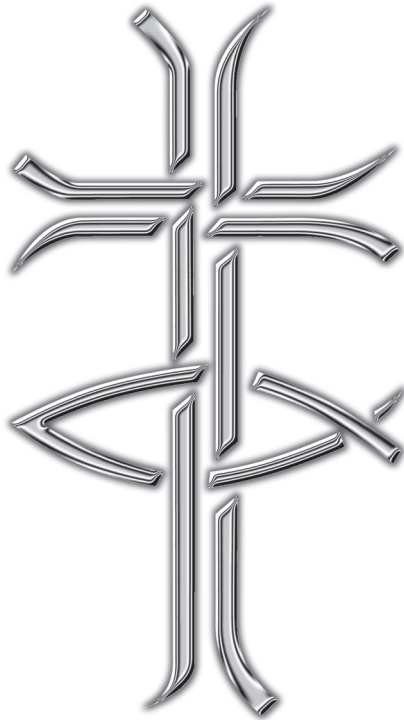


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# The Recorder

September 2010

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



# New Brunswick | September Diary

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## Preachers for 11am Services

Sept 5th	To be confirmed
12th	HARVEST THANKSGIVING lead by Angus Gregson
19th	Rev. Douglas Burnett this will include Communion
26th	To be confirmed

## Speakers for Womens' Guild

Sept 8th	Dorothy Frampton
15th	Guild Harvest Thanksgiving in aid of Tearfund
22nd	Guild Anniversary with special speaker Rev. Douglas Burnett
29th	David Fudge

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

On Friday 24th September there will be a joint Southmead Churches Harvest Supper. This will be held at the White Hall on Glencoyne Square. Time of this event to be confirmed. There will be a small charge. If you would like to attend this event booking is advised and you should ring Gill Waines on 9091851 to reserve a place. After the supper there will be some entertainment. So why not come along and have an enjoyable evening.

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We will be holding another of our fund raising Restaurants on Saturday October 16th. So put the date in your diary and look out for further information of this event coming your way in about the middle of September. Again we look forward to another pleasant evening in the company of our friends.

Our Girls' Brigade Company will be starting a new session on Wednesday 15th September at 6pm. We look forward to welcoming back the girls from last session and perhaps welcoming new members during the coming weeks. If you know of girls of 4yrs plus who might be interested in joining us on a Wednesday evening why not bring them along one evening and see what we get up to! Our activities are varied and include games, craft, cookery, and a devotional time, as well as much more.

# Vestry Vibes by Douglas Burnett

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Vision4Life

## Dear friends,

The floods in Pakistan have been vast. There have also been extreme weather events reported from China where there has also been significant destruction resulting from higher than usual rainfall. By sheer contrast in Brazil they have been suffering from very dry and hot conditions. Record high temperatures have been experienced in Russia over the summer. Had all of this happened this time last year these various events would have been linked together under the banner of climate change, this year there has been none of that at all. Indeed I have had to look long and hard to find any of these events being analysed long and hard in terms of how and why. The difference between this year and last year is of course Copenhagen. This time last year we were all hoping that Copenhagen would give us a binding agreement for action on climate change and a way forward. After the failure of Copenhagen what we have lacked in any sense of a focus and thus things have stalled somewhat.

However at the local level there is still much activity and the churches continue to provide a lot of the engagement that is still happened. In May I was able to attend a day meeting of concerned Christian

Green groups in Oxford and was impressed by the depth and quality of engagement. Here in Bristol through our history of local activity we have linked up with Sustainable Redland to help develop the Green Doors event in Bristol (September 11th-12th). Just in case you are wondering Green Doors happens alongside the Bristol Open Doors event and promotes sustainable buildings. Redland Park will be serving as the hub for Redland. The potential for faith communities to network action in this crucial area is vast. Our inspiration and motivation is our faith in God the creator. Together we can help push society in the right direction, individually there is much we can do to adjust our own lifestyles. We do in the belief that God placed us in a position of stewardship and that means the responsibility of care.

There is still much that can be done to mitigate the worse effects of climate change, but as for the current events in Pakistan etc, let's take them as reminders that for some people climate change is a present problem rather than just a future threat.

*Dougie*



Sally and Terry will be travelling to Northern Ireland shortly to help celebrate the wedding of **Paula Gray**, daughter of Pamela and Paul on 18 September – in fact Sally has been asked to organise the flowers for the wedding. Congratulations to Paula and her husband, Pamela and Paul.

Congratulations to **Will Jenkinson** who celebrated his 18th birthday in July with a barbecue for friends and family at Bristol Cathedral School sports field.

Some of you may remember **Liv Gasland** who sang in our church choir for several years and trained as veterinarian at Bristol University, before setting up in practice in South Wales. Malcolm and Christine Johnson travelled to Norway recently to celebrate her wedding there. Our best wishes to Liv and her husband.

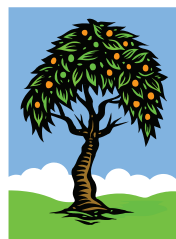
Congratulations to **Malcolm and Christine Johnson** on a new grandson - Elias - born early July one week early to their daughter Cressida and her husband weighing in at 7lbs.

Congratulations also to **Myra and Derek Jones** on a new grandson - Daniel Oliver, born to **Bethany and Neil Robertson** on 25 July - 8lb 3oz.

Several of our friends and members are suffering ill health at present so please remember them in your prayers - **David and Christine Lloyd, Henry and Joyce Dickenson, Myra Jenkins and Teblez Mebrahtu. Jocelyn Pimm** has undergone an eye operation recently and we wish her a speedy recovery.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of **John Bryant** on 19 August, after a long illness, and our prayers and condolences are with Audrey and their families. His funeral will have been held at Canford on Tuesday 31 August. More information will be provided next month.

Two of our members have died recently, and we heard about a third one at the same time; we remember them all.



Christians should resemble a fruit tree not a Christmas tree, for the gaudy decorations of a Christmas tree are only tied on whereas fruit grows on a fruit tree.

Sign seen outside Jasper Park Baptist Church, Canada

## ∞ Mary Crick Tribute ∞

I've known Norman and Mary for the best part of ten years now and over that time I've been able to see and to celebrate the person she was. Most certainly she was active and engaged with the world around her. She was a constant member at Redland Park, but her community involvement went wider than that as well.

From early on when they arrived here in Bristol both Norman and Mary were very active with the Kelvin Players. If you've been around Bristol for any length of time then you will probably know that the Kelvin Players have their base on Gloucester Road in what was the old Methodist Church. Previous to this they had had a studio across in Kingswood, but that was in some process of collapse. They needed a new place and the new place was what Norman helped them to find – the old Methodist Church across in Bishopston. Over the years that followed Norman and Mary were extensively involved. Mary was the membership secretary and indeed at one point "Member of the Year." When the Kelvin Players moved into the new hall, Norman and Mary would be there Sunday after Sunday painting the skirting boards not to mention much other help with the renovations. Mary was also extensively involved in many of the productions.

Mary's work in the community also involved volunteering at the St. Peter's Hospice shop. She worked there every week for 11 years. She was highly respected and loved by all who worked with her and the clientele.

She was also a member of the Townswomen's Guild. There she made meaningful connections with many women despite her hearing loss at the time, and in particular with others who were likewise afflicted.

Here around the church she played her part. She assisted and helped care for the older members here at the church, providing company and support. That was especially the case with Peggy Thomas, a long-standing member here, until Peggy died near the end of last year. It was what Mary did. She was typically a true neighbour and friend. She was known and loved by all her neighbours and willing to help any and everyone in times of need or loneliness. From the conversations that we had at various times I know that all of this was very much born of her faith, a faith that meant much to her. That faith helped and sustained her in good times and in bad. It was this faith that was there for her in the past few weeks. She sought to see beyond her suffering to something of the peace of God of which the Bible speaks. The Bible doesn't give us an answer as to why we suffer. But it does tell us that there is something more than suffering. There is light, there is life, there is God. That is reality that now surrounds Mary: life in all its fullness. That is the context in which we celebrate all that she was and is. AMEN.

Carol Fry

## Tom Prigg Tribute

I was always impressed by Tom as one of life's quiet gentleman. Typically he didn't blow his own trumpet, but it is good at this time to be able to tell just something of the story of his life. For so much of what follows I am very much indebted to his wife Margaret and daughters Ruth and Catherine.

Tom was born in Wales some 88 years ago but moved to Bristol when he was just two years old. Bristol was to be home for the rest of his life and thus he saw himself very much as a Bristolian. He attended St. Gabriel's School in Easton and then in 1933 won a free scholarship to QEH School, which was a real achievement. He loved his time there, taking a real pride in his school, this was reflected in the fact that he joined the Old Boys Society, playing rugby for them and becoming president in 1983. Tom was a very decent sportsman and played rugby over quite some period. After he stopped playing he moved onto refereeing and with that eventually became chairman of Gloucester Referees' Society.

He entered working life finding a job with George's Bookshop but then war broke out. In 1940 he volunteered to join the RAF and undertook pilots training which was based at Miami in Oklahoma (not Florida!) Sadly he was unable to collect his wings upon graduation as he had chicken pox! He then returned to various stations in England flying both Hurricanes and Spitfires, every boy's dream!

Two years ago at our Remembrance Sunday Service Tom was able to speak of his wartime experiences. For those who were there you might recall that in many ways Tom was thankful that he never had to fire a shot in anger and that he survived the war, when many of his friends did not.

After the war he returned to George's and from then on Antiquarian Books were his speciality. This proved to give him an interesting and enjoyable life travelling around the country buying books at sales and large houses. This even took Tom and Margaret to Philadelphia in the mid '70s. He became a director of the company in the late 60s, retiring in 1983.

One of the major constants throughout his life has been Margaret. They met when he was 16, through the sweet shop in which she worked in Easton and from which Tom would buy his much loved coconut bars. After a long courtship which was interrupted by the war they were married at Stapleton Road Congregational Church in 1948. They were married for some 62 years. Their family consists of their two daughters, Ruth and Catherine; 4 grandchildren - Emma, Simon, Michael and Louise; and 2 great grandsons Samuel and Jack.

The other great constant in Tom's life has been the church. He was a Sunday School teacher at Stapleton Road Church until attending David Thomas Memorial Church in 1955.

There he took part in many of the Pantomimes – including one as a green Genie. He was Church Treasurer and a Deacon until the church united with St. Bartholemew's in 1985. After moving to Clifton they became members of Redland Park Church in 2000. Tom loved singing despite being tone deaf and Margaret was known to nudge him to sing a little quieter. Apparently it made no difference!

A man of faith and a quiet gentleman (apart from when he was singing!) he had a good sense of humour and never complained about the difficulties he faced. That was certainly the case in more recent years as he had to go onto dialysis and as other health complications started to set in. He just got on with things. He had a full and contented life and always looked to help others in his quiet way. The

abundance of flowers and cards that Margaret has received says everything. As one of the cards says they thought that "he would go on for ever and ever."

These services always bring with them a very strange mix of emotions. Great memories, thankfulness, the sadness of parting and much more besides. But amongst that curious and sometimes difficult mix there is a sureness, a confidence and hope. We celebrate Tom's life in the faith that says death is never an end, that it is a new beginning. Tom's God is that God who comes to us in Christ, a Christ who lives our life, dies our death, but then comes to the glory of the resurrection. That is a promise of what God intends for us and holds out to us. So we give thanks to God for all that Tom was and is. We celebrate his well-being in God's Kingdom. AMEN. Carol Fry

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## Vera Jennings Tribute

Vera was a member of Redland Park Church for very many years, being part of the Wellings family (her brother Ewart may also be remembered) and lived in Clifton until her health began to fail and she moved into Cowlin House Nursing Home on Pembroke Road. She may be remembered for her

beehive hairdo as well. Her niece moved her to be nearer to her in east Bristol several years ago and when Vera's mental health failed, we were advised not to visit as she was unaware of her surroundings. However, we understand she died in May at the age of over 105 and we send condolences to her family.

# What's On?



## TRAIDCRAFT:

There are a few new items on the Traidcraft stall that you might like to look at, including small and large cartons of orange juice, olive oil, butter mints and a range of cards - as well as chocolates, kitchen and toilet paper, tea and coffee, sweets, rice, dried fruit and snacks.

A new catalogue has arrived which contains (I'm afraid) cards, wrapping paper, gift tags and food items for Christmas! I will take orders for all these items so please have a look through the catalogue.

## Carol

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## BRISTOL GREEN DOORS.

On September 11th and 12th over 50 people will open their homes showcasing no-cost to high-cost measures that reduce domestic energy consumption and promote low-carbon living. Visitors will see and discuss the retrofitting work with the householders and learn from their experiences. Clusters of homes in neighbourhoods will be centred around hubs such as community centres or libraries. Bristol Green Doors is a registered English Heritage Open Day event.

Redland Park is acting as the "Hub" for the Redland Area.

Together with volunteers from Sustainable Redland we hope to be able to welcome visitors and help them with any relevant information.

If you have an hour or perhaps more to spare that weekend from 10 am -5.30pm on the Saturday or Sunday afternoon please let me know.

You do not need to know anything about "Energy".

For more information visit the website [www.bristolgreendoors.org](http://www.bristolgreendoors.org).

Myra Jones

# First Thursday David Hayden

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## A fitting end to another season

The season's activities for First Thursday ended with a garden party by kind invitation of Ernest & Jennie Gudgeon. Despite an indifferent forecast the weather stayed fine and we were able to enjoy a delightful garden and marvel at Ernest's energy in keeping it so beautifully whist at the same time having so many other calls on his time. We were also very grateful to the ladies who assisted in providing a splendid tea to match the occasion which included the opportunity to meet again several former RP members who had been invited to join us. Thank you Ernest & Jennie.

Since last September we have enjoyed a wide range of meetings – an introduction to his favourite poet by John Salsbury, reminiscences of a peripatetic protestant (Derek Skelcher), the low-down on London Livery Companies (Michael Turner) and an insight into what goes on behind

the reception desk in a busy health centre (Derek Jones). These were interspersed with a play reading led by Laura Jones, an afternoon by the organ console with Michael Kearley, security advice from the police, an inspirational Advent message from Helena and more background on the Tyndale Circle from Edward Duffield. Due to the weather the New Year Party was cancelled but the pastoral Committee very kindly gave us another of their sumptuous teas after our February meeting.

Many thanks too to Terry King and Peter Ambrose for installing loudspeakers in the Conference Room and to our members who covered the entire cost.

Our next season starts on September 2 when Martin Harker will be telling us about his unusual hobby of collecting pens and bringing along some to show us. We hope that you will be able to join us in the Conference Room at 2.30pm.

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*"many thanks to Viv and David who arranged such a varied and interesting programme and to Peter and Anna who organised refreshments.."*

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## FIRST THURSDAY PROGRAMME

**September 2** - Pens, Pens, Pens - Martin Harker will tell us about his unusual hobby of collecting pens and show us some of them.

**October 7** - The Gospel goes to Hollywood - Dougie will give us some surprising insights from the movies

**November 4** - Out on a limb - Linda Croft will tell us about her work as a physiotherapist

**December 2** - A Christmas Medley - Laura Jones & Michael Kearley present a seasonal selection of words and music

# Redland Park Church Calendar



## September

Sun 5th	10.30 am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett with Communion
	10.30 am	Korean Worship Upper Room
Wed 8th	7.30 pm	Elders meeting
Sat 11th		GREEN OPEN DOORS DAY
Sun 12th	10.30 am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30 am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	7.30 pm	Service of Prayer and Praise
Sun 19th	10.30 am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30 am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	11.45 am	CHURCH MEETING
Sun 26th	10.30 am	HARVEST FESTIVAL With Korean Church
	12.00 pm	Harvest Lunch with Koreans

## October

Sun 3rd	10.30 am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30 am	Korean Worship Upper Room
Thurs 7th	2.30 pm	1st Thursday Conference Room
Sun 10th	10.30 am	Morning Worship Rev Dougie Burnett with Communion
	10.30 am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	7.30 pm	Service of Prayer and Praise

## Vision4Life Year Of Prayer 2010.

September	19th	10am Prayer Time (Conference Room)
October	17th	10am Prayer Time (Conference Room)
	31st	VISION4LIFE 4. "Exploring Prayer."
November	21st	10am Prayer Time (Conference Room)
December	19th	10am Prayer Time (Conference Room)

# Community Spirit

In defining Community we can only partially prefigure what being Community means. But, if we can glimpse a little what might be, then perhaps we are already caught up in the spirit of Community? For me, Community is an expression of hope and Community is a collective space. Community can be intentional, but it can also sneak up on you when you least expect it to. Creating Community is a radical, counter-cultural act.

The first followers of Jesus met in Community, and they soon discovered that amazing things happen when you seek to be Community. The writers of the New Testament articulated the memory, experience and reality of faith for their Communities and for future Communities. Disciples of Jesus today continue to be inspired by such visions of Community.

In my Free Church tradition, we remember the pioneering Communities of faith established by the Dissenters, by John Smyth and Thomas Helwys, by, Charles and John Wesley. We welcome each other 'in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit'. We look to create new Communities. We also share our faith in Community through singing – inspiration then for a Community playlist: music for, of and about Community.

**C'mon Everybody Eddie Cochran**  
Community should be a place for celebration with others. An effortless guitar tune, and far too short.

**All Together Now The Farm**  
Chord sequences from Pachelbel's Cannon are a rousing anchor for this opportunity for a Community anthem.

**You Got The Love Florence and the Machine**  
Uplifting and empowering with the honesty to admit that we need the support of others;

a strong Community ethos. A swirling harp adds to the ethereal effect.

**Better Together Jack Johnson**  
Bright, encouraging, Hawaiian acoustic pop. The answers to hard questions are indeed often more meaningfully found when we look for them together, in Community.

**It's A New Day – will.i.am**  
An infectious, lyrical outpouring of hope and a celebration of the power of Community to bring about change.

**Fix You – Coldplay**  
A good Community should offer a light to guide you home, and here we are guided to restoration by guitars, piano, drums and somewhere perhaps the echo of a church organ?

**Spem In Alium – Thomas Tallis**  
This has been a real test for Community living since the Renaissance: how can you keep a forty-part motet for eight choirs of five voices each in such beguiling harmony?

**Faith - London Community Gospel Choir**  
This adaptable, dynamic and flexible Community reminds us of the centrality of faith.

**The Summons – Written by John Bell (from the Iona Community)**  
Finding its source in one of the most important Communities of the 20th and 21st centuries, this is a call to stretch our faith and an encouragement to be transformed.

The final song in the playlist? What would you choose? Community crystallises when we act and respond together. Recommendations please!

© Rachael Fletcher 2010  
Free Church Chaplain  
(Methodist, Baptist, and United Reformed Churches)

## Is Redland Park obsessed with PRAYER ?

Wouldn't it be great if our unanimous answer was YES ? !

The introductory booklet to the Year of Prayer states *"In prayer we try to draw closer to God, and learn how to let God come closer to us. Praying in this way is about recognising how God is with us all the way on our life's journey. It's also about tuning in to the ways in which God communicates with us, and listening for God's guidance."*

With the privilege of that two way communication with God at the heart of our Christian development, we should be obsessed by prayer, so I am often anxious that I am not doing prayer right;

Do I babble away and never bother to listen?  
Is it wrong to send God my daily shipping list?  
Are my prayers too short?

Actually, I don't believe that there are any absolute answers to these questions, or to any of anybody else's. However, I do believe that my prayer practice is benefitting from the opportunities to learn from other Christians which this Year of Prayer offers. So, I hope that our various Redland Park opportunities are proving positive for you and your own prayer life.

We are halfway through our Year of Prayer, and we've already;

Developed our Prayer Tree,  
Enjoyed 6 Sunday morning Prayer Times,  
Enjoyed a positive Lent programme,  
Shared Café Style Worship about Praying Together,  
Shared Café Style Worship about Communion Prayers,  
Participated in the URC 24/7 Holy Week Prayer,  
Developed Weekly Prayer Prompts.

For the second part of this year, may I encourage everybody to contribute your own experiences for us all to learn from, by publishing them in the Recorder. Please share your 2010 prayer stories by either e-mailing them to me or by leaving them, anonymously if you wish, near our Prayer Tree. Thank you.

Les Fry.  
lesjfry@hotmail.com

## Sunday Morning Prayers

We meet on the third Sunday of the month before the service at 10 o'clock in the Junior Church rooms.

We use the prayer requests from the prayer tree which is kept in the church on Sunday mornings and by the kitchen the rest of the week.

A lot of the requests are from non church members who use the rooms so this acts as an excellent form of outreach.

We usually pray in silence with a list of the requests on the board in front of us. If anyone is moved to pray aloud or add to the requests this is encouraged.

We all believe that prayer works and it can be so much more powerful if there is a group of people together in one place.

I find these sessions are an excellent way to prepare for worship and I would love it if a few more of you joined us. It is a small commitment but one which is thoroughly worthwhile and is another sign that Redland Park is taking the Vision4Life message seriously.

Linda Croft

## You've Got To Give Everything

You've got  
To give everything; you've got  
To give everything; you've got  
To give everything,  
Give everything you've got.

No use saying  
Today you're praying,  
Tomorrow you don't care!  
Being a part-time Christian  
Gets you nowhere!

Saying you would  
If you could  
Doesn't prove a thing.  
You must show you mean it,  
Give everything

Every second,  
Every minute,  
Each hour of every day.  
Giving everything is  
The only way.

You've got  
To give everything; you've got  
To give everything; You've got  
To give everything,  
Give everything you've got,

Give everything,  
Give everything,  
Give everything  
You've got!

Copyright 1973 Derek Skelcher

## Keeping up with the vicar Pt 8 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for September and the first Sunday in October. We continue working through Luke. In September's readings Jesus seems to be pointing out that life isn't always straightforward and easy – risky, even sometimes. We shall celebrate harvest shortly – assured for us but for the people of Pakistan or Niger? But maybe the answer comes in October's passages...

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.

Sep	OT	Psalm	Gospel	NT
5th	Deut. 30:15-20	1	Luke 14:25-33	Philemon 1-21
12th	Exodus 32:7-14	51:1-10	Luke 15:1-10	1 Timothy 1:12-17
19th	Amos 8:4-7	113	Luke 16:1-13	1 Timothy 2:1-7
26th	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	146	Luke 16:19-31	1 Timothy 6:6-19
Oct				
3rd	Habakkuk (where?) 1:1-4	37:1-9	Luke 17:5-10	2 Timothy 1:1-14

## A bit of fun with a serious point:

Although things are not perfect  
Because of trial or pain,  
Continue in thanksgiving  
Do not begin to blame.  
Even when the times are hard  
Fierce winds are bound to blow,  
God is forever able  
Hold on to what you know.  
Imagine life without His love  
Joy would cease to be.  
Keep thanking Him for all the things  
Love imparts to thee.  
Move out of 'Camp Complaining'  
No weapon that is known

On earth can yield the power  
Praise can do alone.  
Quit looking at the future  
Redeem the time at hand,  
Start every day with worship,  
To 'thank' is a command.  
Until we see Him coming  
Victorious in the sky,  
We'll run the race with gratitude  
Xalting God most high.  
Yes, there'll be good times and yes  
some will be bad, but...  
Zion waits in glory...where none are  
ever sad!

## Secretary's Notes by Sally King



Welcome back to all those who have been on holiday and hope you had good weather and a restful time. Our holiday is still to come (we hope !)

August has, as usual, been a quiet month at church but we have had some very good Sunday services.

The minister is back from his well earned rest and raring to go !

A bit like being at school in September we come back refreshed to start another year at Redland Park !

On behalf of the church I would like to say A big thank you to Anne Moody. She has arranged the rota ( for her helpers) and prepared the communion elements during the past years. She has now decided to retire. From now on the duty elder will prepare the communion elements.

September 11th sees the Bristol Open Doors day. This year there will also be a Green Open Doors day which Redland Park will be taking a big part in displays of the Solar Panels and Lighting system etc.

On September 26th our Korean congregation will be joining us for the Harvest Festival and we will all be getting together after the service for a lunch. There will be Korean and English food so please come and join us. This provides you to come and meet our younger members and their families and the Korean congregation. This will be in place of the Bring and Share lunch.

We will be holding a special service on 10th October celebrating our discipleship and commitment for the future so please keep the date free in your diaries.

Best wishes

Sally

Deadline for contributions for the **October Recorder** is **26th September**.

Please send to the editor

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or by post to The Recorder at the Church  
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