

# S.O.F.T.

## Sharing Our Faith Together Team

Supporting the East Solent and Downs Methodist Circuit

# EXCITING EVENT!

(as promised!)

As promised in the last newsletter a major event has been planned!

**Andy Frost from Share Jesus International  
presents:**

## Sharing Jesus

**A free event**

### **Porchester Methodist Church**

Castle Street, Fareham, PO16 9PS

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**10.30 - 4pm**

**Free soup and a roll, or bring your own if you  
prefer!**

Andy is a gifted and knowledgeable speaker in the field of evangelism and is keen to share his wisdom with us. This really is an unmissable opportunity for us all to learn how we might discern when and how to speak to others about our faith. There will be plenty of time to talk to Andy, both in groups and one-to-one. It's very much hoped that a large number of people from our Circuit will attend so please spread the word in your churches and communities.

# *Spotlight on...* Midhurst Easter

Following the SOFT meeting in the autumn about sharing our festivals the Midhurst Methodists decided to plan something special for Easter. We decided on a craft event for all ages to take place on the Saturday after Easter to avoid clashing with Messy Church at the Parish Church. Tea and cake would be served free of charge.

Our weekly church-run toddler and carer group, Mischief Makers, decided to join in the celebration. So, on Maundy Thursday, towards the end of the session, they all went into church for a 10 minute service led by the Rev. David Coote who explained why we were celebrating. It was a good opportunity for using musical instruments. Then a super "Therapy" donkey called Pedro joined us in church to the amazement of all. After the service the children had donkey rides in the garden.

Everyone, children, carers and helpers really enjoyed the day. Colourful booklets about Easter were handed out to the children as they left.

We did a lot of advertising for the craft event. We had something for all ages from messy painting , making chicks, icing biscuits, making jewellery, flower arranging, glass painting and more. We used the Sanctuary for the more grown-up activities.

We had about 50 people including children and it was interesting that most of them stayed for the whole two hours. There was a good cross section of the community and not many of them were church-goers. Because we were sitting around tables with them we were able to have plenty of conversations, especially with the parents.

We handed out booklets about the meaning of Easter as people left the church. Several people said how kind it was of us to hold the event and that they had had a really good time We ourselves enjoyed it as well.



## ***Could you provide the next 'Spotlight on...' article?***

*It might be about a one-off event that's already happened or is about to happen. It might be about something your church does on a regular basis. Whatever the topic it would be great to hear from you so that we can share ideas and good news stories as widely as possible.*