

FAREHAM

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October 2019

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Fareham Methodist Church Magazine

Registered Charity No. 1127814

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www.farehammethodist.org.uk

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Services for the Month

06th October Revd. Claire Simpson, Holy Communion

6 p.m. Revd. Claire Simpson, 1st Sunday

13th October Mr Alex Jameson

20th October Revd. Claire Simpson, All Age, Baptism

27th October Mrs Tracey Cooper

6pm Revd. Stephen Wright, Iona Holy Communion

Dear friends,

Watching or listening to the news or reading our daily newspaper is rarely an easy task but it feels even more difficult at present! The protracted issue of Brexit and reaching an agreement on how we leave the EU is proving more difficult than any of us could have imagined. Alongside this issue we have also seen much in our news about climate change and the devastating effect that this is having in our world today. Urgent action is needed more than ever and as one placard at a recent demonstration on this issue put it so starkly 'There is no planet B'. As individuals and households we are being challenged very practically to think about how our actions can impact the environment in lots of different ways and we are learning about alternatives that we can choose to take up to reduce the damage that we can inflict through our less thoughtful actions. Climate change is a huge issue but by doing 'our bit' we can make a collective difference. It is humbling that many children and young people are leading the way on this issue and showing the adults how it can be done to build a sustainable planet for future generations.

One of the prayers in the Methodist Prayer Handbook on the page where we offer prayers for all creation begins 'Lord, *you* created this world *we* call ours' (my italics). It reminds me of the first line of the hymn 'God, in his love for us, *lent* us this planet' (my italics again) and the sentiments of Psalm 8 where the Psalmist marvels at the world that God has made and how God has given us the responsibility to look after it.

How we treat creation says something about our relationship with God. If we are careless and wasteful, selfish and thoughtless, what does that say about how we feel about the Creator who has entrusted it to us in the first place?

This world is still a beautiful world.

This world still gives us so much that inspires us.

This world brings us so much pleasure and enjoyment.

But for how much longer?

We can't have the world's beauty and inspiration and we can't have the pleasure and enjoyment it brings without having a responsibility and care for it too.

With love,

Claire

A Quick Note From the Editor

Wow!! What a jam packed focus we have this month. I wasn't entirely sure I'd manage to fit it all in but, fingers crossed, I think I've done it and I really hope that I haven't left anything out.

Can I please remind everyone that items for the focus need to go to: **fareham.focus@gmail.com** and not to my personal email account? It is quite tricky to make sure that I have included everything that has been sent in if I have to go through a month's worth of personal e-mails. Occasionally things get missed.

I hope that you enjoy this issue.

Thank you

Rox Garrett

Vestry Jottings

This month's Vestry Jottings consist of "Thank you's". First of all a big thank you to Jill Groom and team for the wonderful meal they prepared for our film night which featured "Fisherman's Friends". Just over £280 was raised for Cancer Research.

Thank you goes also to Andrew Wilcock and all who took part in the concert, "Harvest of Talents". Another wonderful evening was had by all and over £280 was raised for "All we can". Our Harvest Festival was another great success and thanks go to Sheila Dyer for another lovely Welcome Area window display. There were some very imaginative individual window displays in church. Thanks must go to Mike Shepherd for his "Harvest of the Sea" display at the front of the church. The Sunday lunch raised £252 which also went to "All we can".

Now an appeal. We are looking for more volunteers for "Prayers of intercession" and readers. Anyone able to help please speak to one of the stewards.

Brenda

On behalf of the stewards

Christmas Tree Festival 05 - 07 December 2019.

I will again be running a Cake Stall at this year's Festival. I would be most grateful to receive any gifts of cakes or biscuits - large or small - to sell in support of the Christmas Tree Festival.

Margaret Temple



Malcolm Rothwell has gone into print again. *Behind enemy lines* is a compelling autobiography which draws you in from the first page. However, only some of the details are factual, whilst others are pure fiction. Is it possible to distinguish between them?

Malcolm was selected and trained for a secret mission in war torn Germany. Having completed his mission he, and his comrades, have to plan a means of escape. This is an intriguing and enthralling story about their exploits and their camaraderie. A *femme fatale* is also involved.

Behind enemy lines is an intimate and resonant war time drama interspersed with stimulating reflections about the Christian faith.

The cost from Amazon is £13.95 + P&P; but £10 direct from Malcolm

Would anyone be willing to join the Count Rota at the end of each Sunday morning Service please? After the service has finished the collection is taken through to the Vestry and counted. Two people carry out this task, one being a Steward from that Sunday and one other from the Count Rota. The money is then placed in a sealed envelope and banked by one of the Stewards during the following week. Due to various reasons some people on the Count Rota have had to drop out and it would be great if there were other people prepared to step forward to undertake this task. The whole thing takes about 30 minutes after the Service and counting money and bagging it up is all that is required. Please let me know if you are interested.

Thank you,
Rae Shepherd.

TO ALL PASTORAL VISITORS

The next Pastoral Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 8th October at 7.30 pm in Church.

Sally Bland
Pastoral Secretary.

"Gerry Williams, a Local Preacher from Bridgemary Methodist Church, is participating in a "**Memory Walk**" in Portsmouth on the 12th October, on behalf of his mother, to raise funds for **The Alzheimer's Society**. Please help to fight this terrible and increasingly prevalent disease by supporting Gerry with your donation at: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Gerry-WILLIAMS1

Please don't forget to Gift Aid your donation if you can.
Many thanks. **WE WILL BEAT THIS DISEASE."**

Thank you for the beautiful flowers given to me on Sunday by Liz Avison. They cheered me up immensely.
Brenda Bennett

Coffee Centre will be closed on Thursday 31st October due to 'Holiday from Home'. It will reopen Thursday 07th November.

Ukraine Christian Partnership

Youth Summer Mission 2019

The mission supports 3 villages: Akli, Uj Akli and Gyula in Transcarpathia in West Ukraine, beside the Transcarpathian mountains. Jill Groom, Bethany and Mollie Francis (Jill's grandchildren), James Warwick (Bethany's boyfriend) and I came from Fareham Methodist Church and the surrounding areas. There were various



people from Petersfield URC and Claygate Holy Trinity, medical students from Hungary, language students from Ukraine and a few other volunteers from the villages and other places. Lots of people from lots of different places coming together to make a very large team! We all placed ourselves into the Medical, Dental, Community, Youth or School team. The people from England and the medical / language translators stayed with host families across the 3 villages, where most of the local people speak Hungarian only and have a Hungarian heritage. I was in the school team, which ran a holiday club, sometimes called English Camp, for 6-11 years olds and I had the 6 year olds in my Red class: Piros. I stayed with the same family as last year in a house with an indoor bathroom and shower, but many of the others didn't have these amenities. On Saturday evening we arrived in the villages and were greeted in Gyula by the children singing to us. On Sunday morning everyone attended church and then the teams and translators set up for the week. The school team ran the holiday club in the school building in Gyula Monday to Friday. Last year's theme was Sheep and this year we did Water. On Monday and Tuesday we ran full days starting with an assembly relating to a different bible reading with a puppet called Ben, who the children loved and found very funny.

Then there were 6 sessions, including Music, Sport, Class time, Drama games in the Den, Classroom worksheets and Art. My class last year enjoyed everything and were particularly good at Music. My class this year enjoyed Art in particular and especially loved painting and finger painting.

On Wednesday and Thursday we ran full days starting with assembly and then 3 sessions in the morning. After that we ran free afternoons when the children could freely choose between doing Dressing up, Playdough, Beads / Bracelets, Construction, Loom Bands, Clay / Art and Hamma Beads. These are activities



that most of the local children don't have access to at home and wouldn't ever be able to do otherwise.

On Friday we ran a half day starting with an assembly, then 6 short sessions, including a Tooth Talk. After that we ended with a special parade to the front of the school and sang to the families and others outside.

Also last year everyday after school, the school team and translators enjoyed a well earned ice cream and relaxed at the shop opposite the school, which was also a bar, nail bar, hairdressers and sold a vast range of things including food.

In the evenings there were also activities and I went to the Village Supper, the Hungarian Dancing, the Thanksgiving service in Gyula and the Akli Social.

On Saturday the teams started to pack up the week and there were various cultural excursions in the surrounding areas.



On Sunday everyone attended church in the morning and then after a final meal with our hosts, we said an emotional goodbye and left the villages.

This year even more than last year, I saw the effects of abandonment of the

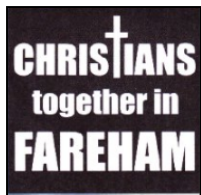
Ukrainian government on the villages. The roads are uneven, broken and terribly bumpy and some have even been fixed by the Hungarian government. The awful condition of the roads makes it difficult for people to travel around, to and from the villages, making the local people feeling cut off and disconnected from the world.

There are no government provided doctors, dentists, health care or access to treatments, medical supplies or health care information. The local children often drink cheap sugary drinks and eat biscuits and their teeth are often in an awful condition and painful. Also the water for the villages comes from a well, which they rely on as their only source of water, and this year there was a water shortage.

There is a real need for the support the mission brings to the villages as well as bringing a sense of hope to the local people that there are people out there who do care about them and want to help them. Thank you so much for the large amount of support and donations from this church very gratefully received for the mission.

Sarah Brooks





PFZ

Parent Free Zone

What? Chat, Games, Food

Who? Young people aged 8 years and over

Where? Fareham United Reformed Church, Osborn
Road South

When? Second Sunday in the month, 5 - 7 p.m.

Dates

13th October 2019

10th November 2019

08th December 2019

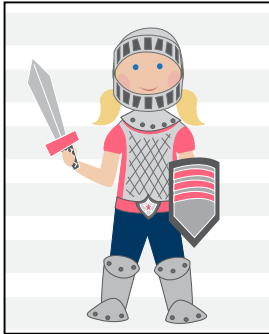
12th January 2020

09th February 2020

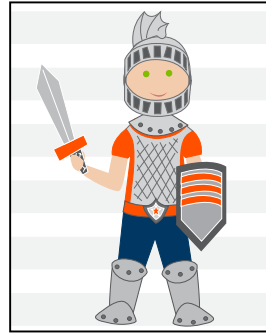
08th March 2020

Contact Rox or Kevin for more information

Families, Friendship, Fun, Food and Faith in Fareham



The Armour
of God



Wednesday 09th October 2019

3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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



New faces are always very welcome.
Come and give us a try!

Supported by Fareham Methodist Church. \\\

For more details about this once a month event for the whole family, find us

on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/farehammessychurch/>

or email: fareham.methodist.messy@gmail.com

Messy Church logo © The Bible Reading Fellowship 2018

Armour of God images courtesy of
www.kristendukephotography.com

SUNDAY LUNCH 13th October at
12:15 p.m. approximately
2nd Sunday this month!

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 **charity**. 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 Greek Salad

*Main Course: Roast Pork, Sausages,
Roast Potatoes, Vegetables*

Puddings: Variety

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

Breathing Space Retreats.

With God in Silence. A silent retreat with individual guidance.

Have you ever thought of going on a silent retreat? It is a wonderful opportunity to press the pause button in the hustle and bustle of daily life, to take time out and create a space for reflection. Above all else it affords the opportunity to get in touch with God.

‘Be still and know that I am God’, writes the Psalmist. Elijah finds God in the ‘still small voice’.

We don’t need to be afraid of silence. God delights in our presence so what is there to be afraid of?

There is a gentle way into silence, with conversation during the first meal, a briefing and the chance to meet fellow ‘retreatants’.

Then we go into silence - except for the 3 or 4 times during the retreat when each ‘retreatant’ meets up with the member of the team who is accompanying them.

The team member is there to listen, to help make sense of what might emerge in the silence, and to offer resources to assist ‘retreatants’ in their spiritual journey e.g. scripture passages, poems, pictures, meditations.

The whole retreat is surrounded by love, care and prayer in lovely peaceful surroundings, concluding with a shared Communion celebration.

These are the dates for the next 4 individually guided retreats:

Friday - Sunday 29 Nov - 01 December 2019

Friday - Sunday 21- 23 February 2020

Friday - Sunday 29 - 31 May 2020

Friday - Sunday 9 - 11 October 2020

More information from: The Greenhouse Christian Centre,
(Website: www.the-greenhouse.org) 17, Burton Road, Poole,
Dorset, BH13 6DT (Tel: 01202 764776) and:
www.guidedsilentretreats.com

Fareham Methodist Church

Holiday at Home

Let's go to Scotland !

10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday 31st October

Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

Quiz and Craft Activities

Lunch

Film - "What we did on our Holiday"

Singing

Afternoon Tea

RIDE AND STRIDE 2019 by John Bramall

A bright and sunny day was the perfect setting for this most enjoyable of occasions, which as last year I undertook with my sister Cheryl. First to be decided was which machines to use, as we have about 10 between us, most of which are of some antiquity. For Cheryl, gears were the thing, so she chose a multi geared modern machine. For myself, the choice was also easy, to take the 1957 (approx.) Phillips single speed machine, a lifetime possession of Jean Everitt kindly passed on to myself earlier this year. Beautifully engineered in Birmingham, a cradle of our engineering past, it has clearly been well looked after, even if the paint and chrome work is not quite as new as it was. Very impressive too is the working condition of the brake rodding, guaranteed to achieve a stop on the steepest of descents, most notably I imagine if it had been required on the descent of Stoner Hill, on the approach to Steep Village. Must get to go whizzing down this big gradient again at some time in the future.

Starting from St Peter's in The Square, Petersfield, then three others in Petersfield, St Laurence RC, Methodist, and URC (noted for its cakes) our route was to St John the Evangelist in Langrish, Froxfield Green for St Peter on The Green, Froxfield for St Peter High Cross, All Saints, Church Road Steep,

Sheet Green, and finally St Mary, North Lane, Buriton. This looked to be about 25 miles of undulating countryside, and 5 Churches included Refreshments, although only so much cake is wise.

Once we had left the traffic ridden A272 after Langrish, all was idyllic rural calm, and we had the added bonus of arriving in Steep just as a wedding was in progress. (Earlier we had also been privileged to be at St Laurence Petersfield during a Christening.) Sheet was very peaceful too before we passed over the A3, and thence to Buriton and back, with the distance close to 25 miles, as expected. Altogether we visited 10 Churches, our local knowledge being enhanced by Church members offering information on local history.

As a result of undertaking these rides over three or four years now, I now know that Ride and Stride is an ecumenical venture, and although the majority of participating churches in Hampshire and the Islands are Anglican, it is well supported and enjoyed by a variety of other denominations, including Baptist, Free Church, Methodist, RC, Quakers, and the URC.

It is the principal way in which money is raised for beautiful historic Churches; the total raised by Ride and Stride participants reached some £65,000 in 2018, plus grants from Hampshire CC and the National Churches

If Jesus Came To Your House

Submitted by Pat Croker

Author Unknown

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two,
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honoured Guest,
And all the food you'd serve Him would be the very best.
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there,
That serving him in your home is joy beyond compare!
But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door,
With arms outstretched in welcome to your Heavenly Visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in,
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard -
And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud, hasty word?
Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?
And I wonder - if the Saviour spent a day or two with you -
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you keep on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?
Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing and read the books you
always read,
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go,
Or would you, maybe change your plans for just a day or so?
Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends,
Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on,

DIARY DATES FOR OCTOBER 2019

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 9:45 Parent and Toddlers 20:00 Ladies Night	2 19:00 Alpha Course at Café Imbizo	3 9:30 Coffee Centre 10:45 Prayer Circle 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	4 13:00 Monthly Lunch Club	5
7 9:30 Mini Market	8 9:45 Parent and Toddlers	9 16:00 Messy Church 19:00 Alpha Course at Café Imbizo	10 9:30 Coffee Centre 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	11 17:00 Cooking for Be- ginners	12
14 9:30 Mini Market	15 9:45 Parent and Toddlers 19:30 Church Council Meeting	16 19:00 Alpha Course at Café Imbizo	17 9:30 Coffee Centre 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	18 17:00 Cooking for Be- ginners	19 9:30 Creating Safer Space Foundation Training
21 9:30 Mini Market	22 9:45 Parent and Toddlers	23 19:00 Alpha Course at Café Imbizo	24 9:30 Coffee Centre 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	25 17:00 Cooking for Be- ginners 18:30 Family Friday Games	26
28 9:30 Mini Market	29 20:00 Ladies Night	30 19:00 Alpha Course at Café Imbizo	31 10:30 Holiday at Home		

Door Stewards

06th October	Janice Collins and Sally Bland
13th October	Marilyn Woodrow and Brian Cooper
20th October	Pat Croker and Keith Sergeant
27th October	Tony Jackson and Liz Haigh

Refreshments

06th October	Lynda Young and Elizabeth Wilcock
13th October	Pat and Tony Pickering
20th October	Brownies and Guides
27th October	Jean and Mike Petter and Ann Isom

Flowers

	Providers	Deliverers
06th October	Joan Padley	Mary Bailey
13th October	Una Peters	Joan Padley
20th October	Ian Bagshaw	Jean Petter
27th October	Barbara Wilson FF	Lynda Young

PRESS DATE All items for the November Focus should be emailed to

fareham.focus@gmail.com

by noon of **Thursday 18th October**

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website