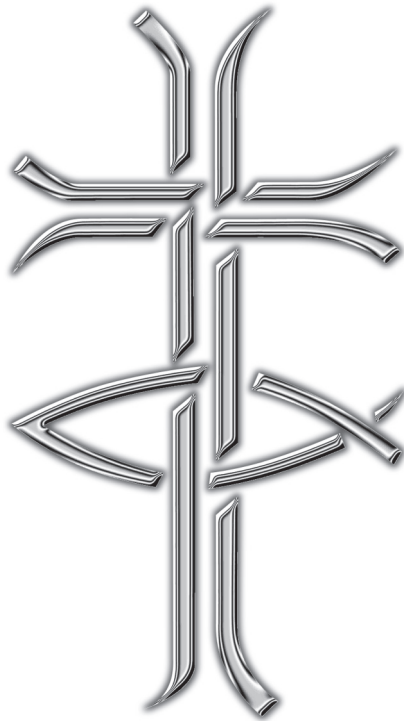


ESTD 1901

The Recorder

October 2011

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



www.redlandparkchurch.co.uk

New Brunswick | October Diary

Preachers for 11am Services 2011

Oct 2nd	Angus Gregson
9th	Rev. Douglas Burnett (Communion)
16th	Rev. Mary Piggott
23rd	Barb Kirby
30th	Peter Rouse

Speakers for Womens' Guild

Oct 5th	Just Memories
12th	No meeting (Please Note)
19th	Business Meeting
26th	D.I.Y

We celebrated our Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 15th September. Our service was lead by Mr Derek Marsh who brought along a couple of 'friends', one was a very large Honey Bee and the other was a Rabbit in a hat!! These both 'assisted' in bringing the message of Harvest to us in a different way. Reminding us of the importance of the Honey Bee to our existence. Whilst the Rabbit help us focus on trees. Gave us all something to think about. During the service gift were brought to the front of the church where they were displayed. A wonderful array of every type of fruit, veg, tinned and packet items. The tables were groaning under the weight. These gifts were distributed to several folk locally who are not now able to attend worship. The remaining was taken to the Little Brothers who were delighted to receive them and couldn't get over the generosity of people. I would like to add my personal thanks to everyone who, once again gave so generously to others not so fortunate as ourselves.

Girl's Brigade has recommenced after the summer holiday and it has been encouraging to see our numbers steadily growing every week. We now have 15 on the books with around 11 attending on a regular basis. Please pray for us as we meet week by week that our number of girls may continue increase and that there will be many opportunities for us to share our faith with these young girls placed in our care.

We meet every Wednesday evening from 6-7:30. Offering a range of activities from games and craft through to computer skills for the older girls. Girls may join from the age of 4 years.

THANK YOU, Brenda

Vestry Vibes by Douglas Burnett



Dear all,

Last Sunday (October 2nd) saw the launch of Redland And Clifton Energised (R.A.C.E.), our community London 2012 Inspire project. The Inspire programme is the official communities aspect of London 2012. For the past year a community partnership of Redland Park, St. John's Primary School, the Cubs and Scouts and some local athletes having been putting together the project, finding ways by which to express the Olympic values of Respect, Excellence and Friendship and also the Paralympic values of Determination, Inspiration, Courage and Equality. In late July we were awarded the Inspire mark by London 2012 as being an "outstanding and innovative" local project.

So it was that on Sunday October 2nd some 260 people came together in some eleven workshops held at the school, the church and the Exercise Club gym. Our special guest stars were Ryan Scott from Henleaze (Commonwealth Games Champion in the 4x100m relay, 2010) and Wenlock the Olympic mascot.

Why should the church be involved with such a project? First of all the church across the UK is being encouraged to share in this once if a lifetime opportunity. It is something that is truly exciting millions of people in the UK (witness the number of London 2012 ticket applications!). For us locally it is a great opportunity to build many

community relationships. Many parents around St. John's School are hugely impressed that Redland Park has taken a lead in this matter. The Olympics and Paralympics have their own values (see above) and seek to give expression to these in a whole variety of ways. Those values are also very much the values that we celebrate through our Christian faith, so with our presence as the church we bring a Christian perspective that is very relevant. There is also something here about physical well-being. We make a lot about our faith as being an incarnational faith, so "the word made flesh" etc. That means that we take our bodies seriously and that includes a concern for physical well-being.

The event on Sunday was just the launch event. Over the next few months there will be many more events which reach right across the age spectrum, with many opportunities to engage with our local community. This is also our 150th anniversary as Redland Park Church. We identified evangelism as one of the areas we should work at. Before we can share our faith, we need to establish relationships by which something of our faith can be shared. I hope that R.A.C.E. is a means by which we can come alongside our neighbours, celebrate the very exciting event that is coming our way, and get to know them that bit better.

Dougie



We think of Teame Mebrahtu who is recovering slowly from his operation and we pray for his health, and for Teblez and his family while they support him.

We were sorry to hear that Janet Owen has been in hospital for a while but came home recently and we were very pleased to see her in church last week. Our prayers go with her in her recovery.

Carole Atter had her hip replacement operation earlier in September and it was good to see her back in church, we are glad that she's making such a good recovery.

We also wish Jess Weir a good recovery – she is moving to the Abbeyfield Extra Care Home at 222 Redland Road and we hope she settles happily there.

Congratulations to Munye Manyika, son of Lewis and Florence, who has recently graduated from the University of the West of England. Lucy Burnett and Jess Rogers did well in their GCSEs this summer; Charmaine Mutare did well in her A-levels and has now gone to Cardiff University to study Chemical Engineering. Well done to all of them.

Isabella Burnett now has a front desk job with the police, she is also a special constable and is undertaking a part-time degree – well done Izzy and we hope that all goes well.

Cataracts are in our prayers at present; Henry Dickinson is still receiving treatment following his less-than-successful operation last month, but Maldwyn Rogers' operation on 14 September went very well and he is recovering now. Mal Owen underwent his operation on 23 September and we hope that all went well. Please pray for them all.

Mark and Erica Siddall are now worshipping at St Stephen's Church while Mark is pursuing his call to the ministry of the Church of England. Please pray for them as Mark undergoes his training.

After a period of ill-health, Desi Lane has now moved into a care home at Rosewood, Westbury Road, Westbury-on-Trym and we hope she settles happily there.

Congratulations to Will and Ruth Owen on the birth of their daughter, Emilie Violet who arrived on 9 September, a sister for Dylan, and to her proud grandparents Mal and Janet.

We pray for all those members and friends we know who need our prayers at this time.

First Thursday

First Thursday started the new season with a talk by DaeHoon Kang on Jesus Christ in the Korean Church - Hope and Challenge. DaeHoon is studying for a PhD at Trinity College, Bristol.

He told us of how Christianity had taken over from Buddhism and Confucianism, which is more political and social than spiritual and is about subordination.

There are 60,000 protestant churches in South Korea which is far more than the 10,000 petrol stations. There are 28,500 ministers of which 18,600 are ordained.

He showed us video clips of Christian rallies attended by tens of thousands of people all eager to hear the Good News of the gospels.

A Welshman called Robert Jermain Thomas is a hero in the Korean church. He was born in the 19th century in Llanover near Abergavenny and travelled to Korea as a missionary, taking with him

bibles, which he threw overboard from his ship before he was executed. A Thomas Memorial Church was built in Pyongyang in 1931 in his memory and was later destroyed in 1931.

The Korean Church has at its heart the Bible, and thousands of Koreans have been converted by reading the Bible, which they take literally as the Word of God. It is not in the Korean nature to criticise. Early missionaries spoke with utter assurance that the Bible was God's Word and that in it was to be found the ultimate meaning of human life and destiny. The most effective evangelism is witness.

What a contrast there is in the growth of the church in Korea with the decline in our country. What can we learn from our fellow Christians in Korea to spread the word and enable the church to grow?

Linda Croft

Thank You

We are most grateful for the generous gift from First Thursday to mark our retirement from organising its programme. This was quite unnecessary but very much appreciated.

We are looking forward to the new session of talks and other activities.

Viv & David Hayden

What's On?



POSITIVE MONEY: WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE BANKS?

Ben Dyson of Positive Money will talk about our dysfunctional banking system, why it separates the mega-rich from the rest and how it can be changed.
(Myra)

When: Thursday 13 October at 7.30pm

Where: Redland Quaker Meeting House, Hampton Road, BS6 6JE

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER TIME – GOD IS LISTENING...

On the third Sunday of every month there is a time of prayer before the morning service. It starts at 10am and is usually in one of the Junior Church rooms. (Look out for the Prayer Time signs!) This is an opportunity to pray for and reflect upon the issues and concerns that have been hung on the prayer tree by friends and members of the church during the course of the previous month.

Everyone is welcome to share in this time.

In Philippians 4 v 6-7, Paul writes:

'Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking with a thankful heart. And God's peace which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Jesus Christ.'

When: The third Sunday of every month (before morning service)

Where: Redland Park URC

KING JAMES BIBLE: DEAD OR ALIVE?

Organised by the Public and Ceremonial Events Office

– Professor Eamon Duffy, University of Cambridge.

Most of those who use and value the bible, including the major churches, read it not as a literary but as a religious text, and opt for modern translations, as being both more accurate and more accessible. This lecture examines these issues, and the cultural and religious dilemmas they pose.

Booking is required. Contact Cheryl Slater on +44 (0)117 331 7040 or cheryl.slater@bristol.ac.uk

When: Monday 14 November 2011, 6:00pm

Where: Reception Room, Wills Memorial Building

SPEAKING IN FRAGILE TIMES: THE NEED FOR JEWISH-MUSLIM DIALOGUE

Dr Ed Kessler (University of Cambridge)

A joint event organised by Davar and the University of Bristol Multifaith Chaplaincy.

Understanding relations between faith communities is not an optional extra; neither is it to be feared. Should our political leaders choose to exclude faith issues from the contemporary debate they will do so at their peril. Interfaith dialogue between Christians and Jews has been taking place for nearly a century. Jewish-Muslim dialogue is a more recent phenomenon and though they have much in common, relations are overshadowed by the impact of the Middle East conflict. In Jewish-Muslim dialogue it is essential to be prepared for conflicting views, resulting in both a fragile but also a valuable conversation.

Edward Kessler is based in Cambridge but works all over the world. He writes for the printed media and broadcasts regularly on radio. He has been awarded an MBE for services to interfaith relations.

Entrance for this event is FREE.

When: Tuesday 11 October 2011 at 7.30pm

Where: Reception Room, Wills Memorial building

THE ST MATTHIAS LECTURE *Organised by The Living Centre UWE*

Speaker: Paul Moore - former Head of Group Regulatory Risk at HBOS

The HBOS story and the lessons learned - putting faith and ethics into practice in the world today." This event is a collaboration between The Living Centre at UWE and the Diocese of Clifton Justice and Peace Commission. More info about Mr Moore: he was a whistleblower in 2008 after claiming that he had been fired for warning HBOS about its excessive risk-taking. This event is free and is open to the general public.

Entrance is by ticket only. Further information is available at:

<http://info.uwe.ac.uk/events/event.aspx?id=12457> or 0117 32 82334

When: Monday 17 October 2011 at 7.30pm

Where: Chapel Lecture Theatre, St Matthias Campus, UWE

The Latest News On Traidcraft

Yes, it's that time again, and the Christmas catalogue has arrived! For those who like to order early, the catalogue has all your Christmas needs - paper, cards, decorations, nativity sets, plus dried fruit and sugar for your puddings and cakes, or if you don't want to bake, there are small and large cakes already iced, puddings, sweets and chocolates.

You may remember that we sold fair trade Easter Eggs back in April, and Traidcraft are now supplying fair trade Christmas Tree Decorations. If you would like to order some, a box of six chocolates with a Christmas story card and sticker sheet costs £3.95. Please let me know as soon as possible as they will be available on a first come, first served basis.

For Christmas gifts, there are hampers, boxes of chocolates, clothes, jewellery, bags, drums, games of chess and dominoes, children's toys, ornaments, cushions and mirrors, vases, bedding, calendars, etc.

Have a look at the catalogue and I will order for you. Carol Fry

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.

Barton Camp visit

As an opening event for our 150th celebrations, it was agreed that the church would have an outing to Barton Camp. The connection with Redland Park Church is that this camp, officially known as the Bristol Children's Help Society, was founded by our first minister, the Revd Urijah Thomas, initially to provide food for the poor and starving children of Bristol in 1884 as the Penny Dinner Society, with the camp opening in 1887. These days, Barton Camp gives free or subsidised breaks for the children of Bristol and the surrounding area, children who would otherwise never have a holiday because of poverty, sometimes because they are carers for disabled or addicted parents, or younger siblings. (Les Fry has been taking groups of children to Barton Camp for many years, and it was he who saw the same photograph of Urijah Thomas on the activity room wall as in our vestibule and made the connection with Redland Park)

On 18 September, Helena had organised a coach and the British and Korean congregations of Redland Park set off on an afternoon of sunshine and showers (more showers than sunshine at first) for Barton Camp which is just outside Winscombe in Somerset. We all had a lively bring-and-share lunch, before the children became restless at the sight of the heated open-air swimming pool and afternoon activities took over. Fortunately the sun became more obvious as the afternoon wore on, but if you were in the pool it didn't matter! The other activities enjoyed were the bird hide, a walk up to Crooks Peak, ball games on the field or in the sports hall, the adventure playground or just sitting and chatting. The adults were gathered in for a talk about the history of Barton Camp from Michael Hardwick, Chair of the Trustees, which brought home to all of us the poverty that existed in the city, and the deprivation that even now exists in some parts of Bristol. The Camp exists on a shoestring, with volunteers giving up their time and skills to keep it running, but is open to groups from all kinds of organisations who wish to have a break in the country with all the facilities it offers. The children were then also dried off for celebration cake from Sally, and thanks given to Michael Hardwick and Brian Hall, who had kindly arranged to open the facilities for us. The coach then brought us all back to Redland Park, in the sunshine, with requests from some people for a return visit next year.

Carol Fry

Redland Park Church Meeting Minutes

Welcome and opening prayer was led by Rev Dougie Burnett. There were 30 present.

Apologies for absence were received.

NO MATTERS ARISING.

CHURCH IN SOCIETY

Myra reminded the meeting of the Harvest Sale on 24th September from 10.30am – 1.30pm. she hoped as many people as possible would support this event and bring things to sell. There would be a light lunch.

The congregation had been given a list of things that the Night Shelter needed they were asked to bring their gifts on 25th September the Harvest Festival Service.

Myra suggested that as many people as possible bring an arrangement of flowers for the harvest service. They could be taken home after the service.

One World Week is from 23rd – 30th October there will be a United Service at Tyndale Baptist.

150TH ANNIVERSARY

Dougie reported that The Lord Mayor of Bristol and Stephen Williams had accepted our invitation to attend the 150th service. Our former ministers and church secretaries will be invited to the anniversary service the invitation will include lunch.

Invitations to the service and lunch will be sent to the congregation there will be a cost for the lunch.

The service was shaping up well.

Myra suggested, that as we can not plant a tree on the Downs, we buy 2 new seats and tidy the paving at the side of the church. Quite a few people sit on the benches which are in very poor repair. This was agreed.

We will begin our service with a walk from the fountain on The Blackboy (Urijah Thomas's Memorial). We will encourage people to dress from periods of the past decades to the present day. Dougie will ask the Redland Wind band to take part.

It was suggested an article was sent to Reform.

MINISTERIAL MATTERS

Dougie reported that the Korean church were now looking for a minister.

The Rev Dr Michael Jagessar, national secretary for Racial Justice and Multicultural Ministry, has invited us to submit for a multicultural award. Multicultural awards are awarded to churches who have made significant efforts and progress in developing to church life to involve various ethnic groups. Michael Jagessar sees Redland Park as having made significant efforts in relation to the Korean Church. Dougie pointed out that we have much in the way of joint worship, elders meetings and outreach.

R.A.C.E., part of our 150th anniversary celebrations, is having a good response from St John's school. The web site should be ready by this coming Tuesday. After the activities on Sunday 2nd October there will be a gathering in the church at 4.30pm.

The locations for the activities will be at the church, St John's school and the gym at the top of Blackboy Hill.

G.D.S. will light the church with the Olympic colours and they are sponsoring Wenlock the Olympic mascot.

Luke Walton will be trying to involve Radio Bristol and possibly Points West. Dougie encouraged people to invite friends from outside the church to take part in R.A.C.E.

SECRETARIAL MATTERS

Sally told the church meeting that representatives from Redland Park had been to the " Thinking Ahead to Advent and Christmas" event at Frampton Cotterell at the beginning of September. This was run by the Synod and was a very beneficial day.

Helena reported that there had been good response to the outing to Barton Camp including the Korean congregation. The cost for the coach will be £6 for adults and £1 for children. This is part of our 150th celebrations.

Helena explained new ideas for the 4 Sundays in Advent. Each Sunday will have different themes and people will give a short talk before lighting the candles. The titles being Bethlehem, expectancy, light and love.

The elders had agreed to changing the time of the service on 18th December. There will be 1 service that day at 3.30pm. with tea after the service. This hopefully will encourage more people to attend. The church meeting approved.

Sally told the meeting that Adam was now working half time so members using the building should be vigilant about security of the premises. The side door (by the ramp) had been left open on numerous occasions. There was a timetable of his hours on the board near the back door.

As Janet Owen had been in hospital for over 2 weeks Sally (with Terry's help) will be looking after the bookings of the church rooms. Probably for 2 – 3 months until Janet is really well. She stressed to the meeting if church members need to book a room please make sure we have a space.

FINANCE

John Neugebauer reported that there was nothing of great consequence to report. The 2010 accounts were about to be filed with the Charity Commissioners and the Synod.

John felt finances should play a part in our 150th e.g. time commitment and discipleship.

R.A.C.E. will be a good opportunity for evangelism.

We are overspending by about £800 per month.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

News of members was shared.

The meeting ended with prayer.

The next meeting will be held at 11.45am on Sunday 30th October 2011

The ground's as dry as a bone,
 The earth has crumbled to dust,
 A stifling wind is blowing the world away with each billowing gust!
 The sun's a circle of fire
 That's burnt the clouds from the sky
 And blistering trees are naked of leaves, their branches brittle and dry!
 Famine! Famine! And thousands of people will die!
 Famine! Famine! But who in the world will ask, "Why?"
 Maybe just you and I!

A cupful of water today,
 And maybe a handful of rice,
 But use them with care, give each one their share, tomorrow we won't
 have the price.
 A baby is crying here,
 It's mother's milk has run dry,
 Abandoned, alone, no pity it's shown and nobody answers its cry.
 Famine! Famine! And thousands of people will die!
 Famine! Famine! But who in the world will ask "Why?"
 Maybe just you and I!

They say that somewhere on earth,
 There's folk who have plenty to eat;
 There's milk and there's cheese, as much as you please, and never a
 shortage of meat!
 I can't believe that it's true.
 It must be only a lie,
 Because if there were their food they would share and never let anyone
 die!
 Famine! Famine! And thousands of people will die!
 Famine! Famine! But who in the world will ask "Why?"
 Maybe just you and I!



OCTOBER

Sun 9th	10.30am	Morning Worship Rev Ken Marsh
	10.30am	Korean Worship – Upper Room
	6.00pm	til 7.15pm Service of Prayer and Praise
Thurs 13th	7.30pm	Ben Dyson 'POSITIVE MONEY' at Redland Friends Meeting House
Sun 16th	10.30am	Morning Worship – Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Worship- Upper Room
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Family Service – Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Worship- Upper Room
	6.00pm	Service of Prayer
Sun 30th	10.30am	Morning Worship – Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Worship – Upper Room
	11.45am	CHURCH MEETING

NOVEMBER

Wed 2nd	7.30pm	Elders Meeting
Thurs 3rd	2.30pm	1st Thursday
Sun 6th	10.30am	Morning Worship – Rev Dougie Burnett
		Communion
	10.30am	Korean Worship – Upper Room

On your marks...

Sunday 2nd October saw the launch of RACE! For regular attendees to Redland Park you'd have to have been in a hole to not know what RACE! stands for. But for those who may have been away or need a prompt, RACE is 'Redland and Clifton Energised!' This is a community project 'Inspired by the London 2012 Olympics' that aims to incorporate the Olympic and Paralympic values: respect, excellence, friendship, courage, determination, inspiration and equality. The launch brought together people from St. John's School, the Exercise Club on Blackboy Hill, folk from Redland Park as well as others from our local community for an afternoon of workshops. This was followed by the official launch featuring Commonwealth Gold Medallist, Ryan Scott and Wenlock, the official Olympic mascot.

After our Sunday morning worship there was a real buzz about the church with people discussing their chosen activities and a real sense of anticipation, having our doors open to the public on a warm and sunny Sunday afternoon, ready to welcome.

The possible activities included: cookery with Bordeaux Quay, Olympic art and flag making, T-shirt design, hockey skills, beginners athletics, touch rugby, Pilates, Zumba and a chance to train with a champion to name but a few. I was particularly impressed by the chap organising the cookery workshop – he was able to direct a room of 20-30 people, a lot of whom were children, to crack eggs, mash bananas, taste chilli and pour olive oil with ease and without too much mess. In response to one little boy unimpressed by the idea of olive oil, he countered "There's no Errrgh in cooking, only Yummm!" People flexed and stretched in Pilates, others danced till they dropped in Zumba. Running technique was analysed at the gym. New skills were learned and Ryan Scott inspired budding young athletes in the school playground.

After a busy afternoon, many of us returned to the church to come together to learn more about the background to and the aims of the project. It was at this point that Ryan Scott was interviewed by Luke Walton from BBC Radio Bristol. Ryan won a gold medal in the 4 x100m relay at the Delhi Commonwealth Games in 2010. He's a local lad, brought up in Henleaze, who attended Filton College. We heard about his early days and the people who had encouraged him, as well as the ups and downs of competing in professional athletics. In discussions afterwards, everybody seemed to agree that he is an excellent role model, a local man who is setting himself tough goals and doing everything possible to achieve them. The day ended with singing from the Blue Spirit Choir and prayers shared by children from St John's. Finally there was tasty food and cups of much needed tea.

RACE! provides us all with a fantastic opportunity to engage with our local community: to make new friends and nurture existing relationships; to try new things and develop new skills; to be inspired by sporting professionals and to do more to achieve our own goals. We are challenged to be God's people in the world and it seems to me to be really important that Redland Park embraces all that RACE! can offer, as individuals and as a church. Helen Grand



Lessons from Islam?

Les Fry

You may well be aware that the confirmation of my VSO placement on the island of Pemba was significantly delayed by the fact that the word "Christian" appeared three times in my personal statement. Pemba has a very traditional Moslem culture, financially poor but faithful to the core disciplines of the Prophet and led by the Imams, the leaders at the Mosques. There was no anxiety that I was about to lead a Crusade here, but maybe that I would be at odds with the locality in which I am working. More challenging to me is the immediate lack of a worshipping community, Wete has a population 24,000 and I have unearthed 50 Christians, 10 very serious Lutherans and an energetic Roman Catholic congregation of about 40. And YES, I do miss meaningful collective worship.

However I do feel very safe here: I have theological discussions in pidgin Kiswahili: I talk about God freely and at no time have I felt any antagonism because of my faith; most of my neighbours will eventually find themselves singing along to Mission Praise 264 and my Moslem friends have included me comfortably in key community events. My love of Jesus is in no way threatened, but my respect for Islam is growing as I experience life in a Moslem culture.

August was a quiet month in my schools- the holy month of Ramadan was strictly observed. Families enjoyed big meals at 4.30am and 8pm and genuinely prayed and fasted between those two big meals. Old, young and sick people are given special dispensations and I sought to conform but found that as part of my

acclimatisation, I did need regular water, but never in public. The unity of a whole community- multi-age as well as rich and poor, all sharing the same sensation of hunger, was tremendous, everybody committed to celebrating one pillar of Islam.

The party at the end of Ramadan, Eid El Fitr, was a magnificent occasion for everybody, truly unforgettable for me. A family hosted me for breakfast and on my return home, I was constantly answering the door as people I know vaguely brought round gifts of food of all varieties, genuinely the best that they could offer. Extended families spent their days visiting each other and the colour was superb- ladies usually hidden predominantly in black, emerged in vivid oranges, greens, reds and blues- shiny and personally tailored and clearly felt really good about themselves; and the generosity that I experienced was constantly on offer to all. The party went on for four days, but in true Moslem tradition, there is no alcohol available in Wete (except at the Police Station- another story!) and the streets stayed safe and there was no violence, yobbishness or bad feeling.

The MV Spice Islander was on her way back here to her home port of Wete when she sank on September 9th, most of the crew were based here, most of the victims are from this island. On 9.11, I was not berating Moslem involvement in the butchery of the Twin Towers, I was at the football pitch with 2000 plus local people praying for family and friends, and five days later I was at Jadida Elementary School with its 900 students, many local residents and some notable

clerics, in an act of witness for the 38 pupils and one teacher from that school alone who perished in the disaster. There is no public weeping or screaming, just a simple, sombre acceptance of the loss of loved ones. The Imams themselves are entreating calm, their message is "Allah determines when we are born and when we die, we do not question his wisdom" and, against genuine justified public conviction that the severe overloading of the ferry was due to corruption and greed, "The guilty will one day face Allah alone, he will act justly against them". (This is a deliberate gesture to maintain local peace as evidence of Sharia Law elsewhere suggests a more instant sometimes brutal human response.)

I share my experience of gloriously happy and of desperately sad times, not to justify or promote another faith, not to undermine or change our Christian practices, but to express my first hand experience of everyday life in a Moslem community and maybe to prompt you to address any preconceived attitudes that you may hold about followers of Muhammad.

Thank you for your continued prayerful support of me, and please maintain your prayers for the innocent victims of the ferry tragedy.

And let's all celebrate how fortunate we are that we do have that constant prayer link with our God, a God whose presence we must recognise wherever it is found, a God who knows every hair on our head, and a God who through Jesus offers us a personal salvation and constant forgiveness and love.

Thank You

Mal and I would like to thank all our friends at Redland Park for their prayers and support when I was unexpectedly rushed to hospital in August. I am now getting stronger and it is wonderful to be able to get back amongst friends on a Sunday morning. Especial thanks to those who have taken over some of my church duties and continue to deal with the church bookings etc. Janet Owen

The Soup Run October 2011

Thank you very much to all the people who have helped with the soup run so far, to those who have given their time on Saturday morning to go out with soup and sandwiches to the homeless and needy in Bristol. Thank you to those who have provided sandwiches and cakes each week and to those who have given money to buy bananas and other things. We have 5 Saturdays to cover this October so there is still time to offer your help in whichever way you are able. Thank you once again for your time and your generosity. Jane Pedlar

I wish to thank everyone for their kindness, calls, texts and cards while I was confined to barracks after my knee replacement operation. Carole Atter

Keeping up with the vicar Pt 19 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for October and the first Sunday in November. In the readings from Matthew's gospel, Jesus completes his final journey and arrives in Jerusalem, continuing to challenge those trying to trap him, and making clearer what the kingdom of heaven is really about.

As we round up our readings from Philippians, rather oddly we skip over 3:20 which I think explains the whole point of the letter.

And then Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, probably the earliest of all the letters, in fact of any christian writing we have. Paul's aim is to build up the Christian community in a city where standing out against the state up could be risky. Is it safer for us in 21st century Britain? In which case are we more ready and willing to stand up and proclaim publically that "Jesus is Lord"?

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.

Oct	OT	Psalms	Gospel	NT
2nd	Isaiah 5:1-7	80: 7-15	Matthew 21:33-46	Philippians 3:4b-14
9th	Isaiah 25:1-9	23	Matthew 22:1-14	Philippians 4:1-9
16th	Isaiah 45:1-7	96:1-9	Matthew 22:15-22	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
23rd	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18	1	Matthew 22:34-46	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
30th	Micah 3:5-12	43	Matthew 23:1-12	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Nov				
6th	Amos 5:18-24	70	Matthew 25:1-13	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

Secretary's Notes by Sally King



Those you made the trip to Barton Camp in September had a good day. The sun shone as the pool covering was lifted. The swimmers had a great time especially the children. It was hard to get them out of the pool. It has been suggested we have another outing there next year. This was the beginning of our 150th celebrations.

Our Harvest sale was quite successful held outside the church in wonderful sunshine.

It was good to see so many of you at the Harvest Festival service and Lunch with our Korean Friends.

We decided to delay the printing of the recorder so we could add an article about R.A.C.E. hopefully you have read all about the day. Lots of people have worked really hard to make it a success.

Our next big event is our 150th Anniversary Service on 20th November. We hope to begin the service at 10 am at the Urijah Thomas' memorial on the Blackboy. We will walk from there to the church. Hopefully some of you will think of wearing clothes from the past decades. Plenty of time for you to think of something.

Perhaps you can let me know of anyone we should be inviting to the service.

We are bringing the next church meeting to October 30th when new elders will be elected.

Best wishes *Sally*

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