henderson

MERRY MAKERS

We meet during Thursday coffee morning. Are you interested in making small items for Charity? Or just to come for a chat, why not join me? Want to try something new, "crotchet" is the in thing, if you fancy joining in or having a go I can help you get started. Give me a call if you need anything before Thursday.

Edith

CHURCH CARETAKER

As you will be aware Dave Boyd stood down as Church Caretaker at the beginning of January, due to ill health. We thank Dave for all his support over the last 5 years with everything he has done to support the Church, including setting up furniture for services, meetings and events, light maintenance, stock ordering and being around to support and open up as required. We wish Dave well in his retirement, and look forward to seeing him and Shirley around the building when they pop in for a chat and coffee.

We welcome Steve Mills to the Caretaker role. Steve started during February, and has already got fully involved in supporting the Church where required. All requests for Steve's help should be made through either Peter Moody or Linda Foster.

Also a reminder of the User Group AGM, Thursday, 6th March 7.30pm.

Peter Moody

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Wednesday, 12th March 2014

Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road, Fareham PO16 0NU

What a Wonderful World

4.00 – 6.00pm

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

See us on Facebook.



SUNDAY LUNCH 16th March at 12.30 p.m. approx.

This is open to all members of the congregation and all family and friends. There is no set charge for the meal we just ask for donations 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:	Soup or Melon
Main Course:	Baked Ham with pineapple, Roast Potatoes & Selection of Vegetables.
Puddings:	Variety



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

AND STILL MORE TREATS IN STORE:

Hello! My name is Edward Sharpe and I play guitar at the All Age services at the Church. This year I finish my last year at secondary school, and with it comes a very long holiday. I decided to spend my time in a meaningful way, and try to make a positive change in the lives of others. For this, I'm spending four weeks volunteering in Ghana with Projects Abroad. During my time away I will be helping at local schools and orphanages, as well as building and renovating the buildings there. I'm feeling excited for my small adventure away from home, however slightly nervous about the many immunisations that are required! As this is a volunteer project, I'm having to raise money for my travel and various fees. To help with this I'm planning on baking cakes as refreshments after the service on Sunday 16th March, Thank you!

East Solent and Downs Circuit

A Pilgrimage for Lent 2014

A number of people have spoken to me since the “New Circuit” pilgrimage last August asking if something similar could follow on from there. The season of Lent, which focuses on Jesus’ journey to Jerusalem, offers a possibility to do something which is both to do with journeying and reflecting on the themes of this holy season.

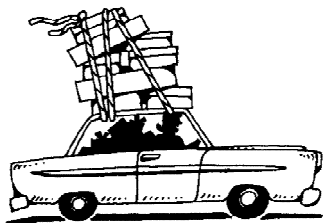
On each of the Saturday mornings in Lent this year we will have a pilgrimage morning on this pattern:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| (8.45 | Simple breakfast – cereals and toast, tea/coffee) |
| 9.15. | Introduction to the theme, with questions to ponder |
| 9.45 | Depart to walk to next church |
| 12.00 | Arrive; reflections and concluding worship |
| (12.30 | Simple lunch – soup and bread, fruit and yogurts) |

The theme will be following Jesus’ road to the cross, as it is recorded for us in Matthew’s Gospel. The “business” part of the morning will be the opening, introductory worship and reflection, leaving some questions for further reflection. After walking to the next Church, we will gather again to share some of our reflections and bring the session to a conclusion.

Breakfast and lunch will be for those who wish to join us and not a required part of the day. These will be simple meals (cereals and toast for breakfast, bread and soup for lunch) but will further the opportunity to get to know each other.

Churches have been asked to host this on the basis that they are roughly a suitable distance apart. It is hoped that others will join us for the reflections and that people will feel free to go by car if a two hour walk is not their thing. It would be a help if someone could take a car from the starting to the finishing Church to transport the lunch!



The programme is:

8 th March	Haslemere to Liphook
15 th March	Hart Plain to Drayton
22 nd March	Bedhampton to Emsworth
29 th March	Copnor to Eastney
5 th April	Gosport to Bridgemary
12 th April	Fareham to Portchester

As with the Pilgrimage last summer, whilst some join in most of the programme, others will just dip into this when it is convenient for them.

David Rice

*Please see the sign- up sheet in the welcome area and indicate on this any breakfast and/or lunch that you require.

METHODIST HOMES CONTACT PERSON

A vacancy is available for the contact person for Methodist Homes from the end of July, when Joan Cheer will be standing down. This is to cover the South West area of the Circuit.



Job Description: To be a contact for The Methodist Homes for the Aged and the church members, to collect any monies, record it and then pass it to MHA electronically or by Bank deposit to head office. To be a courier for any literature and organize the MHA Sunday celebration along with the ministers, once a year.

If you are interested or would like to know more information about the role of Methodist Homes Contact Person, please contact Joan Cheer on 01489 600308 or e-mail jmpfc76@virginmedia.com

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

This year instead of area days MWiB are Holding road shows. They will all be on the theme of "Sense and Sensitivity" with slight variations.

The venues are :

Mon	3 rd March	Totton	10.30 to 15.00
Sat	15 th March	Blandford	10.30 to 15.00
Thurs	20 th March	Petersfield	13.00 to 16.00
Thurs	27 th March	Amesbury	10.30 to 15.00
Tues	1 st April	Wootten Bridge I.O.W.	11.30 to 15.30

For more information please see the posters in the corridor. Pat Croker



FAREHAM STROKE CLUB

Fareham Stroke Club will be holding a fundraising "Book and Bric-a-Brac Sale" in the Church Hall on Saturday, 15th March between 10am and 12 noon. Any items or/and offers of help will be gratefully received.

Thank you.

Lynda Young Tel. 01329 23420

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 7th March 2014

10.00 am and 7.30 pm at the United Reformed Church



Lynda Foster

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN FAREHAM

These seminars / discussion sessions are being set up by the Community Church in their coffee bar or upstairs if a number turn up. It is planned to hold similar sessions on a regular basis if there is enough support. See first seminar on poster opposite.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN FAREHAM

An Evening With..

NELSON MANDELA'S FORMER
BODYGUARD AND NOW INTERNATIONAL
SPEAKER

Chris Lubbe

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO COME AND
HEAR THE STORY AND ASK YOUR OWN
QUESTIONS OF AN AMAZING LIFE..

FREE ENTRY



THE **iMBiZO**
SESSIONS

Sun 2nd March
Doors open 6pm
07836 372091

PosterMyWall.com

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN FAREHAM Cont. ..

A Club for Secondary School Pupils Which Meets at Fareham Leisure Centre.

Supported by several local churches any number of people are welcome to join in to play badminton, squash, swim. or to generally 'chill out'.

The last meeting took place at the end of January where fifty-six young people attended. There were no injuries and everyone had a lot of fun. The next meeting will take place on the 29th March from 7:30pm to 10pm. Please write to miketerry100@gmail.com if you would like any further details. All are welcome aged between 11 and 16 years. Cost is £4.40 per session

Lent Study Group

'A Right Relationship with Money', to be held in the Church Lounge at the URC and opened up to others to join in if they did not have or are not able to attend a study at their church. People are very welcome to turn up on the night if they wish. Monday nights at 7.30 pm from 10th March.

Beauty Outside and In

This event is to take place on Saturday 30th March within the Shopping Precinct between 9am and 3:30pm.

Minutes of the last meeting of CTiF will be on the Church Notice board.

Edith

WHY IS MOTHERING SUNDAY ON DIFFERENT DATES EACH YEAR?

Mothering Sunday is not a fixed day because it is always the middle Sunday in **Lent** (which lasts from Ash Wednesday to the day before Easter Sunday). This means that Mother's Day in the UK will fall on different dates each year and sometimes even fall in different months.



Mothering Sunday has been celebrated in the UK on the fourth Sunday in Lent since at least the 16th century.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I want to tell you about The Buzz which shares good news stories around the Methodist Church.

It is a free monthly e-mail that goes to subscribers throughout the Methodist Church (and beyond).

It tells inspiring, challenging and encouraging stories submitted by local churches, circuits and districts. The stories are grouped around the themes of "our calling" – Worship, Learning and Caring, Service and Evangelism. Every story has contact information, so that you can find out more. You can also share your own stories too. So if you have access to a computer why not visit the website and find out more: www.methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/the-buzz

CHRISTIAN AID

Visitor from Iraq Friday 21st March 2014

Tickets are available for an evening supper and talk by Sarjon Toma who is a Christian Aid Partner in Iraq. This is being organised by and held at the United Reformed Church at 6.45 for 7.00pm on Friday 21st March.



Christian Aid Week 11th-17th May 2014

As last year there will be a stand in Fareham Shopping Centre from Monday, 12th to Friday, 16th May as well as the usual house to house collections. If you are able to help with either of these activities it would be greatly appreciated.

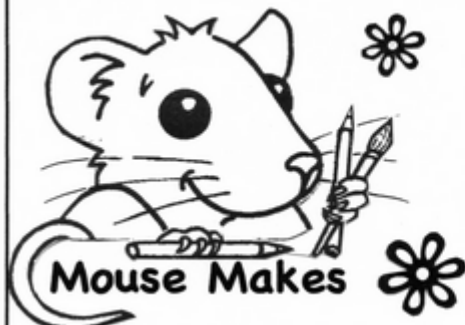
Looking Ahead:

The 'Thank You' Tea will be on Sunday 29th June 3-5pm

A Quiz Evening is planned for Saturday 8th November 6.30 – 9.30pm

Both these events will be at St John's Church

Linda Foster



The 4th Sunday in Lent
is celebrated as

Mothering Sunday.

Originally families would
get together for a special
service at the 'mother'
church, often at the local
cathedral.

Today Mothering Sunday
is celebrated as a family
day, a time to say '**thank
you**' to our mothers and
to all who look after us.



There are many wonderful Mothers
in the Bible, look up the Bible verses
and find out who they are....

Matt 1:16 **M** _ _ _

Num 26:59 _ **O** _ _ _ _ _

Luke 1:57-60 _ _ _ _ _ **T** _

1 Sam 1:20 _ _ _ _ _ **H**

Genesis 4:1 _ _ **E**

Gen 25:21-26 **R** _ _ _ _ _

Gen 21:1-2 **S** _ _ _ _



Thank you Mum
for all you do,

For all your
love and care,



For helping me
as I grow up,



For all your
loving prayers.

For teaching me
about Jesus,

Of how he loves
me too.



Thank you Mum
for loving me,

I LOVE YOU!



A bookmark gift for Mother's Day. Cut out the
bookmark above, glue onto card and colour in.



LENT

Lent, before Easter, is like Advent before Christmas, a time of preparation. Lent is when we remember that Jesus prepared himself for starting his ministry by going away by himself for 40 days of fasting and prayer. You can read about it in your Bible: Matthew, chapter 4, verses 1-11; Mark, chapter 1, verses 12-13 and Luke, chapter 4, verses 1-13.

Jesus went into the wilderness – a quiet lonely place away from people – where he could think things out. He knew that his work would be hard, that many people would not listen to him, or if they listened, they would not believe him. During these 40 days Jesus made his choice: to work in God's way however hard that might be.

This year Lent starts on 5th March and goes through half of April - have you thought about how YOU are going to prepare yourself to follow Jesus this Lent?



SPRING COLOURS

There are colours which are mentioned with these things in the Bible. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Pastures, herbs and olives are all?
2. A sea, tents and wine are?
3. Hangings in the Temple, pomegranates and doors of tents were all?
4. A horse, robes and teeth were all?
5. Kings' raiment (clothing), Jesus' robe and the dye that Lydia sold were all?
6. One of the gifts to the baby Jesus, candlesticks and spoons were?
7. A raven, clouds and chariot horses were?
8. Lips, a thread tied to a window and robes are?

What's blue, V-shaped and flies?

The Red Arrows in disguise.



What do you do with a green monster?

Wait till he's ripe.

Answers: 1.green 2.red 3.blue 4.white
5.purple 6.gold 7.black 8.scarlet

Methodist Church to join major national credit union

At its last meeting the Methodist Council agreed to become a partner to the Churches Mutual Credit Union (CMCU).

The CMCU is an alliance between the Anglican churches in Britain, the Church of Scotland and the Methodist Church in Britain. As well as offering the benefits of credit union membership to ministers, trustees and those employed by the Church, the CMCU will continue to show the Churches walking the walk as well as talking the talk of ethical investment.

Methodist Connexional Secretary, Doug Swanney said: "The work that credit unions do is essential in helping people to access low-cost, ethical loans and savings accounts. Getting on board with this movement fits perfectly with the values of the Methodist Church and we are excited about the opportunity to enthuse people about the work of credit unions and to make their benefits available as widely as possible."

PRAYING FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

As the terrible weather and devastation continue to sweep the UK, please keep all those affected by flooding in your prayers. The Revd Peter Pillinger, Chair of the Plymouth and Exeter District, has written this prayer.

O Lord of the waters of creation,
We are awed by the power and majesty of the oceans,
Seas and rivers.

We give thanks to you for the water we have to drink;
For the skills we have been given by you
To channel the power of the wind and the waves

We remember before you those affected
By flood, cyclone and hurricane

We ask you to remind us, as we drink of what we can do
For those for whom water is less friendly. Amen

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All meetings at Church unless otherwise stated)

MARCH

2 nd	An Evening with Chris Lubbe @ Fareham Community Church	18.00
3 rd	plus 3 following Mondays – Craft Stall at Monday Mini Market	9.30
5 th	Ash Wednesday Service	19.30
6 th	User Group AGM	19.30
7 th	Women's World Day of Prayer at URC Badminton etc	10.30 & 19.30 18.00
10 th	CTiF Lent Study at URC	19.30
12 th	Lent Bible Study at the Manse Wednesday Fellowship Messy Church	10.00 for 10.30 14.00 16.00
15 th	Fareham Stroke Club Sale	10.00
19 th	Lent Bible Study at the Manse	10.00 for 10.30
21 st	Badminton etc Christian Aid speaker at URC	18.00 18.45
26 th	Lent Bible Study at the Manse Wednesday Fellowship	10.00 for 10.30 14.00
30 th	CTiF event in precinct	from 9.00

APRIL

2 nd and 9 th	Lent Bible Study at the Manse	10.00 for 10.30
4 th	Badminton etc	18.00

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

MARCH

2nd 10.30	Margaret & Bob Temple
9th 10.30	Rosemarie & Tony Jackson
16th 10.30	Brenda & Peter Taylor
23rd 10.30	Bessie & Daniel Taabu
30th 10.30	Linda & Kevin Foster
18.00	Eric Wheeler

APRIL

6th 10.30	Janice Collins, Brenda Bennett
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FLOWER ROTA

MARCH

2nd	Maggie Allingham & Bill Batchelor
9th	Bobby & Patrick Watson
16th	Mrs Salkeld
23rd	Brenda Taylor
30th	Mavis Parish

APRIL

6th	Flower Fund
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REFRESHMENT ROTA

MARCH

2nd	Ruth & Tony Elvery
9th	Lilian Tildesley, Una Peters
16th	Brownies & Guides
23rd	Linda & Kevin Foster, Marilyn Woodrow
30th	Shirley & Keith Sargeant, Peggy Long

APRIL

6th	Lynda Young, Elizabeth Wilcock
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PRESS DATE

All items for the **APRIL 2014** Focus should be emailed to ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk or if this is not possible placed in the box in the Welcome Area by **19.30 on Thursday, 27th MARCH 2014 please.**

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website
