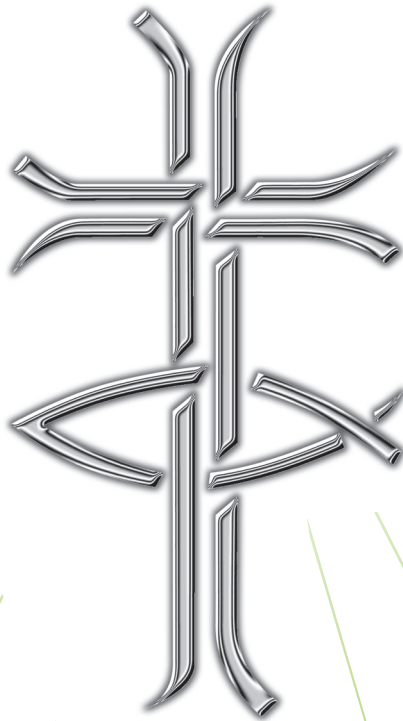


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# The Recorder

April 2011

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



[www.redlandparkchurch.co.uk](http://www.redlandparkchurch.co.uk)

## Preachers for 11am Services 2011

April 3rd	John Waines and Brenda Drake (Mothering Sunday)
10th	Rev. Douglas Burnett (Gift Sunday) will include Communion
17th	Rev. Tony Richmond (Alabara)
24th	Rev. Ivan Fowler (Easter Day) will include Communion

## Speakers for Womens' Guild

April 6th	Stuart Johns
13th	To be confirmed
20th	Easter Reflections
27th	Easter Blessings

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## EASTER SERVICES

Maundy Thursday Service (April 21st) will be held at New Brunswick at 7:30pm when we shall be joined by our friends from the Baptist Church.

Good Friday (April 22nd) we shall be joining with our friends from the Baptist Church at Bethany. The service will commence at 10am.

This service will be followed by Hot X buns before we join with other churches in Southmead for a combined act of worship at the 'D' on Glencoyne Square at 11:30am.

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## ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 5th May at 7:30 will be our Church AGM when we look back over events of the past year. All are welcome.

Saturday 14th May we shall be holding our church party. Further details in the next Recorder but put the date in your diary.

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Many of our folk are still not feeling in the best of health and we remember in prayer Ivy Pickett, John Waines and Joyce Groves asking for Gods healing for them all.

We also remember those of our congregation who are going to Spring Harvest and ask for Gods Blessing on them as the work with the young people placed in their care. That by their example others will come to a knowledge of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

May I take this opportunity to wish all the folk at New Brunswick and all our friends at Redland Park a very Happy and Blessed Easter. May we all know the power of the Risen Saviour working in our lives.

## Dear friends,

The images of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan will still be with us over the Easter period. Natural evil and suffering of this kind can be one of the main problems that people have when it comes to faith in God. How can a God of love bring into being a world in which such suffering is possible? This is the question often asked. Vast tomes have been written on this subject and at the end of it all the question is left still largely unanswered. Maybe it is essentially an unanswerable question, though one which seems very determined to remain in our hearts and minds. The story of Jesus died and risen does not deny the problem of suffering but asks us to be aware of a different question which might be essentially phrased as that of, "After all that, what next?" This is what Paul deals with in his letter to the Romans. It is a profound bit of theology and in chapter 8 he gives particular focus to the less than ideal experience of life that is common to us all. Reading through the chapter he dares to include not just our personal sufferings but also that of the world around us: verse 22 "Up to the present, we know, the whole created universe groans as if in the pangs of childbirth."

For Paul all this revolves around the death and resurrection of Jesus and that this event leads to something incredible and glorious. It is emphatically more than what we experience at present.

This can all start to sound rather like a very dense theology with no real connection to the world around us, especially when we see the sheer scale of devastation in Japan. But if we can say with any conviction that Christ is Risen, then that does change everything and the implications are endless. Having been a minister for some 20 years now I'm still trying to work out what it means, but I think that I am at least a little bit further on now than I was then. In the meantime as we often see with natural disasters there is a real sense of common cause and a common humanity that comes through at these times. Help is given generously by many and prayer is offered by millions. There is that indistinctive sense that this is not how life is meant to be. Maybe that is because we are indeed made in God's image and thus are born with God's hope for something more. Christ is Risen. Happy Easter!

*Dougie*



Very many thanks for all the offers of help and sympathy which I have received following my recent fall when I broke both of my wrists. By the time this note is published I should have had both plaster casts removed and be able to start returning to a more normal life. Without the very practical help of my family, life would have been very much more difficult. Love Janet

*Thank You*

## Strange Things Happening

Copyright 1973  
Derek Skelcher

Strange things happening round the town.  
Come on and follow us  
And join the cheering crowds;  
Spreading branches on the ground  
While they are shouting aloud,

### CHORUS

"Hosanna, to the King,  
Come on and glory sing  
Unto the King of Kings!  
Hosanna, glory sing!  
Come on and praise the King of Kings!"

Strangest Man you've ever seen.  
He's riding on an ass  
And yet they call Him, King!  
Wears no fine clothes, wears no rings,  
And yet the crowds around Him sing,

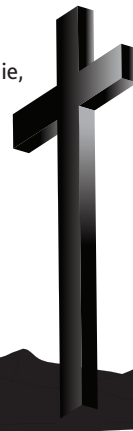
### CHORUS

Strangest crowd you ever saw,  
There's saints and sinners there  
And children by the score.  
Rich and poor and many more  
To see this King they all adore!

### CHORUS

Strangest ending, by an by  
This King they're praising now  
They're going to crucify!  
Then they'll jeer and watch Him die,  
Forgotten then will be this cry,

### CHORUS



On 23 February, in half term week, Gill Waines and Angus ran an activity morning at New Brunswick for primary age children and I was invited (or did I invite myself?) to come along to help with the craft activity and general organization.

Gill clearly did an excellent job of promoting the event and 28 children attended. Some were Girls' Brigade regulars but, as about half the number were boys, that was not a complete explanation for the success of Gill's efforts. It was pleasing to note that a significant proportion of those attending had also attended the Christmas activity morning, suggesting that the lively mix of

games, craft and music wrapped up in a biblical theme is one that has both child and parent appeal.

The theme for the morning was Jesus as the Light of the World. Although we did not stick to rigidly to this, the craft comprised the making of stained glass window cards out of tissue paper. These demonstrated how something that can look quite dark and uninteresting placed flat on a table can look really special

with light shining through it. The music, with a very noisy accompaniment from percussion instruments played by the children, included familiar favourites such as 'Shine Jesus Shine'.

Arguably the highlight of the day was the picnic lunch, for parents as well as children, that followed the activities. This was prepared by two wonderful mums, who also did a great deal of the cleaning up. Most of the children attending the activity morning were not regular Sunday morning attendees. The informal lunch gave us an opportunity to get to know their parents and find out what might attract them to future events and to the church

generally. The Minister was there to join in this discussion and to finish off any leftovers in his usual fashion!

For anyone that is interested there will be an activity afternoon in a similar format (on the theme of Easter of course) on Monday 18 April, followed by afternoon tea. Numbers limited to 30 children.

Jane Rogers

# Redland Park Church Calendar



Sun 3rd	10.30am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett MOTHERING SUNDAY / Communion
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
Wed 6th	7.30pm	Elders
Thurs 7th	2.30pm	1st Thursday The Fool on The Hill – Thought provoking Easter comments from Helena
Sun 10th	10.30am	Rev Chun Duk
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	6.00pm	Worship of Prayer, and Praise til 7.15pm
Wed 13th	7.00pm	Lent Lecture Tyndale Baptist – The Big Society and Volunteering
Sun 17th	10.00am	Prayer Time Junior Church Room
	10.30am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett PALM SUNDAY
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
Wed 20th	7.00pm	Holy Week Redland Park
Thurs 21st	7.00pm	Holy Week – Victoria Methodist Tenebrae
Fri 22nd	10.00am	GOOD FRIDAY – Tyndale Baptist
Sun 24th	10.30am	EASTER DAY / Communion Joint Morning Worship with the Korean Church Rev Dougie Burnett
May 1st	10.30am	Rev Basil Rogers
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
May 5th	2.30pm	1st Thursday – Life as a solicitor Andrew Sims

## FIRST THURSDAY PROGRAMME April to July 2011

<b>April 7 - The Fool on the Hill</b> Thought provoking Easter comments from Helena	<b>June 2 - 5th Anniversary Tea</b> We celebrate 5 years of First Thursday with a special tea and a mystery guest speaker
<b>May 7 - Legal Twists &amp; Turns</b> Andrew Sims will share with us experiences from his life as a solicitor	<b>July 7 - Garden Party</b> Mal & Janet Owen invite us to share with them their tranquil garden at Abbots Leigh

## 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.**

## First Thursday

Once again Derek Jones gave us a very interesting afternoon with one of his quizzes.

We had the joker to double points, (it didn't seem to help the scores though). Rounds on science and nature, two Pot Luck rounds which were popular, people, places and general knowledge really tested our memories.

We seem to be a well travelled lot, as most of the bridges in the picture round were easily recognised.

There were three teams, The Holy Spirits, Optimists and Ace. Sadly there were very few of us due to illness and family duties, which was disappointing when Derek and Myra had put so much effort in making the quiz such fun.

The Ace team won, quite fitting really. A very enjoyable afternoon, with a good tea and chat to finish the meeting of us retired, with Linda as our guest.

Carole Atter

# What's On?



## FUND RAISING

### GROWING YOUR TALENTS (Matthew 25 14-30, Luke 19 11-27)

At the Church Meeting I suggested we did some fund raising to coincide with our 150th anniversary celebrations.

I know this has worked in other churches and it does spread the load over a few months, rather than having 1 big DO !( we can always do that as well later.) Hopefully this will include as many people as possible.

If you remember in 1993 we raised £25.000 in a short amount of time to change the front of the dais and alter the pews. I'm sure we can do it again.

We need you to take part, and I hope you will. Instead of giving you a £10 note in an envelope as some churches do, we will give you an envelope containing a card, Your Possibilities are Endless.

Some ideas my sister gave me that they did at the church she attends in Frome. It doesn't matter how much you make or how you achieve the money.

- MAKE CAKES to sell
- COFFEE MORNINGS
- TEA PARTIES
- OPEN GARDEN with refreshments ( can be done by 2 or 3 people )
- LUNCH
- CLEANING
- DECORATING
- NAME THE DOLL
- GARDENING
- ORGANISING A WALK
- MAKING JAM / MARMALADE TO SELL

I'm sure there are many other ideas you can think of so lets have a go.

Sally

Welcome to **Vision4Life**  
Transforming the church



## CHRISTIAN AID DAY

21ST MAY is Christian Aid Day and this is a real opportunity for us to show ourselves to the Community - to show the people of Redland and Cotham that we are a living church with people who care about the wider world.

It is an opportunity for us to meet people as they go up and down Whiteladies Road and to talk to them about local and global issues.

In the past people have commented on the beauty of the church, which they have never been in before. They come in and enjoy a cup of coffee and have an opportunity to meet with members of our congregation.

Hopefully some of them will visit us again and they will know that we are there when they need us.

Some of our neighbours depend on us for plants and appreciate the gardening advice they are given and others are regular visitors to our book and bric-a-brac stalls.

We always need help on the stalls and with serving coffee. Please let me know if you are able to help on the day between 10 and 12 noon. We set up the night before about 6 p.m. when help is also needed.

Janet Owen

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15 – 21 May 2011

Redland Park has for many years collected for Christian Aid Week in various roads in Redland / Cotham, and I am most grateful to all those who regularly do this year after year. However, I would be most grateful for more volunteers.

If you think you might be willing to help this year, on your own or with a friend, please contact me as soon as possible. The more people we have to help, the easier the collection becomes.

Last year the collection by Redland Park amounted to £1,046.69 and to this was added approximately £130 reclaimed tax. This was in addition to the money which was raised at Christian Aid Day. Please help us to do even better this year. Janet Owen



## Keeping up with the vicar Pt 14 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for April and the first Sunday in May. Lent leads us to Easter, this year falling on the second latest day it can be. (You'll have to wait till 2038 for it to be later.) There's an emphasis on God doing amazing things as he continues to reach out to us: guiding us (3rd), seemingly doing the impossible (10th), and stopping at nothing to fulfil his promises to us (17th), culminating in Easter itself.

As we move to the period just after Easter and hear of encounters with the risen Christ, the Old Testament reading is replaced with one from Acts.

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.

April	OT	Psalm	Gospel	NT
3rd Lent 4	1 Samuel 16:1-13	23	John 9:1-41	Ephesians 5:8-14
10th Lent 5	Ezekiel 37:1-14	130	John 11:1-45	Romans 8:6-11
17th (Palm Sunday)	Isaiah 50:4-9a	31:9-16	Matthew 26:14-27,66	Philippians 2:5-11
24th (Easter Day)	Acts 10:34-43	118:1-2, 14-24	John 20:1-18	Colossians 3:1-4
May 1st	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	16	John 20:19-31	1 Peter 1:3-9

Dear all,

Just to let you know that this morning in the House of Commons in the DECC debate regarding Feed in Tarrifs that Kerry McCarthy MP for Bristol East referred to Redland Park Church as an outstanding example of how a community group has engaged with the issue of green energy and that good FiTs should be maintained to encourage other groups etc to do so. This means that Redland Park will now be mentioned in the Hansard records! Kerry will get me a hard copy. Will get this to you in due course.

But another great example of "Well done, us!"

Please share this good news as you can. With thanks to all who have been involved with any aspect of this and our Green campaigning!

Yours, Dougie

## Secretary's Notes by Sally King



Hopefully you will have been able to attend some of the Lent Lectures and you will see in the diary page the Holy Week meditations. At the beginning of Holy Week we will erect the Cross, as we did last year, at the front of the Church. During the week a different text will be fastened to the cross. On Easter Sunday we invite you to bring flowers to decorate the cross as we did last year.

The Koreans will be worshipping with us on Easter Sunday so it will be a joyful occasion

Those who attended the Church meeting will have heard that the church is very short of money and it is time to we started to do some fund raising. Please have a look at the article on Growing Your Talents.

The finance committee will be looking at increasing our giving etc. at their next meeting.

We need volunteers to help prepare our 150th Anniversary so please look at the list that was in last months recorder and see where you can help and contact myself or Dougie.

A Very Happy Easter to you all.

### 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 May  
Recorder is 30th April**

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