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**Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine**

FAREHAM



July & August
2013

On our days off,
on our days
of rest,
in all our days,
Lord, grant us,
a glimpse of your
glorious new world.



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Number 606 July/August 2013

SERVICES DURING JULY

7th	10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Holy Communion
14th	10.30	Fareham Team	Action for Children
	18.00	Sunday 2	
	18.00	Revd Andrew Wood	Circuit Service @ Gosport MC
21st	10.30	Stephen Oliver	All Age Worship
28th	10.30	Milly Aquilina-Gray	
	18.00	Rev Malcolm Groom	Iona Holy Communion

SERVICES DURING AUGUST

4th	10.30	Revd Malcolm Groom	Holy Communion
11th	10.30	Kathy Elvy	
18th	10.30	Pam Davey	
25th	10.30	Andrew Wilcock	

SERVICES DURING SEPTEMBER

1st	10.30	To be arranged	
	15.00	St Peter's Church. Petersfield	Welcome Service

LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

4th Aug	10.15	Andrew Wilcock @ Stubbington
18th Aug	10.30	Fareham Team @ Portchester

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

JULY 2013

Dear Friends,

Well, it's arrived at last. This will be my last "Minister's Letter" to you!

Many of you have experienced moving into retirement and will know that it is an unsettling time. The practicalities of moving, although potentially stressful, are not new to us, as Methodist ministers go through this relatively frequently. What I find unsettling are the mixed emotions that I feel. I am looking forward to not working because I feel weary and in need of a rest. At the same time I love my work and feel sad to be finishing. As I get excited that a new phase of my life is starting I also feel guilty that I don't want you to think that I am pleased to be free from the Fareham Church, because I'm not.



What I do want to say is a very big "Thank You!" to you all. You have given me the great privilege of serving you as your minister. Within my limited capacity I have undertaken the task to the best of my ability. I know there are parts of the work that I haven't done to my or everyone else's satisfaction - all I can say is that I have honestly done my best. I hope you will forgive me for where I have failed.



I need to explain one more thing. Methodist minister's are encouraged **not** to retire into the area where they ministered. However, Jill so much enjoys being with you that she wanted to continue here. (Normally in the past when she has just about settled into a church family she has had to move on with me!). For that reason we decided to settle in Fareham, BUT I have promised that I will keep well away from the Church for at least a year. This is **not** because I want nothing more to do with you, but it will give your new minister, Claire and her family, a better opportunity to settle without me getting in the way! - Once things have settled for Claire and the Church I may tentatively show my face again - we'll see how things go. - Needless to say I will keep a keen interest in what you're up to!

Lastly I would like to wish Claire and her family every blessing as they move to Fareham and take up their work here. I know you will support and encourage them as you have supported and encouraged us. - Thank You once again!

God bless you all,

Editors Note:

From July 30th: My address will be
9 Coppice Way, Fareham, PO15 6JY
Mobile number remains the same



VESTRY JOTTINGS

As this is the last Vestry Jottings before Rev Malcolm Groom retires, we would like to thank him for his work over the last five years and wish him well in his retirement. Details of his retirement party can be found elsewhere in this "Focus".

We are still in need of volunteers to help with providing hospitality on 19th and 20th August for those taking part in the East Solent and Downs Circuit Pilgrimage. On 19 August we have been asked to provide an evening meal at 6.00pm, provide overnight accommodation at the Church for any walkers who need it and to provide a plain breakfast at 8.00am.



For this we will need a Team co-ordinator and a group of helpers to prepare and serve the evening meal and a second smaller team to be responsible for the breakfast the following morning. There is a sign up sheet in the welcome area. Please help if you are able to.

Arrangements for the Welcome social event for Rev Claire Simpson and her family have now been confirmed. This will start at 6.30pm on Saturday 7 September and there will be a Folk dance and Ploughman's Supper.



Those not wishing to join in the dancing are welcome to come and watch. As Claire has two young sons it is hoped that other families from the Church will be able to attend. Everyone is invited along with the congregation of Stubbington Church. There will be no charge but we will be asking for donations on the night towards the cost of the food. However, we will need to know numbers so please put your name on the list in the welcome area if you would like to attend.

We also need offers of help to prepare and serve the supper and someone, or a small team, to co-ordinate this. Another sign up sheet is in the Welcome area to fill in if you are able to help.

Finally a few dates of services in September/ October.

1 Sept Junior Church Promotion.
Circuit Service including Welcome for Rev Claire Simpson at 3 pm in Petersfield.
8 Sept Covenant & Communion service.
6 Oct Harvest
13 Oct Family Holy Communion
(Morning Communion will resume on 1st Sunday of month from November)
The Stewards

THANK YOU

Dear All

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you for the beautiful flowers delivered to both Carole and Claire during my recent hospitalisation along with all the kind messages of support received from individuals.

Having returned home and recovered sufficiently I last week recommenced my treatment which is now scheduled to finish in August. Thankfully the sun has at last appeared so recuperation in the garden is easier. Thanks again and best wishes.

Geoffrey Jarman

Thank you so much for the flowers that were kindly delivered by Marilyn, it helped cheer us up a little.

Janice Vic Collins

Thank you so much for the lovely Church flowers kindly delivered by Jean who stayed for a chat very much appreciated.

Lynda Thomas



THANK YOU Cont...

Thank you so much for the lovely Church flowers given to cheer me when I was so low. They were much appreciated and lasted so long. Edith

Thank you so much for the lovely yellow Church flowers (my favourite colour) brought to me by Marion who had time for a chat which was appreciated.

Linda Brooks

Thank you so very much for the lovely flowers for my birthday, Thank you also to Joan for bringing them to me and making time for a chat which was appreciated.

Margaret Fielder

Thank you to all who prepared "The Wesley Spirit Moves Us" display. I found it such a moving and "restful" experience to be able to shut out the everyday problems and sit in peace and "recharge" my batteries. The Booklet was a wonderful help enabling me to focus my thoughts at each stage. - I went away refreshed.

Lynda Young

Christian Aid

Many thanks to all who gave so generously of their time and money during Christian Aid Week which raised almost £8,000 from the Fareham and Portchester area.

This year we collected a grand total £1178.64 before Gift Aid:

£813.36 door to door which should gain another £64.00 through gift aid

£120.00 from the sponsored walk

£17.00 donations

£228.28 at the Church Lunch which should also gain £47.82 through Gift Aid.

In addition to this £788.89 was collected during the week at the Christian Aid Stall in town.

Thank you to all who supported this fantastic effort.

At 3.00 - 5.00pm on Sunday 22nd September a 'thank you' tea will be held at our Church. On Saturday 19th October 6.30 - 9.30pm there is going to be a quiz and ploughman supper evening at Holy Trinity.

Next year Christian Aid week is 11th - 17th May 2014!

Linda Foster

Hi Everyone

I would like to say Thank You to everyone who came to the "Quiz Aid" at Bridgemary Methodist Church in aid of Christian Aid Week. It was a wonderful evening and we made £310 on the night so thank you all again because if it was not for wonderful people like you this event would not be possible

Well Done and see you all next year.

Jean Plummer Christian Aid Rep

The Garden Party

The Garden Party hosted by Wednesday Fellowship raised the sum of £223.00 in aid of Fareham Stroke Club. This is a magnificent sum considering the circumstances this year. On behalf of the Wednesday Fellowship I wish to thank all those who braved the weather and supported us. We all hope for sunshine next year for the event.

Eric Wheeler

NEW ADDRESSES

From 30th July:

Jill and Malcolm Groom's new address is 9 Coppice Way,
Fareham, PO15 6JY

Grace O'Donnell with Samuel and Jack have moved to:
22 St James Way, Portchester, PO16 8NZ



NEW ADDITIONS



Catherine and David Stevenson and Ann, Matthew, and Georgina Brooks of Theale, Berkshire are pleased to announce the arrival of Gabriel David Brooks on 9th June weighing 9lbs.

MALCOLM'S RETIREMENT PARTY

10th August at 5.30 pm

Please sign up on the list in the Welcome area if you are able to join us for this event.

The Stewards



Wednesday, 10th July 2013

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

4.00 pm – 6.00 pm

CALMING THE STORM

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

See us on Facebook



PRAYER HANDBOOK 2013/2014

If you would like to continue using the prayer handbook and have not yet put your name on the corridor notice-board please do so to help me to order the right number!

Joan Padley

PRAYER GROUP

The next two Healing / Prayer groups will be held on Wednesday, 31st July and Wednesday, 4th September at 19.30, at the home of Joan and Jeff Padley.



Rita Jackson

METHODIST MERRY MAKERS - A request



You may have noted from last month's Focus that I am buddying with Edith in making craft items for the Michaelmas Fayre. I hope to make some coasters from garden twine or string. If anyone has the odd half a ball of string or twine that they could donate I would be most grateful.

Tracy Cooper

FRIDAY LUNCH

Owing to the 'Chief Cook' deciding to take a holiday at the beginning of September Friday lunch has been brought forward one week to the 30th August. This means that there will be two Friday Lunches in August - **2nd and 30th**, and none in September. Tickets as always are available from Gwen Lilian and Lynda.

HELP WANTED

It is that time of year when I am appealing for volunteers to help give the Church kitchen its annual 'deep clean'; an important task that helps keep it in good condition for all users. If you can spare a couple of hours during the last two weeks of August please contact me to arrange a convenient time. Remember 'many hands make light work'.

Lynda Haydon-Jones 01329 842646

LOVE

We are each of us angels with only one wing
And we can fly only by embracing each other

Luciano de Crescenzo

LUNCH ON SUNDAY

Not to be confused with Sunday lunch at the Church. This is a Christians Together Homeless scheme, every Sunday from 12.30 till 3.00pm at the Experience Centre, Osborne Road. The churches on the rota have a number of volunteers to be called on to make up a group of 5 who make a lunch and give time to people who at this present moment are without a roof over their head. The maximum number of guests has been 10.

The Rota is made out in advance and the pattern is one week every second month which is not arduous. We have a select group of 5, so in case any of us are unable to make that date on the rota could you find your way to putting your name down on the list to help please. Please contact:-

Edith Livingstone

REQUEST FOR ESCORT PLEASE

GOSPORT LIVE AT HOME SCHEME NEED AN ESCORT FOR THE TUESDAY LUNCH AT BRIDGEMARY.

Would you be able to help out for a short time filling in for sickness absence



Duties include: every other Tuesday for 6 months

Meet the driver in Bury Road, Gosport at 10.30 am

Help people on and off the bus, have lunch with us and

Do the return journey with the bus

Finish at the depot on Bury Road at around 3.00 pm

IF YOU CAN HELP US PLEASE CONTACT LUCY ROTHWELL OR VICKIE WILLIAMS ON 01329 234409 OR 01329 317846

MHA LIVE AT HOME SCHEME QUIZ EVENING

Saturday 20th July 2013 at Gosport Methodist Church at 7 pm.

We invite teams from all the Circuit churches to take part in this Quiz and buffet supper in aid of the local MHA Live at Home Scheme funds. Your team should ideally consist of 6 players, and you may want to enter more than one team. As this is to be a pay-by-donations event, we need to have an idea of numbers attending for catering purposes, by Monday 15th July. Please let Elinor Combes know if you wish to attend and how many people will be in your team (02392 522439 or ecombes@talktalk.net).

SUNDAY LUNCH 21st July at 12.15 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.

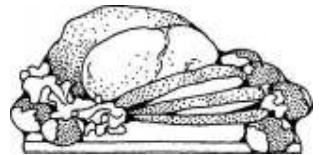
This month I would like to ask for donations to the **Ukraine Mission** which I have been involved in for the past 3 years, helping in 3 poor villages. I am unable to go this year because we are moving but would like to give them some support and money is their greatest need this year. Thank you.

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 Egg Mayonnaise

Main Course: Baked Gammon and Roast Beef,
Yorkshire Puddings,
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!

CANCELLATION OF DATE FOR THE SUBMARINE TALK

I am sorry but the date in the plan for the submarine talk at Bridgemary on Monday 8th July 6-15 pm, has had to be cancelled. It was out of our control. So a new date has been arranged so please change it in your diaries.

The new date is **MONDAY 23rd. SEPTEMBER at 6-15 pm** more details to follow

Jean Plummer

SMILE LINE

In Egypt a mummy was discovered covered in chocolate and nuts. Archaeologists believe it may be a Pharaoh Roche.

NOTICE FOR SINGERS AT 1st SEPTEMBER CIRCUIT SERVICE

Please attend a Rehearsal at Fareham Church on
Thursday 29th August at 19.30. More details about
the service to follow.

Thank you

Garry



TO KNOW GOD'S WILL

Loving Father,

You made us in your image. Our whole life is a process of transformation to become like you. And yet it is so difficult to know, to really know what you are calling us to do; how you want us to serve you. There are so many possibilities, so many roads we could choose. Which one has your signpost? Which one has the green light for us? The disciples faced the same dilemma, "What must we do to do the works God requires," they asked. And Jesus' answer was quite simple, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." (John 6:28,29)

Lord help us to believe in Jesus, with a real, active, trusting faith and then to relax, knowing that if we do believe, everything, absolutely everything we do will be your work. Washing up, working in the office, preaching a sermon or preparing school dinners, we will be doing your work.

Thank you for showing us your way in your word, in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

RUSHED OFF YOUR FEET?

In what position are you spending your time this summer? Nearly seven in ten young adults spend more than 20 hours a day sitting or lying down, whether asleep or awake. Yet they do not consider themselves idle; a recent study has found that these same people are constantly checking phones and emails; with more than eight in ten of 18-24 year olds checking their mobile phones last thing at night, and first thing in the morning. The survey, by Weight Watchers, warns that as "sedentary lifestyles seem to be on the rise, the UK's obesity rates continue to escalate."



Here is a true short story, in 100 words, by Megan Carter

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

“John was seven years old when his mother died, and 11 when his father took him to sea. John soon became a hardened blaspheming seaman, and slave trading became a way of life. One day a tremendous storm arose. John in fear calling to God for mercy was miraculously saved from the deep. So chastened and reformed was John that on his return to England he gave his life to God, becoming ordained in the Church of England and a curate in 1764. He joined forces with William Wilberforce campaigning for the abolition of slavery. This is John Newton’s testimony.”

John Newton wrote:

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I’m found
Was blind but now I see.

YOUNG METHODISTS BACK NICARAGUAN CHILDREN IN STREET CHILD WORLD CUP

Street children in Nicaragua will have the chance to compete in 2014's Street Child World Cup in Brazil with the support from children and young people of the Methodist Church in Britain.



Young Methodists in Britain have pledged to back two Nicaraguan teams – a girls’ football team and a boys’ football team – in partnership with the Methodist Church in Nicaragua and the Methodist Church in Brazil. They aim to raise £30,000 by taking part in sponsorship events aimed at opening their eyes to the lives of street children.

Street Child World Cup is a global movement for street children to receive the protection and opportunities that all children are entitled to. Ahead of each FIFA World Cup, the Street Child World Cup unites street children from across five continents to play football. Through football, art and campaigning, the movement aims to challenge the negative perceptions and treatment of street children around the world.

100 MILLION SHOE BOXES

Last year, Operation Christmas Child hit a significant milestone, delivering the 100 millionth gift-filled shoebox to a needy child. It took a global effort of over 23 years to do this, but OCC is still growing and says: “we are trusting God for another 100 million.”



Do you have friends or family who have **yet** to wrap and pack their first shoebox? They may be at home, or a member of your community group or church, or at your school or other workplace. Would you help OCC to reach them? Why not tell them why you support Operation Christmas Child – about the impact a gift-filled shoebox can have on a needy child, showing the child that he or she is loved and not forgotten at Christmas. Encourage them to join you in such a worthwhile venture.

Parish Pump

HOW TALL? HOW WIDE?!

Keep your waist down to half your height – if you want to live for longer. A recent study has found that measuring the ratio of your waist to your height is an even better way of predicting life expectancy than body mass index (BMI), the method widely used by doctors at present.

Men with waistlines that measure 80 percent of their height live on average 17 years less than men with slimmer waistlines. Keeping your waist circumference to less than half of your height can help prevent stroke, heart disease and diabetes, and add years of life. Measuring someone’s waist is important because it accounts for levels of central fat that accumulate around the organs. The research was carried out at Oxford Brookes University.

THE LUKEWARM CHURCH HYMNS

What an Acquaintance we have in Jesus
Where He leads me I will consider following
Fill my spoon Lord
It is my secret what God can do!¹⁴

SAMARITAN'S PURSE LAUNCHES RAISING FAMILIES TO GIVE VULNERABLE CHILDREN - A FUTURE

With the World Bank reporting that there are 1.3 billion people on the planet living on less than £1 a day, Samaritan's Purse UK is responding to this desperate need by launching a ground-breaking initiative called Raising Families which expands its existing work in bringing hope and a future to vulnerable children and families in some of the neediest countries of the world.

Families like Jeanne and her siblings and children in Rwanda. Jeanne is a single parent and the sole provider for her two children, six of her siblings and four of their children. Thirteen people in all. At a young age she is already a widow, who has also lost both of her parents and who knows what desperation is.

For Jeanne's family the Church was there for her when she was most desperate. First of all they gave her some food to help her through in the short term, but more importantly they loaned her enough money to start a small shop. Her first purchase was two bags of charcoal which she bought and then resold. Now her shop is thriving and she is selling sugar, flour, tomatoes, rice, beans and potatoes.

From small beginnings she is now able to feed all 13 members of her family and to provide for all of the children to go to school.

Just £10 a month enables a Samaritan's Purse local church partner to bring a family like Jeanne's from a point of total despair and destitution to real hope and a sustainable future.

If you can help, visit www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/raising-families, or call 020 8559 2044 or email info@samaritans-org.uk.

POINT TO PONDER

Most of us miss out on life's big prizes. The Pulitzer, the Nobel, Oscars, Tonys, Emmys. But we are all eligible for life's small pleasures. A pat on the back. A kiss behind the ear. A full moon. An empty parking space. A crackling fire. A great meal. A glorious sunset. Hot soup. Cold beer.

Don't fret about coping life's great awards. Enjoy its tiny delights. There are plenty for all of us.

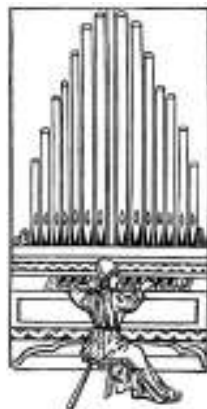
Pam Rhodes

BEWARE THE CHURCH ORGANIST **(I am sure this does not apply to OUR organist!!)**

Church organists, it seems, are no longer as innocent as they look. After centuries of playing hymns for congregations and anthems for choir boys, it seems that church organists are now playing tricks – on their congregations.

A recent survey by Christian Research has found that perhaps up to half of all church organists may be slipping secular tunes into church services – when least expected. The tunes can range from snippets of heavy metal classics to advertising jingles to nursery rhymes to popular pop songs.

Among the examples cited was that of the organist in Scotland who had fallen out with some of the elders in the Kirk. He got his revenge by playing a thinly disguised version of 'Send in the Clowns' as they processed in for a Sunday service. In another church, a vicar sacked an organist after he played 'Roll out the Barrel' at the funeral of a man known to have been fond of a drink.



One very high church congregation was startled to find their elaborately dressed clergyman processing down the aisle to – the theme tune from The Simpson's. Another congregation took up the collection – and found themselves listening to 'Money, Money, Money' by Abba.

The survey also uncovered examples of services 'livened up' with renditions of the theme tunes from the Magic Roundabout, Blackadder and Harry Potter. Sung Evensong – normally seen as the pinnacle of English choral music – has been 'enriched' with such offerings as 'I'm a Barbie Girl' and 'I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles'.

Stephen Goddard, of Christian Research, said: "It's an oft-repeated adage in church circles – 'What's the difference between an organist and a terrorist? - you can negotiate with a terrorist'. Hidden from view, your local church organist may appear unassuming, but like any true artist, he or she can be eccentric and mischievous. Mess with him at your peril – he will pull out all the stops to get his own back."

DO YOU LEAD A CHRISTIAN TODDLER GROUP?

If so, have you visited www.1277.org.uk ? It is a website that provides resources for Christian toddler-group leaders. It was launched by a coalition of Christian groups, including the C of E, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Union and the Mothers' Union.

The website, 1277, is named after the average number of days between a child's birth and the start of formal education. 1277 seeks to help the 27,000 toddler groups run by churches throughout the country.

Parish Pump



KEEP COOL WITH CUCUMBER SANDWICHES

If you get hot this month, reach for a cucumber sandwich, washed down with beer or tea. All three have been found to help keep you cool in hot weather. Bear in mind that ice water or other chilled drink and food will not help – the extremely cold food or drink chills your stomach, but sends into shock other parts of the body, so that they do not operate as effectively. Hot drinks are actually recommended on hot days – the tannins in tea (and wine) are cooling agents. Ice cream doesn't help, but curry does. Bear in mind that fruit and vegetables with high water content are particularly good in hot weather. The study was done by the American Chemical Society.

Parish Pump

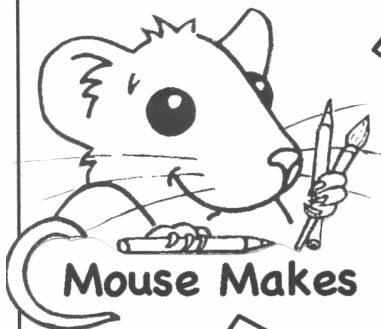
TURN OFF THE TELLY THIS SUMMER

Don't let your young children watch too much telly this summer. Each hour in front of the television may well make them fatter. Not only that: the more toddlers watch TV, the worse their muscular fitness and the larger their waist size become as they go on to become teenagers.



Parents are increasingly using the television as an 'electronic babysitter', but in doing so they may be jeopardising the long-term health of their children. The study was carried out by the American Academy of Paediatrics, which recommends that children under the age of two do not watch TV at all, and that older children are limited to two hours a day.

Parish Pump



Mouse Makes

JOSEPH'S WONDERFUL COAT

Joseph was 17, he took care of the sheep and goats with his brothers. His father Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons because he had been born to him when he was old. He made a long robe for Joseph, a coat of many colours. When Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them, they hated their brother so much they would not speak to him and even plotted to kill him.

Colour Joseph's wonderful coat but puzzle out the backwards words first!

ETIHW

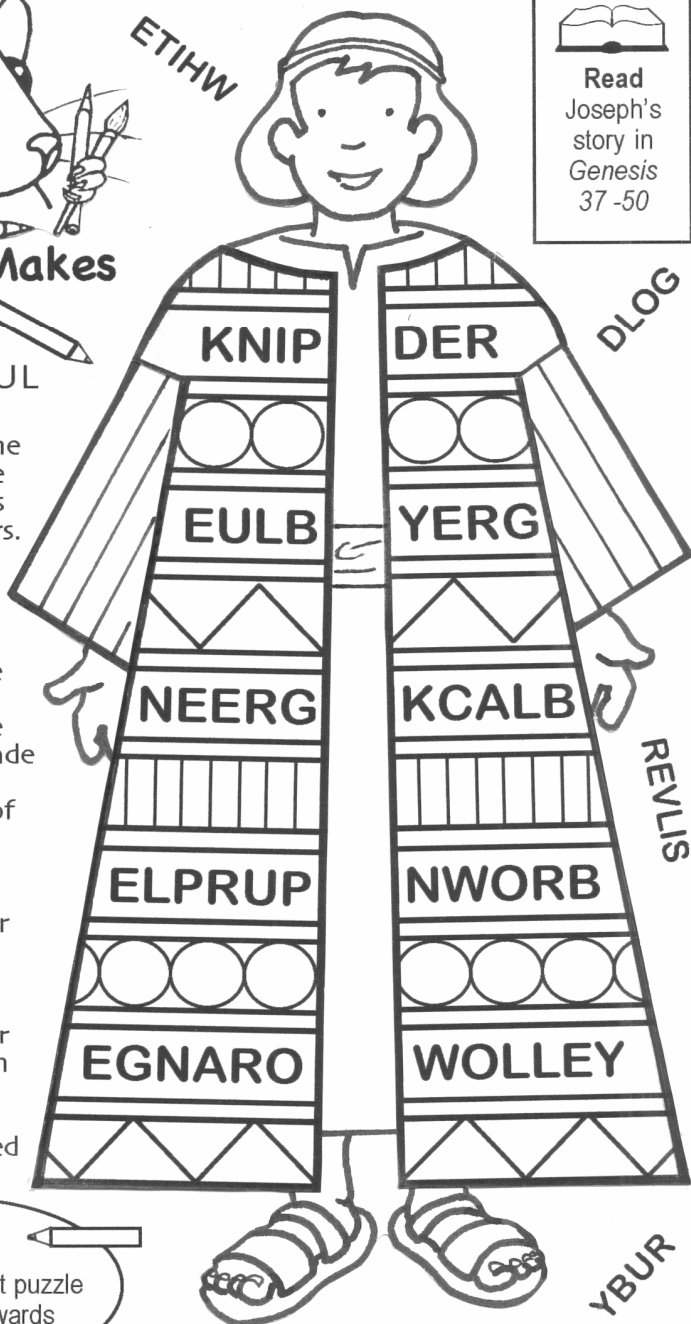


Read
Joseph's
story in
Genesis
37 -50

DLOG

REVILIS

YBUR





BARTIMAEUS

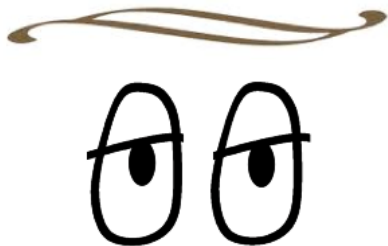
Who? To the people of Jericho who walked past him every day while he sat begging for the smallest coin, he was 'that blind beggar' sitting by the roadside. And there he sat until one special day when Jesus was leaving Jericho, surrounded by the usual crowd. We can imagine Bartimaeus tugging at someone's robe and asking 'What's going on, who is it?' and the answer coming back 'It's that preacher, Jesus of Nazareth'.

But Bartimaeus knew that Jesus was special, was more than just a preacher from Nazareth. He called out, he carried on calling even when the crowd told him not to - and Jesus stopped. Bartimaeus threw off his beggar's cloak and came to Jesus, asking to be able to see. And Jesus gave him the gift of sight; his eyes were opened. Just imagine - the first thing that Bartimaeus saw was Jesus' face. He saw the Light, the Light of the World, and left the roadside to follow Jesus (St Mark's Gospel, chapter 10, verses 46-52).

BIBLE EYES

Every one of these answers is a person or thing in the Bible which are all something to do with eyes.

1. He went blind on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:8).
2. Was blinded in Gaza and pulled down a building (Judges 16:29).
3. What Jesus put on the blind man's eyes (John 9:6).
4. Was a beggar in Jericho before meeting Jesus (Matthew 10:46).
5. Helped Paul regain his sight (Acts 9:17).
6. The boy Samuel ministered to him because his eyesight was going dim (1 Samuel 3).



Have your eyes ever been checked?

No, they've always been this colour.

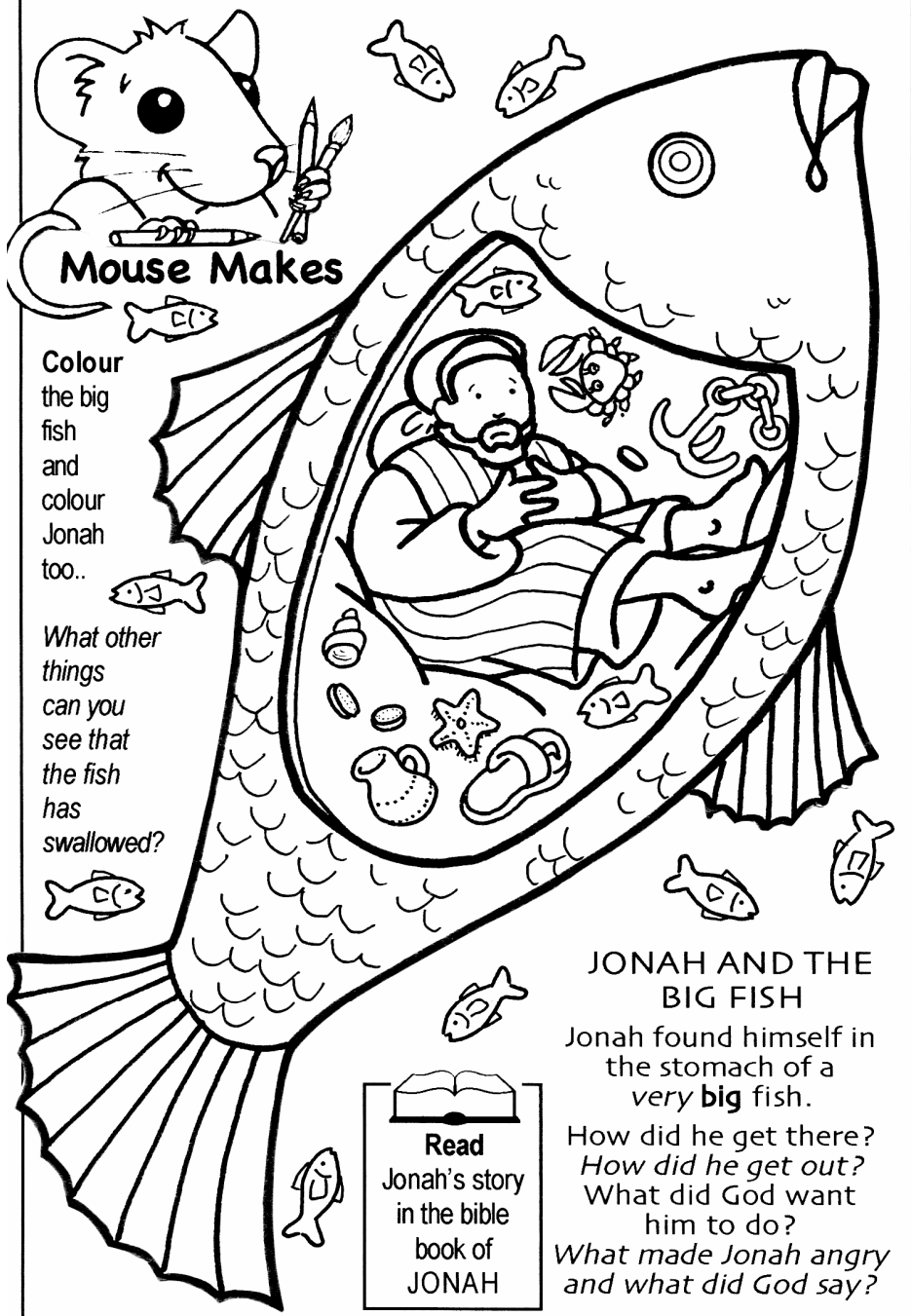
Optician: what can you see out of that window?

Patient: only the sun.

Optician: how far do you want to see, then?



Answers: 1.Saul, afterward Paul 2. Samson 3.mud 4.Bartimaeus 5.Ananias 6.Eli



Mouse Makes

Colour
the big
fish
and
colour
Jonah
too..

What other
things
can you
see that
the fish
has
swallowed?

JONAH AND THE BIG FISH

Jonah found himself in
the stomach of a
very **big** fish.

How did he get there?
How did he get out?
What did God want
him to do?

*What made Jonah angry
and what did God say?*

Read
Jonah's story
in the bible
book of
JONAH

FREEDOM

Today, in this country, it is quite safe to talk about religion. If you want to go to church or Sunday School you can, and if you don't want to, you are not forced to go. Some people at school or work might poke fun at you for being a Christian but that is all. We can all read the Bible in our own language and are free to ask questions. But it hasn't always been like this.

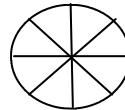
Over the centuries many men, women and children suffered for their beliefs. Christians were killed by other Christians who argued that their way was the right way and everyone else was wrong.

Jesus told us that we must love one another – isn't it good that today all Christian churches are working together for peace? And isn't it about time? Nearly two thousand years ago Jesus died for all of us.



SECRET SIGNS

The early Christians were often persecuted in the Roman Empire, so they invented secret signs to show that they were Christians. In the ancient city of Ephesus, one can still see examples of two of the common signs:



What have they in common? Obviously one represents a fish. The Greek word for fish is ΙΧΘΥΣ (I CH TH U S). These letters were the initial letters of the Greek words for: Jesus Christ God's son, Saviour. Even today many Christians wear the symbol of a fish; see if you can spot anybody in Church wearing one. But what has the other one in Common? If you study it carefully you can trace those Greek letters in the pattern; a very clever secret sign.

If you are interested you can read about the trouble Paul had in Ephesus on one of his visits (Acts Ch19 V24), yet the Christian community grew as one can read in Paul's epistle to the Ephesians.

Eric Wheeler

PETROC - THE FOUNDER OF PADSTOW

If you are going to Cornwall this summer in search of peace and quiet, Petroc is the saint for you. Especially if you find Padstow a bit too crowded for your liking! He would have sympathized.

This 6th century abbot is Cornwall's most famous saint. Petroc set sail from South Wales, landed at Haylemouth, and founded a monastery at Lanwethinoc - now called Padstow, after him (Petroc's Stow).

Padstow must have been popular even in those days, because about 30 years later Petroc, in search of some peace and quiet, moved on to build another monastery at Little Petherick (Nanceeventon). Here he must have decided to try some 6th century equivalent of 'Fresh Expressions', because he engaged with his local community by building a mill and a chapel.

In time, Petroc began feeling crowded again. So he tramped off to the remote wilds of Bodmin Moor, where he lived as a hermit - until some 12 monks turned up to join him. Firmly, Petroc kept them all housed in a monastery on a hilltop, while he enjoyed his private space in a cell by the river.

But even here Petroc was not alone. One day a terrified stag came rushing through the woods, pursued by the hunt. Petroc flung open the door of his cell, and the panting animal took refuge. When the huntsmen arrived on the scene, they did not dare to argue with the famous holy man, and went their way. The stag's gratitude made him tame, and Petroc would come to be portrayed with a stag as his special emblem.

Petroc was buried in the monastery in Padstow but in c.1000 his shrine and relics, including his staff and bell, were translated to Bodmin. Here they have stayed ever since, except for a short unplanned trip to Brittany in 1177, when they were stolen and carted off by a naughty Canon of the Church. Henry II intervened, and everything but a rib of Petroc was eventually returned.

**SKITTLES NIGHT
AT
BRIDGEMARY METHODIST
CHURCH
GREGSON AVE
PO13 0PJ**



**FRIDAY 26TH JULY
6PM.
EVERYONE WELCOME
£2
FOR CHURCH FUNDS**

THE SKITTLE ALLEY IS AVAILABLE FOR HIRE.
FOR FURTHER DETAILS

e mail anne@disneyareavillas.com

PHONE ANNE FORD 01329 237090
JEAN PLUMMER 02392 430657

Music



for a

Summer Evening



Fiona Thompson - Harp



Kath and
Charles
Sugden –
Flute and
'Cello,
accompanied
by Julian
Williams



**Saturday
13th July
at 7.30pm**

St Columba Church, Hillson Drive.

**Tickets £3 (£2 concessions) from
The Hub / Holy Trinity Church Office / on
the door. Refreshments available.**



Allen Cole - Organ

Sarah's Make & Take

(1 day craft workshops)

Fareham Methodist Church, King's Rd PO16 0NU

Mon 29th July – Fri 2nd Aug

Mon 5th Aug – Fri 9th Aug

Mon 26th Aug – Fri 30th Aug

10:00 – 12:30 each day



MOBILE
PHONE
CASE
(MONDAYS)

HEADPHONES
CASE
(TUESDAYS)



Prices from £8 to £12
*(call for details and to
book a place)*

Ages 7+, all materials provided. Hands-on tuition throughout with assistance if needed. Refreshments included. Choose from a variety of useful and decorative items to make in felt, beads and papercraft. Learn new skills and build your confidence, taking pride in what you create.



NOTEPAD COVER (WEDNESDAYS)



CARDS (THURSDAYS)



NECKLACE
(FRIDAYS)

...AND MANY MORE ITEMS
TO MAKE EACH DAY

Book early to avoid disappointment.

07907 820125 cogs.lh@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All meetings at Church unless otherwise stated)

JULY

2nd	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting @ Manse	10.00
	Ladies Night Walk @ Portchester	19.00
5th	Friday Lunch	13.00
9th	Church Council Meeting	19.30
10th	Visit to Hawke Conservancy, Andover	TBA
	Messy Church	16.00
11th	Messy Church Wash up Meeting	10.00
	Merry Makers	10.00
21st	Sunday Lunch	approx 12.15
14th	Circuit Meeting @ Gosport MC	19.30
18th	Local Preacher's Meeting @ Fareham MC	19.30
31st	Healing Prayer Group @ Joan & Jeff's	19.30

AUGUST

2nd	Friday Lunch	13.00
10th	Malcolm's Farewell	
18th	New Circuit Pilgrimage starting at Copnor MC	10.30
19th	New Circuit Pilgrimage evening meal with us	18.00
20th	New Circuit Pilgrimage breakfast with us	08.00
21st	New Circuit Pilgrimage	
22nd	New Circuit Pilgrimage	
23rd	New Circuit Pilgrimage	
24th	New Circuit Pilgrimage	
25th	New Circuit Pilgrimage finishes @ Haslemere MC	16.00
30th	Friday Lunch	13.00

SEPTEMBER

1st	Celebration of the New Circuit & Welcome Service @ St Peters Church, Petersfield	15.00
12th	Wednesday Fellowship AGM	14.00
19th	East Solent & Downs 1st Circuit Meeting Venue to be arranged	19.30

REFRESHMENT ROTA

JULY

7th	10.30	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland, Brenda Bennett
14th	10.30	Cath Stevenson, Janice Collins & Judith Bramall
21st	10.30	Pat Croker & Mary Bailey
28th	10.30	Liz Haigh & Liz Avison

AUGUST

4th	10.30	Ruth & Tony Elvery
11th	10.30	Lilian Tildesley, Una Peters & Jill Groom
18th	10.30	Linda & Kevin Foster & Marilyn Woodrow
25th	10.30	Shirley & Keith Sargeant & Peggy Long

SEPTEMBER

1st	10.30	Lynda Young & Elizabeth Wilcock
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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

COFFEE MORNING

There will be a coffee morning held in aid of Naomi House and Jack's Place Hospice for young people on **Wednesday, 4th September** between 10.00 am and 12 Noon in our Church Hall.

Entry £1.00



TOGETHER FOREVER

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat are really good friends.

DOOR STEWARDS

JULY

7th	10.30	Linda & Kevin Foster
14th	10.30	Garry Bagshaw & Judith Bramall
	18.30	A N Other
21st	10.30	Bobby & Patrick Watson
28th	10.30	Bobby & Patrick Watson
	18.00	Eric Wheeler

AUGUST

4th	10.30	Brenda & Peter Taylor
11th	10.30	Lynda Young & Mary Bailey
18th	10.30	Liz Haigh & Lynda Haydon-Jones
25th	10.30	Margaret & Bob Temple

SEPTEMBER

1st	10.30	Garry Bagshaw & Shirley & Keith Sargeant
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FLOWER ROTA

JULY

7th	José Barney
14th	Mavis Parish
21st	Linda & Kevin Foster
28th	Jill & Malcolm Race

AUGUST

4th	Eric Wheeler
11th	Garry Bagshaw
18th	Maude Lovell
25th	Flower Fund

SEPTEMBER

1st	Flower Fund
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PRESS DATE

All items for the **SEPTEMBER** Magazine should be placed in the box in the Welcome Area or handed to the editor - **Jill Groom** - by **Lunchtime** on **Friday 23 AUGUST 2013** please.

Fareham Focus is available on²⁸ the Fareham Church Website
