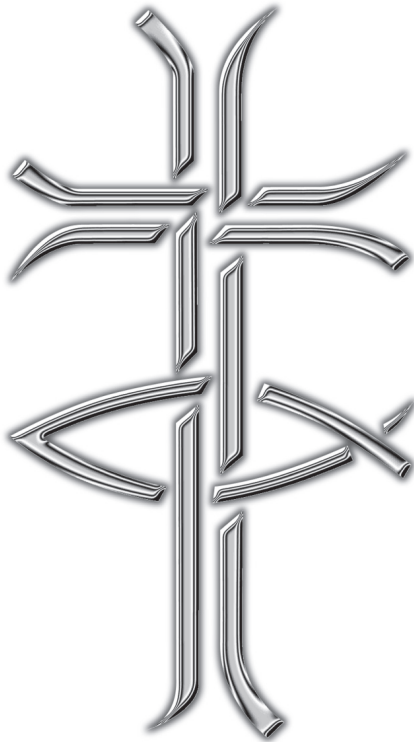


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# The Recorder

May 2011

News and views from Redland Park &  
New Brunswick United Reformed Churches



## Preachers for 11am Services 2011

May	1st	Angus Gregson
	8th	To be Advised
	15th	Rev. Bill Hewis (Leprosy Mission)
	22nd	Angus Gregson (followed by our Tear Fund Lunch)
	29th	Barb Kirby

## Speakers for Womens' Guild

May	4th	D.I.Y
	11th	Dave Fudge
	18th	Dave Fudge
	25th	To be Advised

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We shall be holding our church party on Saturday 14th May from 3pm until 6pm. We look forward to a fun time sharing together.

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We continue to pray for those member of our congregation who are not feeling 'on top of the world' at the moment. It was good to see Ivy Pickett sharing with us at our Easter services we have missed her and are glad that she is now feeling a little better.

Our prayers will be with Joyce Groves at the end of May when she goes into hospital for an operation on her eye. We pray that the operation will be successful and that she will be able to see more clearly.

It is good to see John Waines on the road to full recovery. Not quite there yet but slow progress is being made. We thank God that his employer has been sensitive to his situation enabling him to return to work.

We are all saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mrs Gladys Homer who passed away, in hospital, on Monday 2nd May. We remember her family at this time and up hold them in our prayers. Gladys was an active member of our Women's Guild and will be sadly missed by the ladies. We shall also miss her smiling face at morning worship. At the time of going to print we have no information regarding arrangements for her funeral. Further tribute to Gladys will appear in the next edition of the Recorder.

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Dear all,

As I write all the breaking news is all about the death of Osama bin Laden. The general reaction is one of relief and in some places there will be a kind of celebration. However there is always a particular reticence about the celebration of any sort of death of any person. For most in the West there will be a sense of justice having been done after that most horrific attack on 9/11. Listening to the re-runs of what Osama bin Laden has had to say in years gone by it is remarkable to see how in his own mind the use of indiscriminate violence, and what is in fact mass murder, comes to be justified. There was with Osama bin Laden something of the "them and us" scenario. "Us" was his particular understanding of Islam. "Them" came to be everyone else, and most certainly his view of Western society. To use terminology that has been used within the Christian tradition there are the "saved", and then there are the "lost." On that basis much that is wrong and evil can be sanctioned and has been over the centuries. In effect you de-humanise the other person. Once you have done that you remove the barriers to reasonable and good conduct and abuse becomes rife. Slavery, the holocaust and any number of conflicts that this problem at their heart.

It often strikes me that the life and teaching of Jesus stands over and against all of this. Because we are so familiar with it, we tend to forget it. The church certainly embraced this teaching and sought to live it out in the first few centuries of its existence. Though much of that was duly forgotten, or conveniently put to one side,

when it became the heart of the Roman Imperial institution under Constantine. A particular incident from the life of Jesus that comes to mind is that the story of the woman caught in adultery (John 8.1-11). If we can't remember much of the rest of the story we can certainly remember Jesus' punch-line, "Let anyone who is among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone." Brilliant! In a master-stroke he demolishes the "them and us" distinction, or in this case "Us and her!" We are reminded of our common humanity which needs some humility. However neither does Jesus leave us there. He calls us on to something bigger, brighter and better – God's Kingdom, which is what we are made for. He tells the woman no go and sin no more and then he tells his audience, I am the light of the world." (John 8.12)

No doubt Osama bin Laden would have considered himself a man of faith, and that is something to be concerned about. There have been many people of faith who have either passively permitted or actively sanctioned evil over the centuries. However there is always that faith corrective which is there when God is truly present. At some point true justice will be vindicated. Jesus' sacrificial love on the cross is the measure for what we should be present in our lives and what we will for the world around us.

*Dougie*



It has been good to see David Lloyd back in church again following Christine's death, and thanks to Matt for bringing him.

Peter Ambrose is slowly recovering from his eye operation and it was good to see him in church as well; we hope that he will be able to resume driving shortly.

Teame Mebrahtu has undergone his first batch of chemotherapy and is slowly recovering; please hold him, Teblez, Aida, Esther and Zeb in your prayers. It was good to see these four on Easter Sunday.

Desi Lane has also been in hospital recently and we pray she will be feeling better soon. Enid Fear has undergone an eye operation but managed to get to church again – it was good to see you!

Will Hanlon celebrated his 90th birthday on 30 April – congratulations and best wishes, Will!

Happy birthday in April to Owuru (10 on 10th), Junior (15 on 23rd) and Op (12 on 30th) Edwards (an expensive month for Lydia)

Congratulations and well done to Paul Kim, who passed the viva of his doctorate earlier this month at Bristol University.

A belated congratulations to Will and Eve Becher who celebrate the birth of their second Daughter (and sister to Polly) Beatrice Nancy Becher.

We think of our friends who cannot always come to church – Henry and Joyce Dickinson, Cliff Woollon, Billie Martin, and for the family of Christine Lloyd; please keep them in your prayers.

*Apologies for the delay in getting Christine's obituary into the Recorder, I missed the deadline, Carol...*

### CELL GROUPS

A 'Cell' is a group of people who meet in each other's home once a week. The meetings operate loosely around a structure of: Welcome - Worship - Word - Witness, using Dougie's sermon from the previous Sunday as material for discussion. It is a very safe and relaxed environment in which faith can be explored openly, honestly and prayerfully.

There are now three Cell groups who meet at the following times:

- Monday, 7:30 -9:00pm: contact **Les Brentley** and **Les Fry**
- Tuesday, 7:30 -9:00pm: contact **John Neugebauer**
- Saturday, 10:00am -11:30: contact **Dougie Burnett**

**If you'd like any more information or would be interested in joining a Cell group, please contact any of the above leaders.**

Christine was born in Blackheath, London on 19th March 1936 but her family moved to South Shields in 1947 when she was 11. She had real academic ability and a sense of where she wanted to go in life and so it was that upon leaving school she went to study at King's College, Newcastle to study medicine. At the time she was one of only two women to do so and as such it was pioneering and it was a courageous thing to do. She qualified as a junior doctor in 1959 and then studied further in obstetrics and gynaecology until 1961. It was during this time that she met Jimmy and they married in 1961 with the children being born in the following years: Viv, Sue and Gill. Their move to this part of the world came in soon afterwards, living in Nailsea and then into Bristol itself. She was a devoted Mum and that her care extended to others as well, including her patients in the Whiteladies Road practice. Dan and Matt very much remember her care for them as they were growing up. In her work as a Doctor she was always much sought after by her patients, and she set up her own practice with a colleague in due course. Her parents moved down to this part of the world to be close by. The sudden and unexpected loss of Viv through cancer in 1995 hit her hard, as it did the whole family. She mourned that loss but at the same time was a tower of strength, helping with the grandchildren through what was a very difficult time. Her family were always a source of pride and joy to her, being excited and devoted as the grandchildren were born over the years.

Of course David has been central to Christine's life for so many years. David has often said of Christine that she saved him. David saved her as well. They married in 1987 and together there was their love of dogs, their love of curry, and their love of fish and chips. Together they battled various of the challenges that they had to face. They were both stalwarts of Alcoholics Anonymous, drawing strength and helping others. Christine always had a faith and over the past few decades she has been very much part of Redland Park. She suffered from arthritis for the past 25 years but refused to let it stop her from sharing in life around her, she battled the pain and much resented having to use a stick. In the final week when she was admitted to hospital Christine was able to see everyone and was able to say what she needed to say. Everyone had time to say their goodbye. For Christine it was peaceful and there is here affirmation of all that Christine was and is and continues to be. There is celebration and most certainly there is thanksgiving, thanksgiving to God for her presence amongst us and all that she gave that was of love. Thanksgiving to God that her life continues. We give thanks to God for Christine.

AMEN.

# Redland Park Church Calendar



## MAY

Sun 8th	10.30am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Service Upper Room
	11.45am	Church Meeting
	6.00pm	Service of Prayer & Praise
Sun 15th	10.00am	Prayer Time Junior Church Room
	10.30am	Morning Worship Rev Brian Woodcock
	10.30am	Korean Service Upper Room
Mon 16th		CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
Sat 21st	10.00am	CHRISTIAN AID DAY
Sun 22nd	10.30am	Family Worship Rev Dougie Burnett
		BRING & SHARE LUNCH
	10.30am	Korean Service Upper Room
Sun 29th	10.30am	Café Church / Evangelism
	10.30am	Korean Service Upper Room
Tues 31st	10am-12.15pm	FUNDRAISING COFFEE MORNING at The Sims, 117 Eastfield Road, Henleaze
<b>JUNE</b>		
Wed 1st	7.30pm	Elders
Thurs 2nd	2.30pm	1st Thursday 5th Birthday
Sun 5th	10.30am	Morning Service Rev Dougie Burnett
		Communion
	10.30am	Korean Service Upper Room

## FIRST THURSDAY PROGRAMME June to July 2011

**June 2 - 5th Anniversary Tea**  
We celebrate 5 years of First Thursday with a special tea and a mystery guest speaker

**July 7 - Garden Party**  
Mal & Janet Owen invite us to share with them their tranquil garden at Abbots Leigh

# First Thursday

It was a warm sunny afternoon as we gathered for our April meeting. Helena was to be our guest speaker She had previously spoken for us on several occasions at Christmas times and always brought new insights to the season. This time her title was

"The Fool on the Hill"

We were intrigued and expectant.

Helena explained that she had taken her title from a Beatles' track and she started on a journey exploring aspects of foolishness and many types of fools. Dougie "clicked " with her as she showed us various images on the screen: a clown with his bright baggy clothes, big shoes, big cherry nose and make-up that revealed a laughing face whatever his real feelings might be; a jester with his three-pointed and belled cap and expressionless make-up that allowed him to tell exalted people home truths, that might be unwelcome, but were accepted from him; masks used in ancient drama and more modern French black and white masks.

We moved on to a consideration of fools we recognized, looking at pictures of comics like Charlie Chaplin, Tony Hancock and Norman Wisdom. These beloved favourites made us laugh and feel good even though they sometimes had serious personal problems. We then listened to a tape of "The Fool on the Hill" sung by Norman Wisdom.

Helena reminded us that many of the Old Testament heroes and prophets had weaknesses and failings that by many would be considered "foolishness" but did not diminish their greatness, Jesus too was considered a "fool" by some of his followers for not resisting the path that was ordained for him. He had preached to thousands and performed miracles but he was willing to turn his back on all that and follow his father's plan. He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey not a white steed; he was reckless enough to challenge the moneychangers in the Temple; and at the Last Supper he humbled himself and washed the feet of his disciples. We listened to the song from "Jesus Christ Superstar", in which Christ was taunted and ridiculed. He knew that in order to become our Redeemer he had to become not a hero but a fool, a scapegoat. How foolish was that!

Paul sums up the situation in Corinthians:

"No one should fool himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise by this world's standards, he should become a fool, in order to be really wise. For what the world considers to be wisdom is nonsense in God's sight." Janet Stables gave the vote of thanks for another challenging and thought provoking afternoon.

Laura Jones

# What's On?



## CHRISTIAN AID DAY SATURDAY 21 MAY 2011

Please note that this year we are holding Christian Aid Day at the end of Christian Aid Week. This is so that it coincides with the Farmers' Market. Hopefully this will bring us more customers.

Therefore we hope our stalls will be especially good this year. I do hope that you are thinking of items you can contribute to the various stalls on Christian Aid Day. Plants and cuttings would be very welcome on the day, if you have any queries about these please speak to Myra.

The Cake Stall is always very popular – we can always sell more, so would appreciate contributions on the day.

A box for items for the Bric-a-Brac and Book stalls will be in the vestibule, at the front of the church, from the middle of April so that you can bring in your gifts beforehand. We guarantee to sell almost anything, (all those unwanted Christmas presents and items found whilst spring cleaning!) but no clothes please, although we can sell scarves and bags. (We are not permitted to offer for sale electrical items such as kettles and toasters.) We had a grand clear out of books after last year's CA Day so please go through your bookshelves to restock us.

We also welcome offers of help on the stalls or with the coffee.

If you can think of another money raising idea for the day we would love to hear from you. It is always good to have new stalls.

Finally, please put this date in your diary!

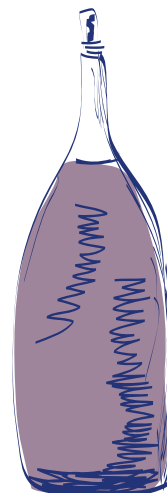
Janet Owen



# Bread and Wine

Copyright Derek Skelcher 1972

Every time you eat the bread, remember;  
Every time you drink the wine, recall  
They represent the body and blood  
Of the Man who died for all!  
See it glowing like a burning ember,  
Shining brightly through the dark night's pall.  
The everlasting love of Christ,  
The One who died for all!  
That bread,  
That wine,  
Remind us every time  
He lived for us, He died for us,  
And left them as a sign.  
Every time you eat the bread, remember;  
Every time you drink the wine, recall  
The Son of God came down to earth  
As the One who died for all!



There'll come  
A day  
When face to face He'll say,  
"I fear, my son, in all you've done  
You've oft been led astray."  
Every time you eat the bread, remember;  
Every time you drink the wine, recall  
He died for all the wrongs we do,  
The One who died for all



COFFEE MORNING

When: Tuesday 31 May

Where: 117 Eastfield Road, Henleaze

## Keeping up with the vicar Pt 15 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for May and the first Sunday in June. In this period just after Easter the Old Testament reading is replaced with one from Acts. We start with some challenging encounters with the risen Christ (aren't they all?). Then we look at some early christian communities: the first "church" that sprang up after the resurrection, and then in 1 Peter, support for newly established churches including, if you're reading in the King James' version, the wonderful image that you are "peculiar people".

The lectionary follows a three year cycle, each year focusing on one of the synoptic gospels; this year it's Luke. It's generally thought that the author of Luke's gospel and Acts is the same, so while we follow his writing in Acts, it gives us a chance to delve into John for our gospel readings.

Many preachers use the lectionary readings as a basis for their preaching. The suggestion is to read them sometime in the week before Sunday worship so that if they are the ones used, it might help you get a bit more from the sermon. Be peculiar!

May	(not the) OT	Psalm	Gospel	NT
1st	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	16	John 20:19-31	1 Peter 1:3-9
8th	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	116:1-4, 12-19	Luke 24:13-35	1 Peter 1:17-23
15th	Acts 2:42-47	23	John 10:1-10	1 Peter 2:19-25
22nd	Acts 7:55-60	31:1-5, 15-16	John 14:1-14	1 Peter 2:2-10
29th	Acts 17:22-31	66:8-20	John 14:15-21	1 Peter 3:13-22
June 5th	Acts 1:6-14	68:1-10, 32-35	John 17:1-11	1 Peter 4:12-14

## Secretary's Notes by Sally King



Leading up to Easter was very busy and successful. The Lent Lectures were excellent, well organised and thought provoking. Thanks to the hard work of the people who organised the speakers etc.

It was good getting together with our friends on Whiteladies Road for the Holy Week meditations and services.

Of course Easter Sunday was the climax at Redland Park. A wonderful week-end. On Saturday afternoon the Korean Church organised children's activities, painting eggs and Les Fry organising games. At the same time the 'Flower Ladies' were decorating the church.

If you attended the Easter Sunday Service you will know what a wonderful service of celebration we all enjoyed with our Korean friends also taking part. Thanks to everyone who planned and took part during the week end.

Now May. Christian Aid Week from 16th May and our Christian Aid Day on Saturday 22nd. Please come and support this event especially as it is our year of Evangelism and it is one day we can take the Church to the outside world on Whiteladies Road.

Please think of Fund Raising events for our 150th Anniversary. You will see our first event advertised earlier in this issue of the Recorder.

Best wishes, Sally

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### FLOWERS

Just at the moment all we seem to be asking for is money. Every Sunday there are flowers in our church. Thanks to the team that arrange them every week, and give extra time for special occasions.



As the flower fund does not receive any direct funding from the church, therefore donations would be gratefully received.

Thank you very much to members of the congregation, who have been giving towards the flowers, some for many years. Best wishes, Sally

Deadline for contributions for the **June**  
Recorder is 29th May.

Please send to the editor

e. [petejhawkins@mac.com](mailto:petejhawkins@mac.com)

t. 07947 405 453 / 0117 941 3668

or by post to The Recorder at the Church  
address at the bottom of this page

**Minister** | Rev. Douglas Burnett

0117 330 9910

[douglasburnett@wwmail.co.uk](mailto:douglasburnett@wwmail.co.uk)

**Secretary** | Sally King

0117 962 1000

[sallyeking@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sallyeking@blueyonder.co.uk)

The Recorder is the monthly magazine of  
**Redland Park United Reformed Church,**  
Whiteladies Road, Bristol, BS8 6SA 0117 973 5850

[info@redlandparkchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@redlandparkchurch.co.uk)