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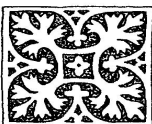
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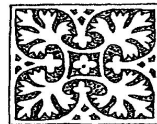
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September
2014



**Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine**



There is a river
whose streams make glad the city of God

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Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

SERVICES DURING SEPTEMBER

7th	10.30	Ref Claire Simpson	Holy Communion, Covenant and Junior Church promotion
	18.30	Rev Andrew Wood	Circuit Welcome Service at St James's Emsworth (Tea and cake from 16.00 at Methodist Church)
14th	10.30	Jean Hooper	
18th	14.30	Gill Bailey	At the Red House Care Home
21st	10.30	Wendy Corney	All Age Worship -
28th	10.30	Pam Davey	
	18.00	Rev Claire Simpson	Iona Holy Communion

SERVICES DURING OCTOBER

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

21st Sept	10.30	Tracy Cooper at Bridgemary
28th Sept	18.30	Andrew Wilcock at Drayton
5th Oct	10.30	Fareham Team at Gosport

Dear friends,

Happy New Year! Many of you will know that the Methodist Connexional year begins on Sept 1st and so we begin another year with renewed enthusiasm and commitment. Our Covenant service on the 7th September reminds us of our commitment both as individuals and together as God's people to serve Him in the different ways that he calls us to. We also move into the second year of our (not so) 'new' Circuit. I commend to you the Circuit newsletter and website (details opposite) as a way in which you can find out what is happening in the life of our Circuit and get involved in the events and activities that draw us together with our brothers and sisters in Christ from across the area. The new Circuit came together to 'reshape for mission' and the Circuit is there not only to help us identify with and encourage others, but also to support local churches in their mission.

So, at the start of another year of serving Christ in our local community, we seek to remind ourselves of our mission here at Fareham. William Temple (Archbishop of Canterbury 1942-44) said 'the church is the only society on earth that exists for the benefit of non-members'. Whether we think that bold claim is true or not, it does seek to remind us of our mission. As God's people we are called to serve our community and demonstrate God's love and presence in the world beyond the limits of our own church community. We do this in the hope that more will come into the life of the church and into a living relationship with God in Jesus Christ. At Fareham Methodist Church we have many activities and groups that seek to reach out to others under the umbrella of mission. To try to bring together all that we do we are holding a 'Mission Group' meeting on Wednesday 24th September at 7.30pm in the church for all those involved in mission activities. This is also an open meeting so *anyone* who is interested in the mission of the church is invited to attend. You will also see in 'vestry jottings' there is a suggestion for a 'strap-line' for our church which seeks to encapsulate in a few words what we are about as God's people. Your views, thoughts and ideas would be really welcome on this too.

Together we build one another up so that we are empowered by God's Spirit to be the people of God. And the best of all is that God is with us every step of the way, for without Him we cannot be the body of Christ that he is always calling us to be. With love, Claire

CHURCH NEWS

FLOWER MINISTRY

Thanks have been received for flowers and visits from Maude Lovell, Lilwen Watkins, Lynda Thomas and Mavis Parish. Rita Jackson received flowers when Gordon came home from hospital and is sorry to say that he has had to return to hospital again. Lilian Tildesley also phoned just two weeks before she died to ask that her thanks be given for flowers.

Lilian Tildesley 31st Dec 1929 - 4th August 2014

Lilian was a true and trusted friend to all at Fareham Methodist Church. A service of Thanksgiving for her life was held at the church following cremation on Thursday 28th August..

The service was well attended by family, friends and church friends and all were glad to reflect on the life of a faithful Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother and lifelong Methodist.

Two of her sons paid tribute to Lilian one recalling happy times in Australia and particularly Alderney where Lilian's ashes are to be scattered alongside where her husband Lawson's ashes were also scattered.

Rev. Claire paid tribute to the many years she had been a member of this church recalling how she had at one time taught in Junior Church, and had been a Pastoral visitor for many years. She spoke about her unfailing support of all that happened at the church mentioning particularly (as had Lilian's son) her help at the Monday Mini-market. Her quiet patient endurance was respected by so many.

VESTRY JOTTINGS

We hope that everyone has had a good summer and is looking forward to the New Year, in Methodist terms.

Harvest is around the corner in October and so in this month's Focus Sheila Dyer and Linda Young have written a piece about the two charities we will be supporting. The Food Bank and Women's Refuge. Please read and help us support them next month. There will be more about this in next month's jottings.

In an earlier edition of Focus, the Outreach Group requested ideas for a 'Strap Line' for use in our church. 'Praising God: Serving the Community' has been put forward as a possibility for the stewards to consider at our next meeting on Monday September 29th. Do you have any other ideas that you would like us to consider? **Please speak to a steward if you have. All possibilities** will then be brought to Church Council on October 5th. If any is approved it will be used on **all church materials and documents.**

We are very grateful to Bobby Watson who has worked extremely hard to arrange the funding and purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator. We hope that we never have to use it but we know that having quick access to this equipment CAN save lives.

We ask on behalf of Claire, that we respect her day off, Saturday, and are not surprised if she does not answer messages on that day. Please contact one of us if we can be of help.

Finally a reminder that if you would like to take part in the next safeguarding session for young people and vulnerable adults it will take place at Portchester on October 4th. Please let Maggie know if you wish to attend.

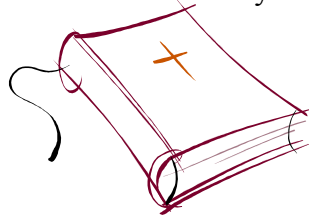
Thank you once again for the stamps that you and the people of Fareham Methodist sent in to the Bible Society.

We are very grateful for your support, which helps us as we seek to make the Bible heard by people everywhere. Whilst we continue to make Bibles available where there are none through Bible translation and distribution projects around the world, we also recognize a new challenge to make the biblical message more relevant and credible to the millions of people in our own society who are seeking a sense of purpose and direction in life. To find out more about Bible Society's important work please visit: www.biblesociety.org.uk .

Stamp corner began in 1906 and thanks to people like you it continues to generate funds for Bible work worldwide! Please keep sending in stamps and postcards to continue this vital work.. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Killian Sheppard



Greetings from the Far North.

It has taken about a month from leaving Fareham to moving in to our “new” home in Cullercoats, which is about 10 minutes walk from the sea and 2 minutes from our local church. If you want to know more about the area, ask Keith Sargeant, who knows it well. The move itself was a bit of a roller-coaster, but we (including the cats) are getting settled in pretty well. After 30 years in Fareham, we are learning to cope with long forgotten dialect words – no problem with the accent!!

There have been problems with telephones, but our e-mail remains as shown in the Church Directory. We know that several people have links with this area and would be happy to see them, should they decide to venture this far north! Best wishes to you

A big THANK YOU to the Wednesday Fellowship for their generous donation to Fareham Stroke Club. We are most grateful for your support. Lynda Young

Thank you to all those who sponsored me on my walk across The Pennines. I was given £200 from church members and the grand total I raised on the Cancer Research website was a fantastic £2000.
Tony Emberson



On a very hot day in July the group went to Old Portsmouth to join Eric who gave us a wonderful walk. We covered the area and the history of the Cathedral, (Old Sally Port) and The Royal Garrison Church. We finally had a look around the tea making business All About Tea importers and blenders of fine tea.

Our thanks go to Eric for organising such an interesting walk and Shirley who runs this small but very friendly group.

At our 50th Wedding Anniversary tea and cake afternoon in July, we raised £300 which we donated to the Macmillan Centre at the Queen Alexandra Hospital. Thank you to all who supported us on the day, and also for the many cards and good wishes we received.
Graham and Sheila

Ruth and Antony Hollinghurst are delighted to announce the arrival of a granddaughter, Charlotte, a second daughter to David and Tara.



Wednesday, 10th September 2014
Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road,
Fareham

4.00pm – 6.00pm

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

The theme will be:

The Woman at the
Well



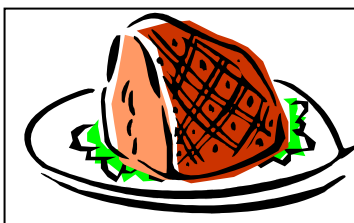
SUNDAY LUNCH 14th SEPT at 12.15 p.m.approx. The second Sunday of the month for this month only

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 Live at Home Scheme. 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: Roast Pork, Apple sauce, sausages, Roast potatoes and a selection of vegetables.



Puddings: Variety

There will be a list in the vestibule for you to sign. Please come along and enjoy a Sunday Lunch! Everyone is welcome even at the last minute!!

OUR NEW iPad SP1

Many of you will have seen that we have a new piece of equipment erected close to the telephone. It is an Automated External Defibrillator iPad SP1. (Intelligent Public Access Defibrillator)



The cost of the Defibrillator has been covered by our two County Councillors: Mr Peter Latham and Mr George Ringrow, for which we are truly grateful. We have it because of the numbers of people of all ages that come through our premises each week. The machine can be used on both adults and children.

This piece of equipment is for **ANYONE** to use when needed. Later this month Maggie Wheeler will be arranging a “drop in” evening at Church to demonstrate how the machine will work and practice using a dummy machine. **All** members of the congregation and **regular hirers** of our premises will be welcome.

Many of us have had First Aid training and know that speed is essential if someone collapses and it is thought that they have stopped breathing or the heart is beating irregularly or not at all. The fast application of this machine on a person who has collapsed and stopped breathing **can save lives**. So phone an ambulance and grab the machine.

Remember you do not have to be trained to use it; it is perfectly safe and the machine will not shock the patient if it is not needed.

We all hope that the machine never has to be used **but** It is better to have it in place just in case.

EAST FAREHAM HOUSE GROUP

Sept 17th chapter 9 The Sundays before Advent

Oct.22nd chapter 1 Advent

Nov 19th chapter2 Christmas

Dec17th Christmas celebrations

2015

Jan 21st chapter 3 Epiphany

All meetings are at Joan and Jeff's house and start at 7.30pm

PASTORAL MEETING

The next Pastoral Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 30th September at 7.30pm in the Worship Area of the Church.

Sally and Karen

HARVEST GIFTS

This year the Harvest Produce is to be shared between the Basics Bank and the Women's Refuge.

The Women's Refuge welcomes tins, packages of dried food, but can also accept fresh items as well as they are used "in house". The residents and volunteers are always most grateful for any items donated to them.

The Basics Bank particularly require the following items:

Toiletries including toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, toilet rolls, and nappies;

Tinned goods, including vegetables, meat, fish and soups;

Long life milk; sugar; cereals.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP AUTUMN PROGRAMME

Everyone is welcomed to our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in each month.

Most of our Meetings are in the Wickham Room and begin at 2.00pm. Tea is available from 1.45pm except on the 10th December when Tea will be after the Meeting.

10th September	A relaxing afternoon with Cath Stevenson
24th September	Annual General Meeting
8th October	Life in the Military Police with Brenda Bennett
22nd October	Recent Travels with Jill Groom
12th November	A representative from the British Legion will talk about the Organisation
26th November	Christmas Tree Festival preparations
10th December	Christmas Service in the Worship Area followed by Tea and Mince pies in the Wickham Room

Badminton will be held on the 2nd & 4th Fridays in September, October & November. No badminton in December.
Mark Brooks



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

Coffee Centre every Thursday 9.30 to 11.45 am

TOPICS OF INTEREST

FAREHAM GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Fareham good Neighbours are looking for more volunteers. The latest newsletter is on the notice board in the corridor. If you would like to volunteer to be a Good Neighbour, please come to the next meeting at the URC on Tuesday 16th September at 7p.m. or phone F. 286486.

Many thanks, Jill.

Thank you so much for all the donations and gifts for the Ukraine Christian Partnership trip this summer. It seemed to be very successful and the children and people were very pleased to see us, especially with the war going on in Eastern Ukraine - a very unsettling time for everyone with the men, up to age 60, being called up for the army! The children enjoyed the summer school even if those running it were exhausted! Very many thanks Jill Groom

SYRIA

BIG WINTER AID DROP article extracted by Bobby from the Radio Times

“Urgently needed new knitted or crocheted clothing for anyone from newborns to adults plus new baby blankets. (unfortunately we can only accept new items because of import restrictions). From October, people will be able to donate to the Aid Drop all over the country.”

For more details see handinhandforsyria.org.uk/knit-for-Syria/.

Is this something we would like to be involved in? Have a look on

Membership statistics are a 'challenge to the Church', says General Secretary

30 June 2014 Extract from E newsletter 25th July

Methodists urged to 'reclaim evangelism'

The General Secretary of the Methodist Church is encouraging Methodists to rise to the challenge of falling membership figures.

Presenting [his report](#) to the Methodist Conference today, the Revd Dr Martyn Atkins highlighted the Church's [latest statistics](#), which indicate a significant drop in Church membership over the last ten years.

"However the Statistics for Mission report is understood and interpreted it does not make for easy or comfortable reading," said Dr Atkins. "If ever we needed any encouragement to continue to focus on those things that make for an ever better Church which is a discipleship movement shaped for mission today, then these statistics provide that."

In light of these figures, Dr Atkins urged Conference members to consider how the Church might best use its resources, especially its church buildings, saying, "There was - and remains still - a generally held view that we have too many church properties, not all in the best location or condition to enable us to engage as effectively in God's mission as we desire."

The Statistics for Mission report itself is due to be debated by the Conference on Wednesday 2 July. It shows that, although Methodist membership is in general decline, there are some areas of growth, particularly where churches are trying something new.

"As I travel around the Church, I sense a growing desire to reclaim evangelism as a crucial part of God's mission. The main thing is not merely the survival of an institution, even a wonderful institution like our beloved Church. Rather we are realising afresh that the best thing that anyone can do, whoever they are, wherever they live, at whatever time and in whatever circumstances is to become a disciple of Jesus Christ. And consequently seeking and finding apt, relevant, sensitive and effective ways of presenting Jesus Christ to the world in which we live with so many and so different others, is the critical task of the Church today."

LUNCH FOR RETIRED MEN

Venue: **The Sail Maker, near the Leisure Centre and Planet Ice Rink.**

Cost £6.50 **Start date, Wednesday 24th September at 1pm.**

This is a new monthly venture promoted by MHA and the Gosport Live at Home Scheme.

Stephen Wright will be your host on the day.

Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Lucy Rothwell tel. 01329 234409

Live at Home Scheme Office

Gosport Live at Home Scheme

Gregson Avenue PO13 0PJ www.mha.org.uk



PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

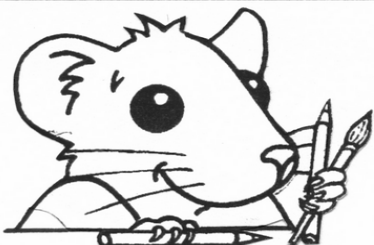
Parent and Toddlers is a lively happy group of mums, dads, grandparents and carers with young children from 2 weeks to 4 years although one mother did return one week after giving birth to her second child! We meet on Tuesdays in term time from 9.45am until 11.45am and have any number of toddlers each week from 14 to 30. This can be quite crowded but I haven't turned anyone away yet!

There are lots of toys, games and puzzles to amuse the children and 2 craft tables which can involve anything from chalking, painting, gluing or cooking. All the children eat fruit, breadsticks, crisps and sweet biscuits. Adults all have a coffee or tea and plenty of biscuits too. The food is served after a loud singing and actions session sometimes using the musical instruments.

Linda Brooks is support leader. Pat Croker organises the refreshment rota which consists of Pat, Jill Race and Gillian Jay who prepare the hot drinks and snacks for 11am and then wash up. If anyone would like to add their name to the refreshment rota, please see Pat Croker. You would only need to do one morning a month in term time and the Christmas Party is great fun for all.

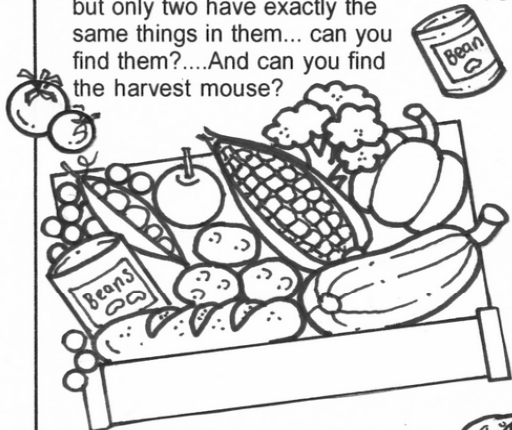
Some of the families have been to Messy Church, taken part in the Nativity Service and joined my Brownie Pack. The parents are very sup-

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN



Mouse Makes

The boxes are full of harvest food for Harvest Thanksgiving, but only two have exactly the same things in them... can you find them?....And can you find the harvest mouse?



'Let us *fear* and *respect* the Lord our God.

He gives us autumn and spring rains at the right time.

He makes sure that we have the harvest at just the right time.'

Jeremiah 5:24



HARVEST THANKSGIVING

'May the peoples praise you, God!

May all the peoples praise you.

**The land yields its harvest;
God, our God blesses us."**

Psalm 67:5-6



'Honour the Lord with your wealth and the first part of your harvest'.

Proverbs 3:9



'God...gives you rain from heaven and good harvests at the right times. He gives you plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy'

Acts 14:16-17





HILDEGARD of BINGEN

Hildegard was born in Germany in 1098 and at a very early age she dedicated her life to God by becoming a nun. She lived to be 80, a great age for that time and is best known today for her songs and poems. It seems quite amazing that an elderly nun who lived nearly a thousand years ago could write words that are on a CD that you can buy today – not quite Top of the Pops but in all the bigger record shops!



Hildegard wrote that she wanted to be 'a feather on the breath of God', to move as He wanted rather than as she wanted. When we say the Lord's Prayer we say 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done' we follow Hildegard in asking to be shown what to do, which way to go. Not like a feather blown about by the wind, but one blown on the breath of God.

BIRD WORDS

Can you find all these words about birds and feathers? The words go up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally and some letters are used more than once.

B L A C K B I R D C
P K R A L Y K S A O
E T E R N A L N O C
A K R E H T A E F K
C R P A R R O T R A
O N A L Y W R E N T
C W B V U E V O D O
K L L R E M D A B O
N O R E H N E J A Y
R O B I N L L I U Q

* blackbird * canary * cockatoo *
* dove * feather * heron * jay *
* owl * parrot * peacock * plum
* quill * raven * robin * skylark *
* tern * wren *

**My cat took first prize in the
local bird show.**

How could your cat get a prize in
a bird show?

He ate the prize canary.



**What bird is always out of
breath?**

A puffin.

DIARY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER AND EARLY OCTOBER

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 9.30 M.Market	2 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	3 10.00 Heal- ing Gp 10.00 Naomi House Coffee Morn- ing 19.00 Guides	4 09.30 Coffee am 17.30 Brown- ies	5 13.00 Lunch	6
8 9.30 M Market	9 9.45 Parent & Toddlers 20.00 Ladies Night - Marilyn's	10 14.00 Wednesday Fellowship 16.00 Messy Ch. 19.30 E Fare.HG 19.30 PAX Hg	11 9.30 Cof- fee am 10.00 Messy Church plan. 17.30 Brownies. 19.30 Singing Gp	12 18.00 Badminton etc	13 9.30 District Synod @ Water- looville
15 9.30 M.Market	16 9.45 Parent & Toddlers Tues H.grp 15.00 La- dies N. tea 19.00 Good neighbours URC	17 19.15 CTiF Meeting Guides 19.30 East Fareham Hg	18 9.30 Coffee am 14.30 Red House 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing Gp	19	20
22 9.30 M.Market	23 9.45 Par.& Tod- dlers 10.00 W.Fareham Hg 10.00 Tuesday Am Hg 19.30 Ladies N. at Fernehall Hall	24 13.00 Men's Lunch 14.00 Wednesday Fellowship A G M 19.30 Mission Grp. Meeting all welcome	25 9.30 Cof- fee am 17.30 Brown- ies. 19.30 Singing Gp	26 18.00 Badminton etc	27 10.00 Circuit Quiet Day—Southsea
29 9.30 Mini Market	30 9.45 Parent & Toddlers 19.30 Pas- toral meet- ing	1 19.30 Guides	2 9.30 Coffee am 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing Gp	3 13.00 Friday Lunch	4 Safeguarding Portchester

The diary dates as provided on previous page are presented in the same format as the Church website. They are as accurate as the information held at the time of going to press, but should only be used as a guide, which can be updated with information from the weekly notice sheet..

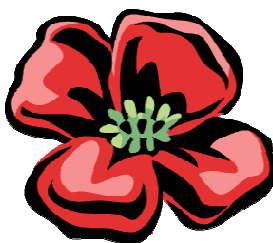
On Thursday 31st July, on a visit to London whilst walking in St James's Park, we came across an exhibition of very recent photographs of World War 1 battle sites. They were lovely scenes, some still showing evidence of battle, some showing completely unspoilt landscapes. Beneath these wonderful pictures were reminiscences, poems, medals and other relics from The First World War.

One short poem caught my imagination:

“If in this place
you are detained,
don't look around you
all in vain
but cast your net
and you will find,
that every cloud
is silver lined.
Still.”

“Anonymous poem found in a tunnel at La Boisselle, France.”

An example of how strong the human spirit can be even in the darkest



DOOR STEWARDS

SEPTEMBER

7th	10.30	Bobby & Patrick Watson
14th	10.30	Liz Haigh & Lynda Haydon-Jones
21st	10.30	Sally Bland & Brenda Bennett
28th	10.30	Margaret & Bob Temple
	18.00	Eric Wheeler

OCTOBER

5th	10.30	Sue & Bob Metcalf
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FLOWER ROTA

SEPTEMBER

7th	Flower Fund In memory of Lilian Tildesley
14th	Margaret & Bob Temple
21st	Shirley Sargeant
28th	Maggie Allingham & Bill Batchelor

OCTOBER

5th	Ruth Elvery
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REFRESHMENT ROTA

SEPTEMBER

7th	Cath Stevenson, Janice Collins & Judith Bramall
14th	Pat Croker & Mary Bailey
21st	Liz Haigh & Liz Avison
28th	Ruth and Tony Elvery

OCTOBER

5th	Una Peters & Pat Metcalf
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PRESS DATE

All items for the **OCTOBER, 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 **Thursday, 25th September 2014 please.**

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website