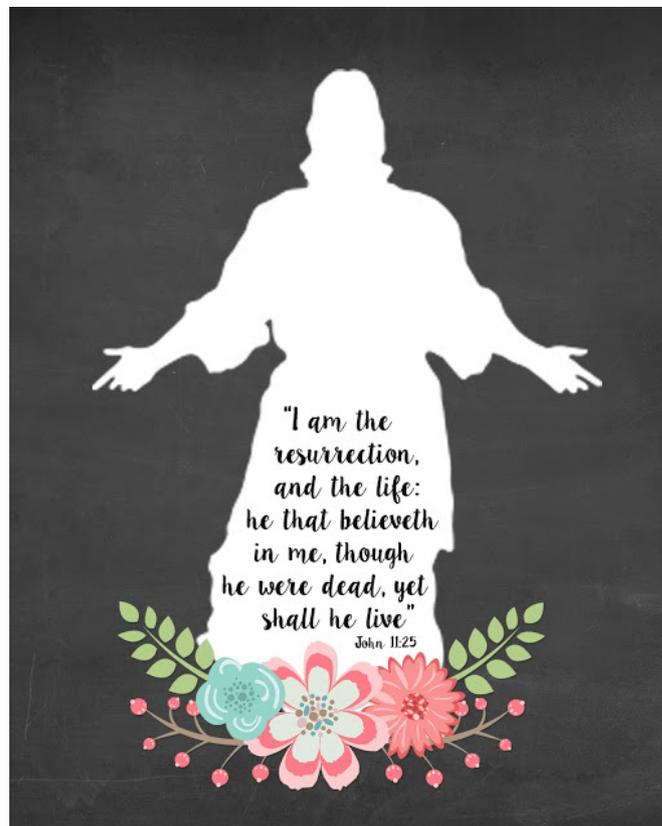


FAREHAM

eFOCUS



Fareham Methodist Church
eFocus April 2021
Registered Charity No 1127814

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www.farehammethodist.org.uk

Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

Vestry Jottings

Happy Easter.

As we are gradually coming out of lockdown it will be nice to be able to socialise once more, albeit sensibly. Many of us will have had at least one Covid jab so things are looking good.

Two weeks ago we welcomed Chris Woodhams on to the Steward's Team.

By now many of you will have received your new Church Directory courtesy of Jean Petter and your Pastoral Visitors. A huge thank you to Jean for all her hard work. Please dispose of the old directory appropriately because of Data Protection.

We would like to thank everyone for their kind contributions of hand cream on Saturday. A box went to Fareham Health Centre, Gudge Heath Lane Surgery, Highlands Surgery, Fareham Community Hospital and Ravenscroft.

Many thanks

Brenda
On behalf of the Stewards.

Services for the Month of April – 9th May

April 11 th	-	Fareham Team
18 th	-	Jean Hooper
25 th	-	Wendy Corney
May 2 nd	-	Andrew Wilcock
9 th	-	Revd. Andrew de Ville Church Anniversary

A very big thank you to my church family for wishing me Happy Birthday on 21st March. I count it as a second lockdown birthday, as I had to stay 2 metres away and couldn't mix last year too. It was really special to have the Ilahi family joining us and also to discover that I was sharing my birthday! I have been missing you so very much and cannot wait to see each other at church in person soon with no restrictions.

Many thanks,
Sarah Brooks

QUESTION:

Which is the only professional football team in Britain which is mentioned in the Bible?

ANSWER:

Queen of the South (Luke 11 v 31)
"The Queen of the South shall rise up at the judgement with men of this generation and condemn them".

Thank you Andrew Wilcock

The Red Robin



Cock Robin, he got a neat tippet in spring,
And he sat in a shed, and heard other birds sing.
And he whistled a ballad as loud as he could,
And built him a nest of oak leaves by the wood,
And finished it just as the celandine pressed
Like a bright burning blaze, by the edge of its nest,
All glittering with sunshine and beautiful rays,
Like high polished brass, or the fire in a blaze;
Then sung a new song on the edge o' the breere;
And so it kept singing the whole of the year,
Till cowslips and wilt roses blossomed and died,
The red robin sang by the old spinney side.

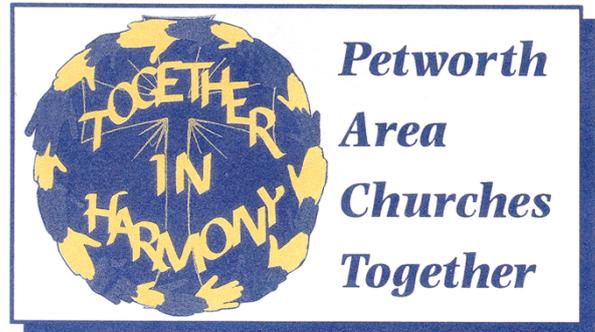
John Clare (1793 – 1864)
Thank you Elizabeth Wilcock

I would like to add my thanks to Lin for producing our magazine and to Judith for distributing it.

We have heard a lot over the last few months about the climate change emergency, so I would like to suggest that we keep the eFocus for those willing to receive it this way, and just print a few copies so that we are using less paper.

On a lighter note; I was talking to a friend from another church and she made the comment that when we are back in our buildings and things are more normal, our services will need to be “café church”, as people have got into the habit of coming to Zoom services with their cup of tea/coffee (and biscuit?). Maybe we should swap our chairs for armchairs and sofas!

Linda Press



Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) will hold its Spring Talk on **Friday April 16th 7.30** by Zoom. PACT's Talk will be given by

Lord Dr (Michael) Hastings of Scarisbrick CBE, Chancellor of Regent's University, London.

He will speak on the intriguing title "*The future we don't know*". The title sounds rather exciting given that the future for all of us is unknown!

He is also Professor of Leadership at the Stephen R. Covey Institute, Huntsman Business School, Utah State University, a Vice-President of UNICEF and Ambassador for Tearfund. He was Previously Head of Citizenship at KPMG International and the BBC's Head of Public Affairs, then Head of Corporate Responsibility.

All welcome. Free via ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86362967085?pwd=bEhhU0F0OS8zeEpzM001M1B WcVg5UT09> Meeting ID: 863 6296 7085 Passcode: 707071.

More information from

Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com 01798 342151 and PACT website at <https://petworthareachurchestogether.com/>

REFUGEE MATTERS (RM)

Update:

We are raising our ethical investment target from £250,000 to £350,000. Read on to find out the **good** reasons why!

We are responding to developments, thankfully all positive. It is astounding that in just 18 days we received £312,000 of 'expression of interest' to join an ethical investment group who will purchase a house and then let it to the refugee family that we will be welcoming to the Fareham area. Refugee families are not always shaped in the way we are familiar with and they can often be extended families. The UK benefits system has a benefits cap designed to encourage families to gain employment. Unfortunately it can easily take more than a year to equip refugee families with the language skills and qualifications to help them find work. Our research has shown that extended refugee families are likely not to be affected by the benefits cap which will then allow them the necessary time to learn English and become skilled for work.

We are therefore taking the step of increasing our target from £250,000 to £350,000 which will enable us to buy a 4-bed house rather than a 3-bed house. This is one of those rare win-win situations. The ethical investors get to help more refugees, the refugees will have less of a financial struggle to lead a new life here in the UK and RM will be satisfying the Home Office plea to welcome such extended families, of which they have 160, who they have been desperately wanting to place.

If you would like to have more details as to how you might be involved in this ethical investment please contact houseinvest@refugeematters.org or phone 07941 328278. At this point we are only seeking 'expressions of interest' and you will not be committed to proceed with the investment. Everyone can of course help by praying for us to reach our £350,000 target and also by praying for all refugees who have had to flee their homeland and have been living in appalling conditions in camps, often for years.

A big thankyou to all those who have already given an 'expression of interest'. I hope it is pleasing news your involvement is likely to result in helping even more refugees. One person has already contacted me to say they would like to increase their investment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to do the same.

Paul Tomlinson



Food for thought...?

In his book, 'Let us dream - the path to a better future', Pope Francis expresses concern that the world is already moving back to the old norms instead of learning from the experiences of the last year and creating a new, better and more equitable norm for everyone the world over.

The Pope states that the following poem by Alexis Valdés, a Cuban actor and comedian, situated close to the end of the book, captures the thoughts expressed in his book...

Hope

When the storm has passed and the roads are tamed
And we are the survivors of a collective shipwreck.

With tearful heart and our destiny blessed
We will feel joy simply for being alive.

And we'll give a hug to the first stranger
And praise our good luck that we kept a friend.

And then we'll remember all that we lost
And finally learn everything we never learned.

And we'll envy no one for all of us have suffered
And we'll not be idle but more compassionate.

We'll value more what belongs to all than what was earned.
We'll be more generous and much more committed.

We'll understand how fragile it is to be alive.
We'll sweat empathy for those still with us and those who are gone.

We'll miss the old man who asked for a buck in the market
Whose name we never knew who was always at your side.

And maybe the poor old man was your God in disguise.

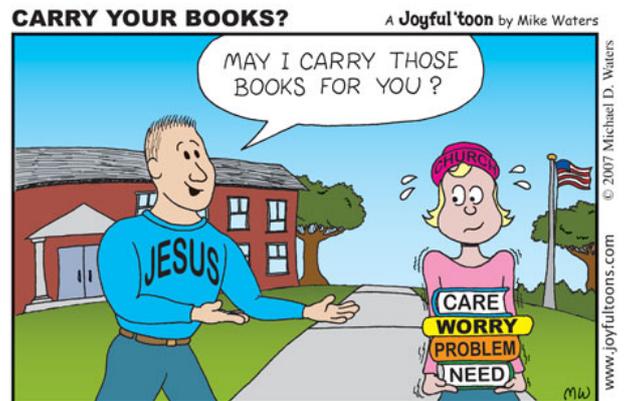
But you never asked his name because you never had the time.

And all will become a miracle. And all will become a legacy.
And we'll respect the life, the life we have gained.

When the storm passes I ask you Lord, in shame
That you return us better, as you once dreamed us.

Submitted in humility by Ian Bagshaw

Recall also our own Revd. David Muskett's theme from a few weeks ago:
'The Power of Love' versus the 'Love of Power'...



Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.
-1 PETER 5:7 KJV

The Joy of Easter.

Christian Aid

Easter is always a special time for all Christians, but half an hour ago, on Easter Sunday afternoon, Easter 2021 was made especially joyous because we had a phone call. "We're outside your door - are you at home?" came the greeting. I opened the door to find Wendy Mudzi with her three daughters - Raspinah, Jayne and Renee - who had just got out of their car.

The family, who were church members for almost three years, are now living in Rainworth, North Nottinghamshire. Having completed his one year teacher training course, Dad is now teaching Maths in a school, near Mansfield, whereas Mum is a Social Worker for Nottingham City Council.

It was wonderful to be visited by them on their flying visit to see friends in Fareham.

They wished to be remembered to you all.

Andrew Wilcock

Note from the Editor

By the time you receive this month's eFocus, we all would have celebrated Easter which is a glorious uplifting event more so this year.

I wish to thank Bobby, Jill and Julie for the Easter Eggs and food provided for the Act of Kindness food bank. We collected over 3,500 Easter eggs which were distributed to schools, Queen Alexandra Hospital, Care Homes and other charities. We have young ambassadors who collected nearly a 1,000 between them. Which is amazing!

In May it is the church anniversary, it would be nice if we had some articles of how it has been celebrated in the past. I would love to receive them. Any pictures would be good.

Once again I wish to thank everyone who has provided articles for this month's edition.

Deadline for next month is May 5th.

Dear friends,

I am very pleased to say that just 4 days after launching our District Challenge to raise crucial funds for Christian Aid we have hit and passed our target of £2600!! The donations have been numerous and you have been very generous – thank you! I am very humbled by the response and encourage us all to continue to give as more family and friends are vaccinated and share the link so others can contribute as well. Might I suggest that we set a new target Shall we see if we can reach £5,000 over the next few weeks!!!

If you are unable to give online but wish to make a donation you can send a cheque payable to 'Southampton Methodist District' – please contact Sarah for details of where to send it.

<https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/giving-thanks-for-our-vaccines-across-southampton-methodist-district>

The Revd Andrew de Ville | Chair of District

Southampton District | The Methodist Church



FAREHAM METHODIST CHURCH MEMORIES

Memories - Julie Kettle

Fareham Methodist church is very special to me.

My family have been involved in the life of the church at least as far back to before the building on the present site. My grandparents were members of the old church. In fact some years back when some alterations were being undertaken I discovered the name of one of my dad's 3 brothers who died at the age of 17 on one of the first bricks to be laid.

My grandfather was Superintendent of the Sunday School until he died tragically when my dad was 12 in a drowning accident. I often look up at the clock during a service dedicated to grandad for his service to the church and later to my nan too.

Mum spent many happy years with the Sunday School. She and dad met at the Youth Club and were married in the church in 1961.

As a small child I can remember walking to Sunday School on a Sunday afternoon. As a teenager I started going back to Sunday School again, by which time it had moved to be part of the morning service as it is now. I went with my school friend Ruth who is Mary Bailey's daughter and God mother to my daughters. The Senior Junior Church was held in Trinity church old church hall. At this time I have many vivid memories of being in church with most of my family and at major services like Christmas and Easter we would all squash together in one pew and sometimes overflow into the next.

On a family service the thriving Boys Brigade would join us for the service and we would have to add extra chairs down the aisles. The church was full to the rafters.

I went to the Guides and Youth Club. I particularly remember a joint camp with the Guides and Boys Brigade. I became a member with Ruth when we were 16.

Trevor and I were married in the church in 1983. We still had pews then and it was unusual in having 2 aisles so I walked down the left hand aisle and we both walked back up the right hand one. Both of our daughters were baptized in the church and went to the Junior Church. At one stage Trevor ran the Youth Club with Kevin Foster. Several years running they took the youngsters to the yearly weekend held in the Royal Albert Hall with other Methodist Youth groups. He became a member of the church around the same time. When our girls were young I helped to run the Mother and Toddler group and was Cradle Roll secretary for a while. It feels like coming home when I walk into the building which is one reason why this past year has been hard.

Thank you.

On the next page is Garry's script for the Mock Wedding Party which relates to the picture in last month's focus provided by Mary Bailey.

Thank you Ian

MOCK WEDDING PARTY.

BRIDEGROOM - ERIC B.
MR. WILL B. PASSTIT - ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY COUNCIL WORK

BRIDE - LYNDA H.J.
MRS MAY B. PASSTIT - OUT OF WORK MODEL

BRIDEGROOMS FATHER - ERIC W.
MR. SAM PASSTIT - RETIRED WHEELIE BIN REPAIRER

BRIDEGROOMS MOTHER - MARJOY.
MRS. LILY PASSTIT - SUNDAY CAR-BOOTER

BRIDES FATHER HARVEY
SIR CLAUD CANNYLOT-CASH CITY BANKER

BRIDES MOTHER - BOBBY
LADY LOTTIE CANNYLOT-CASH SOCIAL QUEEN BEE

BRIDESMAID - GARRY
MISS PENNY WHISTLE A TUNING FORK TESTER

BEST MAN - TONY
MR DOUG MEWER PROFESSIONAL COMPOST INSPECTOR

VICAR - GEOFF.
REV. DICKIE HART SUPERINTENDENT OF A SHORT CIRCUIT

M.C. CYRIL HIMSELF.

ORDER OF EVENTS.

7pm. ARRIVAL OF GUESTS. IN CHURCH

7.30pm. GUEST ASSEMBLE IN LARGE HALL TO
RECEIVE WEDDING PARTY.
MEAL.

SPEECHES ETC.

CUTTING OF CAKE - COFFEE.



Newsletter April 2021

Because of COVID, and all the restrictions it has brought into our lives over the last year, HPP is well behind with the fund raising we had hoped to do. Although it is unlikely that we will do a full production in Havant Park next year, 2022, we are hoping to maybe offer some sort of presence, the details of which have yet to be decided! To do anything we need to raise money and obviously the more we raise the more we can do. People and Organisations have been very generous in supporting us financially during both our Advent and Holy Week projects which we are very grateful for, but it is the 'little and often' that usually saves the day!



As a Registered Charity we took the step to join the [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/havantpassionplaylimited/?invite=pb530v&referral_campaign=s2s) and it is a wonderful way for us to raise FREE money! It doesn't cost you, or us, anything! I signed up to it a few weeks ago and now nearly every time I buy something on line I get a prompt to activate their website and a few pennies are paid into the HPP account. We all know the old saying; 'look after the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves' in this case it is really true. So this month and I am inviting you all to sign up to easy fundraising to help us to refill our coffers so that we really can all meet up again next year in Havant Park. How good and exciting would that be! Just click below to sign up! https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/havantpassionplaylimited/?invite=pb530v&referral_campaign=s2s



THE ROAD TO EASTER

A few stills from our latest production which you can view on social media via our website, youtube and facebook.

HPP – Telling the Stories of Jesus

havantpassionplay

www.havantpassionplay.org.uk

HPP Annual General Meeting – Thursday 22nd April 2021 at 7.30pm

Everyone is welcome to attend, but only Members may vote for the election of Trustee Directors or for any proposals and resolutions made. We are reviewing our list of Members and we will contact, by email, those on the current list to confirm they wish to remain members. If you do not receive an email by Friday 9th April 2021 then you are not currently a Member. You may contact us to become a Member by downloading the form from our website and emailing it to us. Please put "Membership Enquiry" in the subject line. In order to attend the AGM please register your interest by email to HPP with "AGM attendance" in the subject line and you will be sent the zoom link details, we look forward to seeing you there!

havantpassionplay.org.uk charity no: 1154040



UPDATE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BROWNIES

Our Safari Zoom was brilliant and the girls loved seeing all the including a hissing cockroach called Colin and a beautiful Asian called Egg! The chinchilla and the leopard gecko were beautiful.



animals
rooster

The girls showed their own pets at the end and didn't stop asking questions!

We made origami monster bookmarks in March and baked cupcakes for Mother's Day.



On 1st April, we were able to meet outdoors and chose Hillhead beach again as it has toilets (vital) and the large grass area as well as the lovely beach. We gave out Easter eggs to all the brownies and chocolate animals from Una. Egg hunts will have to wait for next year.

We practised our African dancing from World Thinking Day and enjoyed exploring the beach at low tide and running up the grassy mounds.

We hope to have many more outside meetings alternating with Zoom. A Line Dancing instructor is already booked for Zoom on 13th May.

The girls are continuing to earn badges and Penguin and I are continuing to think outside the box!

Best wishes,
Alison (Brown Owl),
Kate (Penguin) and the Brownies.

