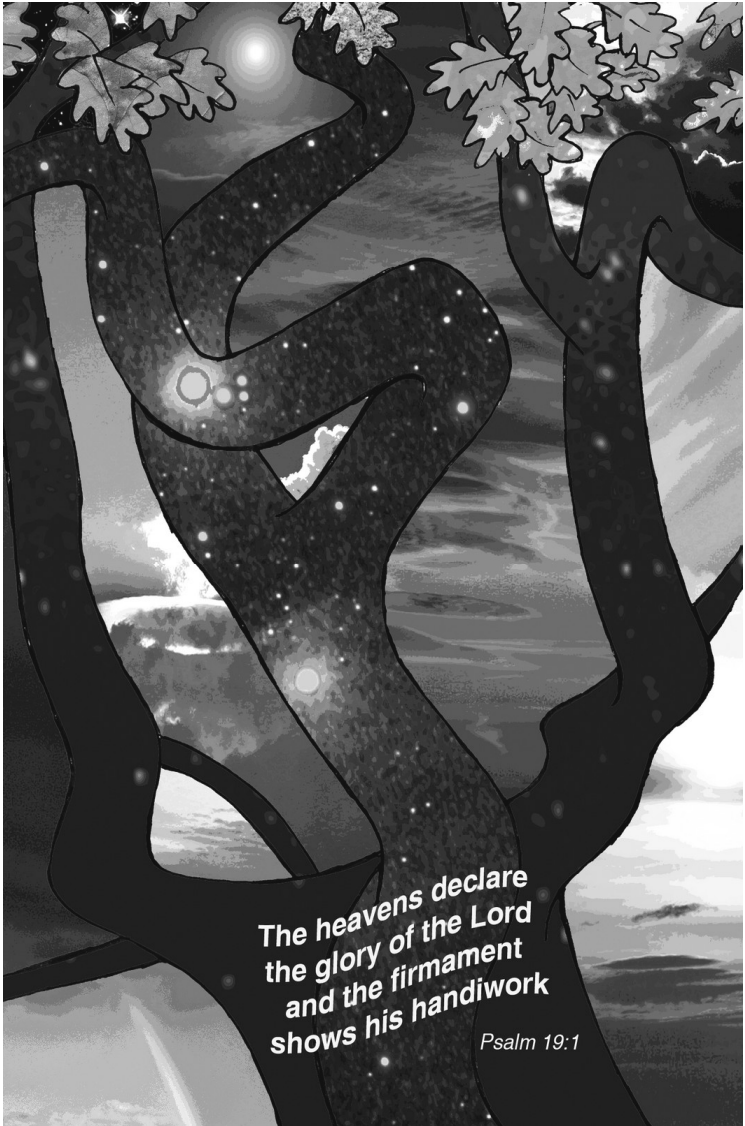


FAREHAM OCCU

Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine



Registered Charity No. 1127814

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SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

SEPT

4th	10.30	Revd Claire Simpson	Holy Communion
	16.00	Circuit service at Petersfield M.C.	
11th	10.30	Mrs Christine Hargrave	
18th	10.30	Mrs Pam Davey	All age worship
25th	10.30	Fareham Team	
	18.00	Revd Claire Simpson	Iona Holy Communion

OCT

2nd	10.30 am	Revd Claire Simpson	Family Holy Communion and Harvest Festival
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LOCAL PREACHER'S AND TEAM APPOINTMENTS

11th Sept	Tracy Cooper	Portchester 10.30
18th Sept	Andrew Wilcock	Gosport 10.30
25th Sept	Andrew Wilcock	Wymering 11.00

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

Dear friends,

As September begins may I take the opportunity to wish you a happy new year! As I write this letter to you I am again reminded that the Methodist church year is not dissimilar to the school year. I have just taken the boys for the annual trip to Skoolkit (other school uniform stockists are available) to buy the new parts of the school uniform that they need to begin the new term. We don't look forward to the trip (not least because it makes a dent in the bank balance) but today the sun is shining and a very helpful shop assistant made the experience so much easier! As an ex- teacher and a parent I have always liked the idea of a school uniform. I like the way in which it makes everyone equal and, in an individual and self-obsessed world, it gives those who wear it a shared identity and a sense of belonging to something bigger than just themselves.

In the church we don't wear a uniform as such, but we share an identity where everyone is valued and each of us has a sense of belonging to something 'bigger' than ourselves. Our uniform is not so much physical clothing but a spiritual clothing shaped by our values and our belief in God revealed as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. How will we wear our uniform in the coming year? How will we continue to work together in our common goal and shared identity to witness to a world that needs to know the love of God more than ever?

The challenges of the coming year await us – may we meet them with grace and with an energy that seeks to discern the things of God for this time and place.

With love

Claire

Healing Group

Healing group is on Wednesday October 5th at 10.00am at Joan and Jeff Padley's house.

Rita Jackson

CHURCH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Vestry Jottings

We wish you all a Happy New Year and hope everyone has enjoyed the lovely summer weather.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the very successful holiday club. It was a super time and we look forward to future events. Also I would like to thank all those who helped with the 'big clean' and helped Linda with the kitchen clean.

We now look forward to the future. Jean Petter is updating the church directory over the coming months, We know several people have moved or maybe have changed their contact details, either Email or phone, and we have been joined by new friends since the last directory was published. If you would like to update or join the directory please chat with Jean. The directory is for church friends only and is for 'in house' use.

Our next big event will be Harvest. Please join us to celebrate on the first weekend in October. Further details are given below.

If we can help in any way then please contact a steward.

Maggie

Harvest supper

This will take place on Friday September 30th at 6.00pm and will be an American Supper and Quiz night.

There will be a list in the welcome area for people to put their names down to bring either a savoury or sweet dish. Teas coffees and soft drinks will be supplied.

There will be no charge, but donations towards Church funds will be appreciated.

Brenda Bennett

Harvest Festival October 2nd

Our Harvest gifts this year are going to support the work of the Basics Bank. The Church will be open from 10am until noon on Saturday 1st October to receive your contributions. Thank you

Sheila Dyer

ROSEMARIE ANNE JACKSON 20th May 1936 to 30th June 2016

Rosemarie died on 30th June 2016 in the Rowan's Hospice. An active member of our congregation for over forty years and a former editor of the church magazine for about 25 years she will be missed by so many. Claire eloquently gave the eulogy in two parts at her special service on 15th July. One celebrated her contribution to church life in so many ways over the years and the other celebrated her rich contribution to Education, as well as remembering other aspects of her long life. Her Grandson gave a heart warming reading. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Tony and the rest of her family as they come to terms with their loss.

Ruth (Editor)

Rosemarie wanted to write a "thank you" letter herself for all the cards and flowers she received from you all when she went into the Rowans, but in the event she was unable to hold a pen. It is a testimony of the affection in which she was held that so many joined in the celebration and thanks-giving of her life. A big THANK YOU to everybody who helped to make it such a memorable day.

Tony Jackson

BEATRICE MAUDE LOVELL 3rd May 1917 to 8th July 2016

A member of our congregation for many years, Maude died at the great age of 99 having lived independently since the death of her husband.. Our thoughts and prayers go to her family. Ruth

When I first came to Fareham Church and joined the Tuesday Housegroup, Maude was a member. I remember her as a quiet person who often didn't say a lot, but her contribution was always worth listening to. She was a lovely lady and I felt privileged to have known her.

Linda Press

We send our warmest congratulations to Eric Wheeler who celebrated his 90th Birthday during August. A stalwart of our church for many years, you are an example to us all Eric!



THANK YOU

Thank you for your kind wishes, choral renderings and Birthday cards . It has been a wonderful celebration. Thank you also for church flowers.

Eric Wheeler

Diamond Wedding

Congratulations to Pat and Tony Pickering on their recent diamond wedding.

A Reminder

The next Church and Community meeting will be held at Church on Wednesday 21st September at 7.30 pm. Apologies can be given to Lynda Young on 07771 964 314 or 01329 505466 (my new land-line number).

LyndaYoung

Tuesday (Snug) Housegroup

Our next meeting will be on September 20th at 10.30, when we will start looking at the York Course “Glimpses of God”. Linda Press



Wednesday, September 14th 2016

The ten lepers



Where is the tenth leper?

Come and find out.

Join us for games, craft, worship and a meal.

Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road,

Fareham PO16 0NU

3.30pm – 6.00pm

See us on Facebook!

Transport Enthusiasts Group

On the 4th August members of the group visited the Mid Hants Railway, the Watercress Line at Alresford. Riding the steam hauled train to Alton and back to Alresford via a stop at Ropley gave us an opportunity to view, on a clear and sunny day the stunning scenery in this part of Hampshire, most of which is unspoilt and open farmland. Together with our antique coaches, shiny restored steam engine and the rebuilt or refurbished line side buildings and stations it was easy to think that one had drifted back to a past era. The engineering works at Ropley offered an insight into the busy industry of steam and diesel preservation together with coach and wagon refurbishment. A very interesting day and an experience that I am sure we will repeat in the near future together with visits to other venues. Our next meetings are on the 1st September and the 6th October, 10 am during the Coffee Morning at our church, all are welcome to join us for a yarn and a chat about all things transport!

Tony Elvery

Thursday Prayer Circle

The Prayer Circle, which is open to all, will recommence on Thursday 1st September and will continue on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from 10.15 am to 11.15 am. It has been agreed that we should have a Prayer Tree in the Welcome Area with Prayer Leaves in a basket for anyone at any time to request a prayer and hang it on the tree. Each time the Prayer Circle meets the Tree will be stripped and all prayers used during the session.

Remember all are welcome to join us on a Thursday morning even if you cannot stay for the whole session.

This Tree does NOT replace the Church Prayer book on the lectern in the Welcome Area; that will continue as in the past. Any requests on the Prayer Tree for healing for specific people will be passed, with permission, to the Healing Prayer group.

The Tree will remain in the Welcome area all year EXCEPT at Advent when the Advent Prayer Tree will be situated there, and during Lent when the Lenten Cross will be in place.

SUNDAY LUNCH 18th September at 12.15 p.m.

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 to 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 egg mayonnaise

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!

All Heroes at the Holiday Club!

The week of the 8th -12th August was made very special for sixty children aged five to eleven with a week of activities showing children that as well as the stars of the Olympics children can be heroes too with Jesus being our special Hero.

The success of the week was due to the wonderful support from the volunteers from our own church and others in Fareham. Thank you all so much and for those who supported with prayers.

The week had been over a year in the planning by Christians Together in Fareham and was led by a team from Burton on Trent.

The leader Phil, provided a special focus of 'Jesus our Hero' in an action-packed session at the beginning and end of each morning.

Children were in age groups and rotated round a range of craft, science and sporting activities including a bouncy castle, go-carts, scalextric and remote controlled cars. This was based at our church throughout the week and at Holy Trinity on three of the days.

Each morning concluded with lunch provided by a team from our church so ably co-ordinated by Jill Groom. Thank you Jill and your helpers.

To give a flavour of the week, here are reflections from the Brooks family, Joseph aged ten who attended each day, Sarah and Katie who helped with the children and mum Linda from a parent's perspective.

Joseph said: 'I had an incredible time! I enjoyed the power tank and the showers experienced by those voted into it! My best inside activity was the hockey when we got to play in teams and outside I really enjoyed the go-carts because even though it was pedal power they go really fast!'

Sarah and Katie: 'It was a fantastic way to get into working with young people! Everyone was so well supported. The number of leaders allowed for each individual child, whatever their needs, to fully take part. Every day was full of energy!'

Linda: 'It was extremely well organised, excellent value for money and fun! It was fantastic that children from other churches in Fareham were together as well as many children and families who were new to a church environment. I felt that the children were safe and secure in a child-friendly setting. It was a perfect theme for the age group and they clearly received the message that 'Jesus is a Hero' and they can be too in their everyday lives!'

It was a privilege to be a part of this Christians Together in Fareham project. Thank you everyone for your support.

Kevin Foster,
Children and Young People's Co-ordinator

Staggering Numbers

My legs have told me to give up being a helper at mini-market after about 30 years. But Liz Haigh still carries on having run it for 30 years too. I estimate that she has turned up early on at least 1300 Monday mornings with several pints of milk, bread, salad ingredients, having ensured that there were enough teabags, coffee and sugar. She has made about 10,000 sandwiches, same number of pieces of toast, served probably more pieces of cake, handed out about 80,000 cups of tea or coffee. She has greeted hundreds of people cheerfully and raised many thousands of pounds for the church and charity. OK, she has had the help of a band of volunteers on a rota, but she has been there all the time. Very well done thou true and faithful servant.



Christmas Tree Festival 1st 2nd and 3rd December, held in our Church, setting up is the afternoon of 30th November

Although it's only September, our Christmas Tree Festival preparations have now begun.

Alan and I are asking for volunteers, firstly to set the organising of our Festival in motion, so please join us for coffee at the Coffee Centre on Thursday 8th September at 10 am, **OR** we would love to hear your ideas and suggestions – see us in church, write us an email/note or leave a message on our phone. Secondly, if you would like to join the list of those who decorate a Christmas Tree to raise funds for a chosen charity, we will be delighted to hear from you and thirdly, in November we put out a Signing Up Board in the Welcome Area for helpers to set up, stewarding and tidying up, so please offer your support, we are showcasing our Church and raising funds for worthy charities. Alan and Janice Sargent, 01329 289741 or email:

Wednesday Fellowship

Meeting commences at 2.00pm with Tea from 1.45pm.

September 28th Annual General Meeting

PASTORAL MEETING

The next Pastoral Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 5th October at 7.30pm in the Worship Area of the Church.

We are in need of more Pastoral Visitors. If anyone would consider becoming a Pastoral Visitor please contact either Sally Bland or Karen Ferguson for details.



Thank you

Sally Bland and Karen Ferguson

Safeguarding

The next foundation module training will be held in this church Saturday October 15th. Training from 9.30 to 12.30 tea or coffee available from 9am. If you would like to join or know of someone who should be invited please let me know.

Thank you
Maggie

Fareham Methodist Church
Ladies Night at 8pm

Date	Activity/Speaker	Venue/ home of
Tuesday 6 th Sept.	Literacy Evening (plus Bring / Buy)	Pam Mullins
Tuesday 20 th Sept.	The Full Monty	Fernham Hall 1930 start
Tuesday 4 th Oct.	A Lady's life in Tudor Times	Meg Cox
Tuesday 18 th Oct.	Senior Moments – ? Jill's game (plus Bring/Buy)	Margaret Hen- derson
Tuesday 1 st Nov.	Craft evening for Xmas Tree Festi- val	Irene Russell
Tuesday 15 th Nov.	Planning (plus Bring/Buy)	Barbara Mat- thews
Tuesday 29 th Nov.	Television Topper TBC	Jill Groom
Tuesday 13 th Dec	Christmas Get To- gether	Garry Bagshaw

CIRCUIT NEWS

Extracts from the July Newsletter:

Mission Statement Over the last few months, considerable work and conversation has been taking place on the Circuit's Mission Statement. A draft was presented at the recent Circuit Meeting where it was approved for use. A hard copy has/will be sent to all churches in the Circuit. Please take the time to read and consider it in the context of your church and its mission.

Circuit Directory The electronic Circuit Directory, held in the Circuit Dropbox, is made available to members on a need to know basis. Historically, there was an annual paper edition, often soon out of date, whereas now data is continually updated as people's and churches details change. It is the responsibility of churches and individuals to pass on any changes to ensure the Directory is always up to date. The intention is to provide each church with a hard copy for its reference. It should however be emphasised that the Directory holds people's private information and so should not be used or made available for general viewing or used for anything other than Church business.

David Rice says farewell to Petersfield Church where he has had pastoral oversight for the last two years. The good news is that David remains in the Circuit as a Supernumerary Minister.

□ Chris Taylor leaves her post as Circuit Administrator as she and Tim move to Somerset. Chris has been in post since 2008, as part of the PLH Circuit, until now as part of the ESAD Circuit.

Circuit Service To mark the beginning of a new year, there will be a Circuit Service on September 4th at Petersfield Church at 4pm. All welcome.



Extract from E-News reporting on the Annual Methodist Conference

What is marriage?

After discussions with thousands of people across the Connexion on marriage and relationships, led by a task group established by the Conference, a resolution was passed to reconsider the Church's definition of marriage.

This does not necessarily mean that there will be a change of definition, but that the Church wishes to re-examine it through a period of theological and scriptural reflection.



The statement on *A Christian Understanding of Family Life, the Single Person and Marriage* from 1992 may also be updated as part of that work, which will be led by a new working party.

The Revd Graham Carter, Chair of the Marriage and Relationships Task Group commented, "It is essential to take time over this issue because the process of finding a way forward is as important as reaching a decision. Enabling people in the church to talk openly about their differing convictions and value their common commitment to Jesus Christ is key to what it means to be a Christian community."

"The decision of the Conference to establish a working party on the matters of marriage and relationships is an important step which comes from a widespread conversation in which people have listened, respected each other's position and engaged in deep reflection together. The conversations will continue and we will go on responding to the challenges of interpreting God's love for today's society."

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Naomi House & Jacksplace Hospices Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning in the Church Hall on Wednesday 5th October from 10.00 – 12.00 in aid of Naomi House & Jacks place.

Entrance £1.50 includes tea/coffee and a piece of cake. Various stalls,



We believe in life before death

You are invited to a
Quiz and ploughman's supper
On
Saturday 29th October 2016 at 6.30pm

At
St John's Church Hall
Upper St Michael's Grove, Fareham

Spaces are limited so you need to get tickets
in advance.

Either gather your own team together
(up to eight people)
or just buy a ticket, come along and
join in with others

Ham or cheese ploughman's

Bring your own drinks and glasses

Tickets - £5 per person

For more details and tickets, please contact
Rachel Hicks (01329 312895) or your church rep:

HERITAGE TRAIL ART WORKSHOPS



**BOOKING
ESSENTIAL**

AGED 60 and over?

Join us for a series of workshops this September and a chance to learn more about Fareham's history, make new friends and get creative!

Work made during the workshops will lead to a Heritage Trail and Exhibition.

Mondays 19th, September Photography & Film, 26th September Art, 3rd October History Talk from local historian 1:30 - 3PM, only £2 per session

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE CALL 07941435835

email: beth@sticksgallery.co.uk VISIT: sticksgallery.co.uk



STICKS



GRANDPARENTS' FESTIVAL

A treat for grandparents and their
grandchildren to enjoy together



PROGRAMME: 1.45 Arrivals and welcome

2.00–3.30 **Fantastic Messy
Church activities**

Alongside exciting seminars from:

2.00–2.20 **Who Let The Dads Out?**

2.25–2.45 **The Gift of Years**

2.50–3.10 **Messy Church**

3.15–3.35 **Faith in Homes**

3.40 **Celebration all together**

4.00 **Party tea for everyone**

4.30 **Home**

TICKETS

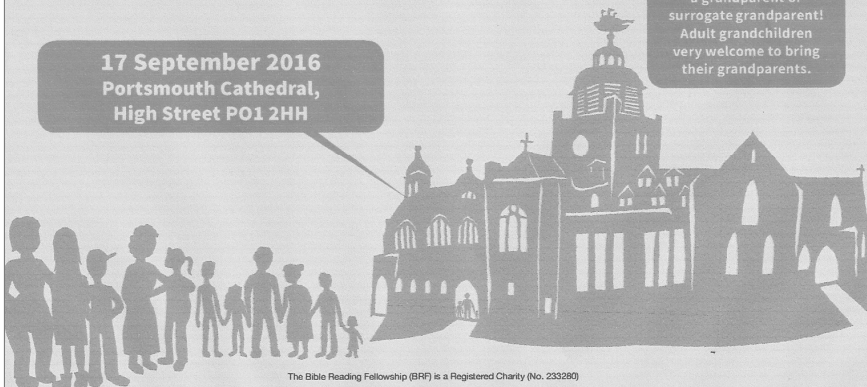
£5 per adult

£2.50 per under 16

All children must
be accompanied by
a grandparent or
surrogate grandparent!
Adult grandchildren
very welcome to bring
their grandparents.

To book go to www.brfonline.org.uk/gparentsfestival

17 September 2016
Portsmouth Cathedral,
High Street PO1 2HH



The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) is a Registered Charity (No. 233280)

Bible Sketchbook

A passion for learning



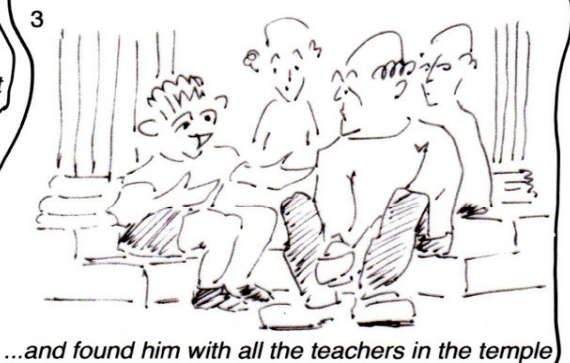
They were on their way back...but Jesus was not with them



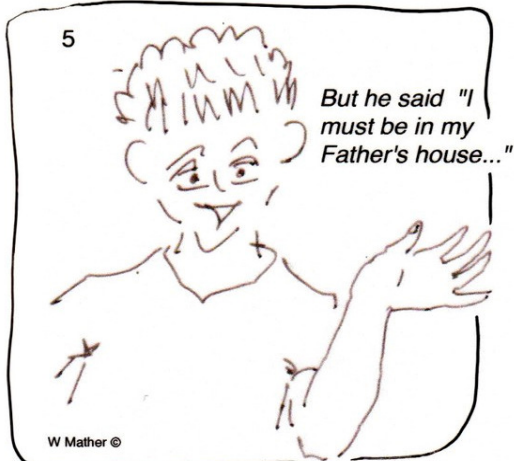
They searched for him everywhere...



Mum gave him a good telling off for not staying - and for worrying them so much



...and found him with all the teachers in the temple



But he said "I must be in my Father's house..."

W Mather ©

FLOWER MINISTRY

Louie Clement has asked me to thank everyone for the church flowers, delivered by Jean, and sends her best wishes to everyone at Fareham Methodist

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers given to me at Church on Sunday 7th August. It was totally unexpected and I continue to be overwhelmed by the friendliness and kindness extended to me by all at FMC

Sue Prior

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in sending the flowers and also to the gentleman who delivered them. They are beautiful. Alan Long

We were so pleased to receive the lovely Church flowers, cards and congratulations on the occasion of our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Thank all very much.

Pat and Tony Pickering

Thank you so much for the Church flowers. They have lasted at least 3 weeks and the colours are so beautiful. Lynda Thomas

Flowers.

Thanks as usual to all who have contributed to the Sunday church flowers.

There are still a few spaces left on the Flower Calendar in the corridor, after which the 2017 one will be displayed. If you would like to provide flowers which are distributed to church friends after they have first enhanced our Sunday worship, please sign up in a space or speak to Irene or me. Remember, if you cannot for various reasons, put them in yourself, we have a few volunteers to do them for you. By the way we can arrange access to church to allow you to arrange your flowers yourself at a suitable time on Saturday or early Sunday morning.

DIARY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
5 9.30 Mini- Market	6 9.45 Parent and Tod- dlers 20.00 Ladies Night	7	8 9.30 Coffee am 10.00 Christmas Tree Festival meet. 17.30 Brownies	9	10
12 9.30 Mini- Market	13 9.45 Parent and Tod- dlers	14 15.30 Messy Church	15 9.30 Coffee am 10.15 Prayer Cir- cle 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing grp.	16	17
19 9.30 Mini- Market	20 9.45 Parent and Tod- dlers 10.30 Snug House grp. 20.00 Ladies Night	21 19.30 Church and Community meeting	22 9.30 Coffee am 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing grp	23	24
26 9.30 Mini- Market	27 9.45 Parent and Tod- dlers	28 14.00 AGM Wed. Fellow- ship	29 9.30 Coffee am 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing grp	30 18.00 Har- vest Supper and Quiz	OCT 1
3 9.30 Mini- Market	4 9.45 Parent and Tod- dlers 20.00 Ladies Night	5 10.00 Heal- ing Group at Padley's 10.00 Naomi House Coffee am. 19.30 Pastoral meeting	6 9.30 Coffee am 10.00 Transport Enthusiasts 10.15 Prayer Cir- cle 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing grp	7	8

The diary dates as displayed are presented in the same format as the Church website. They are as accurate as the information provided 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..

The Identity Thief by Harry Hunter

The identity thief
Acts by stealth
He's in my computer
After my wealth
He's watching my coat
And when I'm off guard
He'll rifle my phone
And credit card
He's after my passport
Details of bank
He'll pilfer my
Name, number and rank
But he overlooks
And misunderstands
That my name is forever
Engraved in God's hands
My identity's sacred
And will always endure
Hidden in Christ
Safe and secure.



[https://
harry-
hunteronline.wordpress.com/](https://harry-hunteronline.wordpress.com/)



DOOR STEWARDS

SEP	4th	Lynda Young and Mary Bailey
	11th	Penny Garrett and Bob Temple
	18th	Pat Croker and Keith Sargeant
	25th	Tony Jackson and Patrick Watson
	25th at 18.00	Eric Wheeler
OCT	2nd	Liz Haigh and Lynda Hayden-Jones and Bobby and Patrick Watson

REFRESHMENT ROTA

SEP	4th	Sheila Dyer, Sarah Brooks and Meg Cox
	11th	Margaret Boyd and Jenny Chalmers
	18th	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland and Brenda Bennett
	25th	Cath Stevenson and Judith Bramall
OCT	2nd	Pat Croker and Mary Bailey

FLOWER ROTA

September	4th	Maud Lovell
	11th	Marion Bright
	18th	Bob and Margaret Temple
	25th	Margaret Salkeld
October	2nd	Tony Jackson

PRESS DATE

All items for the OCT. Focus should be emailed to ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk by noon of 22nd Sept, If this is not possible items can be placed in the box at church which will be emptied by the previous Sunday the 18th.

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website