

ESTD 1901

The Recorder

July & August '21



New Brunswick Update

Preachers for 11 am Services

July	August
4th Les Fry	1st To be Advised
11th Rev. Helena Mckinnon	8th Wendy Mcgee
18th Angus Gregson	15th Delwyn Tilke
25th Rev Douglas Burnett	22nd Angus Gregson
	29th Sue Thorne
	Preacher for the first Sunday in September will be Angus Gregson.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Sunday 4th July 'Praise and Picnic' at 3pm in the grounds of St Stephens Church. Bring your own picnic and a garden chair or picnic rug.

Tuesday 6th July at 7.30pm will be the next joint church prayer meeting. We are hoping this will be able to be a face to face meeting. Await further information.

Wednesday 14th July is the next joint church leaders meeting. When we will hopefully be able to plan forthcoming events for autumn.

Tuesday 3rd August will again be a joint churches prayer meeting. When we pray for the local area of Southmead and for concerns and needs within our own fellowships.

We were pleased to see Elizabeth back worshipping with us a couple of weeks ago. She had been most appreciative of our thoughts and prayers. However we hear that following a recent fall Elizabeth again finds herself back in hospital. We send her our best wishes and pray that this will be a short stay and she will soon be back home.

The news of Julie's husband Pete, is that he may be going to move from hospital to some respite accommodation for a few weeks before going home. We pray that all these arrangements will fall into place in the near future.

Gill and John have now moved from Avonmouth and are now living in Horfield. We pray that their new surroundings will soon feel like 'home' and they will be very happy there. Staying with Gill and John their long awaited twin Great Granddaughters have arrived safely. Willow Grace and Ivy May were born on 5th June. Mother and babies are doing well. Gill and John now await a visit to Stoke to meet the new arrivals!

We uphold to God those in our fellowship who continue to need our prayers either because of ill health, personal circumstances and those going through worrying times. We think of Elaine who has not been able to worship with us for a little while, Angie who was quite apprehensive about going away for a few days in the current situation. We pray, too, for Julie and the family as they continue to be concerned about Pete. Margaret and Wenda are also in our thoughts and hope it won't be long before they feel able to join with us again on a Sunday morning.

It was good to have some 'first hand' news on Ivy as Gill was able to secure a 'Garden' visit in June. Ivy looks well and has gained some weight. She is very much enjoying her new surroundings and seems to be taking part in lots of the activities. Gil was able to spend well over an hour sharing with Ivy. Ivy was very keen that her love be sent to all her friends. It is hoped over the coming weeks more of us will be able to 'book' a slot to visit her. But in the meantime we ALL send Ivy our love and best wishes.

As this Recorder is a double issue for July and August I would normally be wishing everyone a happy holiday. But it does seem likely that many of you will NOT be able to travel to warmer climes. You may, however, be able to enjoy 'staycation' visiting family or friends here in the UK. Even if that seems too much of a 'challenge' at the moment I hope and pray you may be able to have some quiet moments in a local park or even in your garden when you can reflect on God's wonderful world. And thank Him for all His Blessings

We send HAPPY BIRTHDAY greetings to all those who will be celebrating a birthday in the next couple of months....

27th July Carol H, August 4th Brenda D, 21st August John W, August 30th Wenda M . May you all enjoy God's Richest Blessings as you celebrate your 'Special Day'

Claire Kitay – Our New Musical Director

I am delighted to welcome Claire Kitay to Redland Park as our new Musical Director. She has recently moved back to Bristol and is working as a music therapist in Soundwell. Previously, she has played the organ at Great St. Mary's in Cambridge and St. Mary's in Paddington, and taught the piano at King's College and St. John's Schools in Cambridge. She was also organist at Holy Trinity Anglican Church and Auditiore De Calvin, both in Geneva, and at Manchester Cathedral. In her previous time in Bristol, she had spells as assistant organist and acting Director of Music at Bristol Cathedral, and as organist at Clifton Cathedral.

As you can see, Claire brings with her a wealth of experience. She also brings great energy and enthusiasm for enhancing the musical elements of our worship.

Whilst she doesn't officially take up her post until 1st September, she has very kindly agreed to play for many of our services in July and August.

Please join me in offering a very warm welcome to Claire.

Andrew Hayden



Dear friends,

As you will see in other pages of this edition of the Recorder there is a particular focus on music at Redland Park. First of all Sunday June 27th saw the retirement of Mike Kearley as the choir master and organist at Redland Park. This after a remarkable 33 years of service. You can read what I said in the way of a tribute to Mike at the end of the service on the 27th in those other pages. But the good news alongside that is that we have been able to appoint a new Director of Music and organist in the person of Claire Kitay. Claire has recently returned to Bristol having been living in Cambridge for some time. While living in Cambridge she was organist at Great St. Mary Church of England, just opposite King's College.

All of this goes to say how important music is in the life of the church. That is the church in general and Redland Park Church in particular. Of course, if you read through the Book of Psalms, that also makes clear that music has always played a central role in the life of the people of God. Even away back then singing and a very wide spectrum of instrumentation was involved.

As we continue to emerge from the various Covid restrictions, though that has been limited by the new variants that are now in circulation, we are mindful that we would also wish to restart various aspects of live music in the church. Being physically in church, hearing the organ played, and not being able to sing hymns is truly frustrating. But as the vaccine roll-out continues, and hopefully as the restrictions are eased towards the end of July, more and more will become possible.

It is already the case that a group of 6 can be in church and sing, though others cannot. Under Claire's leadership we shall look to start such groups in the hope that more will follow in the coming months. Our intention is to hold some drop-in singing afternoons to which anyone interested will be invited.

The world has changed dramatically since February. We have now got the live-streaming facility, but there is also what only being physically in church can achieve. We have already been joined by another local church through our Zoom services, and they hope to continue to do

so in the future. A further church has also indicated that joining us through Zoom might be a way forward for them. We will continue to work at the nature of what we now know as hybrid services, but in the meantime we give thanks for the fact that we have a gifted and dedicated techy team that has been able to achieve so much over the past year plus.

But in the meantime the emphasis for this edition of the Recorder is very much on music. Do read those other articles. Give thanks for all that Mike Kearley has done for us, and celebrate for the work and worship that we can create with Claire over the coming years.

And here are some words from Psalm 150:

Psalm 150

1 Praise the Lord. [a]

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens.

2 Praise him for his acts of power;

praise him for his surpassing greatness.

3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,

praise him with the harp and lyre,

4 praise him with timbrel and dancing,

praise him with the strings and pipe,

5 praise him with the clash of cymbals,

praise him with resounding cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

Dougie

Redland Park People



13 and 16 July. We hope that Redland Park can mark this event in some way – watch this space! RELAY | YCCN <https://www.yccn.uk>

Revd Ken Marsh should have been leading our service on July 25 but now needs a second operation and will be recuperating then; please pray for Ken and we hope for a good recovery.

Congratulations to **Bryan Jenkins** who celebrated his 92nd birthday on midsummer day; please also pray for him as he has lost the sight in one eye. We hope that the treatment he is being given can make an improvement.

Congratulations also to **Sheila Smart**, 92 years young as well, who is bright and lively and sends her love to everyone.

Please also pray for **Revd Rachel Haig** from Tyndale Baptist Church; her recovery is not going as well as hoped and we wish her well.

And we wish **Andrew Hayden** a speedy recovery, after a fall which broke no bones but has meant some time off to return to good health.

COP26 is being held in Glasgow later in the year; the Youth Christian Climate Network has young people walking from Cornwall to Glasgow, 750 miles to link the G7 meeting to COP26 and will be coming through Bristol between

Please pray for our members and friends who are recovering from illness or operations; it is difficult to visit and support as much as we would like in the lockdown but they are in our prayers and thoughts. We think of people who have been moved to put their prayers into our prayer box – Tom, grieving for a friend from another friend wanting to be a good support to him; a friend wanting prayers for Dipak; Millie suffering from depression and loneliness and her mother asking for prayers for her. We also pray for Heather who has recently been widowed, and Helen whose mother has recently been diagnosed with cancer and is receiving palliative care, together with Maggie, Jeff and Liz all suffering from different cancers. Dear God, please uphold these friends and surround them in your loving care.

We pray for refugees and asylum seekers everywhere, and ask the government to be compassionate to them all, and to help bring peace to the world; we also pray for countries suffering from natural disasters such as Madagascar.

Prayer page:

You asked for my hands that you might use them for your purpose –
 I gave them for a moment then withdrew them for the work was hard.
 You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice –
 I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused.
 You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty –
 I closed them for I did not want to see.
 You asked for my life that you might work through me –
 I gave a small part that I might not get too involved.
 Lord, forgive me for my calculated efforts to serve you only when it is
 convenient for me to do so.
 Only in those places where it is safe to do so and only with those who
 make it easy to do so.
 Father, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument, that I might take seriously
 the meaning of your cross.
 Amen.



Please pray for:

Heather and family after the death of her husband, Chris.
 Morag Green, who has been diagnosed with cancer and her daughter Helen.
 The family of Jane Langley who has recently died.
 Liz, diagnosed with cancer.
 Mary and her family.
 The Storrie family.
 Maggie
 Jeff and Lily
 Beth
 Rev. Ken Marsh, who is having spinal surgery.
 Mike Kearley as he starts his "retirement"

Father God, send your healing spirit on all who suffer and let them feel the support of
 your love.

Amen

St Mark's Gospel Quiz, Summer 2021 – Answers!

	Details	Chapter	Verses
1	Tells of the symbols of Communion.	14	22-24
2	Is written on a Prescription	12	28-34
3	Is illustrated with pebbles	1	29-34
4	Tells about Taxes (or £5)	12	13-17
5	Is written out in Tigrinya	15	1-15
6	Is displayed in Cross Stitch	3	1-6
7	Is displayed out of sequence	5	1-20
8	Tells of a crowd fed by bread and fishes	6	30-44
9	Includes Judas' second name	3 14	19 10
10	Describes a dialogue between Jesus and Peter	14	27-31

CHRISTIAN AID – not just one week a year!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Redland Park is hoping to hold our delayed Christian Aid Fair on Saturday 4 September from 10.00am to about 1.00/1.30pm at the front of the church. There will be books, home-grown plants, bric a brac, cakes, Korean food, teas and coffees, etc, so anything you wish to de-clutter or donate we would be very grateful to have it.

If you can help on the day, either by coming and buying, making a cake, donating stuff, or helping run a stall, please save the date and let me know! Many thanks.

Carol Fry

If anyone would like to make a donation to Christian Aid we have an e-envelope!

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/redland-park-urc?channel=status>

The nights are drawing in again, so here are the Lectionary readings for July and August and the first Sunday in September. When I was teaching I used to hate that in the first week of the summer holidays, the shops would have out their "Back to School" displays. We need a break! But here I am, before proper schools have broken up, giving you the readings for the start of the autumn term. Sorry.

The main gospel focus this year is Mark. If you're in the church building, why not read through these passages – or the even whole gospel – from the handwritten version on the wall? Mark's tone is often very immediate. Imagine you're reading these passages like a news update that's just been put up for public consumption. How would you react?



Because Mark's gospel is fairly short, it's padded out with bits of John. We leave Mark at the account of the feeding of the 5000 and transfer to John's record of the same miracle. But the whole of John, chapter 6, is bread-focussed in its imagery, even down to predicting Judas' act of betrayal in the last few verses. Maybe read all of chapter 6 in one go to see how the ideas develop and fit together.

And we've got Ephesians. (Have I mentioned before I quite like Ephesians?) Several of Paul's letters are addressing particular concerns or questions that have been raised. (Wouldn't it be handy to see the letters churches had sent to Paul?) Ephesians is much more a statement of faith, with Paul expounding on how he sees our role as the body of Christ on Earth. When we pray with the Lord's prayer "Your will be done on Earth as in heaven", this is what Paul's addressing here.

I'm sure I said before at how I wonder at that passage we'll read on July 11th. It's just one sentence, Paul almost tripping over himself as he tries to get the words out. It makes me realise just how enthusiastic Paul was about his faith. Try reading it out loud as if you've only just realised the enormity of it for yourself. How would you put that over to someone to explain how vital the gospel is to you?

July	OT	Psalm	Gospel	NT
4th	Ezekiel 2:1-5	123	Mark 6:1-13	2 Corinthians 12:2-10
11th	Amos 7:7-15	85:8-13	Mark 6:14-29	Ephesians 1:3-14
18th	Jeremiah 23:1-6	23	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	Ephesians 2:11-22
25th	2 Kings 4:42-44	145:10-18	John 6:1-21	Ephesians 3:14-21
August				
1st	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15	78:23-29	John 6:24-35	Ephesians 4:1-16
8th	1 Kings 19:4-8	34:1-8	John 6:35, 41-51	Ephesians 4:25-5:2
15th	Proverbs 9:1-6	34:9-14	John 6:51-58	Ephesians 5:15-20
22nd	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18	34:15-22	John 6:56-69	Ephesians 6:10-20
29th	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9	15	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	James 1:17-27
Sept				
4th	Isaiah 35:4-7a	146	Mark 7:24-37	James 2:1-17

Dates for July 2021

Sun 11th 10.40am Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett
7.00pm Evening Worship led by members

Sun 18th 10.40am Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett

Sun 25th 10.40am Morning Worship led by Redland Park Elders
7.00pm Evening Worship led by members

August 2021

Sun 1st 10.40am Morning Worship led by Les Fry & Allan Lafferty

Sun 8th 10.40am Morning Worship led by Les Fry & Allan Lafferty
7.00pm Evening Worship led by members

Sun 15th 10.40am Morning Worship led by Rev. Norman Whitaker

Sun 22nd 10.40am Morning Worship led by Rev. Sue Cossey
7.00pm Evening Worship led by members

Sun 29th 10.40am Morning Worship led by Redland Park Elders

September 2021

Wed 1st 7.30pm Elders Meeting

Sat 4th 10.30am Christian Aid Fair

Sun 5th 10.40am Morning Worship with Virtual Communion
Led by Rev. Dougie Burnett

Mike Kearley's retirement

Michael Kearley has retired as the Redland Park organist after 33 years at the keyboard! A presentation was made to him after the service on Sunday 27 June with a plaque to go on the organ, a gift for him and some flowers for Jean, together with a speech of thanks from Dougie, and a suitable speech from Michael. We shall miss him at the keyboard, but welcome Claire Kitay who has been appointed Musical Director and she will start later in the summer.



I was completely overwhelmed by the presentation & kind words spoken on the occasion of my retirement as organist at Redland Park. I have long admired the brass plate screwed to the console marking the service of my predecessor, Stanley Parker. Never in my wildest dreams did I believe that one day I would also have a similar plate fixed underneath! Also, the generosity of the cheque presented to me was a complete surprise & I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Rest assured that you have not seen the last of me! I have been allowed to retain my keys to the organ & hope that I can repay your generosity in some way in the future.

Mike Kearley

Having been Organist and Choirmaster of Redland Park Church for 33 years since 1988 Mike Kearley retired on the last Sunday in June. He came to us having studied and qualified at Trinity College of Music in London in 1966 and following various appointments as organist and music teacher in this area before joining us.

By kind invitation of Peter and Alison Lunt the choir were able to say their farewells at a garden party in glorious sunshine the day before. In appreciation of Mike's work with the choir he was given DVDs and CDs highlighting the history of organs.



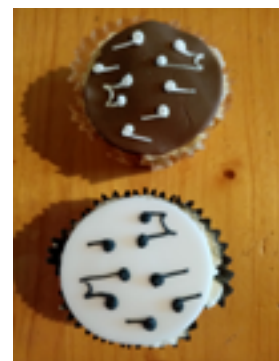
On Sunday Mike excelled himself with music which he had chosen for the service and which demonstrated both his expertise and the superb qualities of the Father Willis organ which we are privileged to have and for which he has so lovingly cared. In recognition of this he was given a cheque and an appreciative brass plaque to be fixed to the organ console near that of his distinguished predecessor Stanley Parker. His wife Jean was given flowers as a thank you for lending him to us.

We are glad to know that Mike will from time to time return to the organ stool as a deputy for his recently appointed successor Claire Kitay who was able to share Mike's last Sunday with us.



Farewell Mike and Jean, it has been our pleasure and delight to have shared these years with you and we wish you a long and happy retirement.

David Hayden



Today we are celebrating Mike's wonderful contribution to the life of Redland Park as choir master and organist.

It was back in March when Mike let me know that he was looking to retire as organist. My immediate reaction was to phone Mike and exclaim, "But Mike you are only a teenager!" Well, maybe I knew that Mike is a bit older than that, but at the same time it is surprising to realise that it is this year that Mike celebrates his 80th birthday.

When you do your calculations that means that Mike was only a strip of a lad (relatively!) when he arrived here some 33 years ago.

Following on from Stanley Parker Mike has gone on to provide the most wonderful and reliable service as organist and choir master.

Reliability. For myself as the minister I have always known that I could phone up Mike with a need, and Mike would set about doing something about it. I always knew that Mike would be there. Like on a Sunday morning I get there first. Then Mike always arrives just after. And then in "normal times" by Terry and Sally. With that I always knew that the Sunday service would happen.

Though just to mention the time on Christmas Day some years ago. Christmas day always starts at 10am.

On this one occasion Mike thought it was 10.30am. As the minutes ticked towards the hour there was still no organist. I asked Les if he could play the piano, Les looked very pale. Then Mike arrived!! Christmas was not cancelled. Though Les is still in therapy.

But, Mike we celebrate your many years of remarkable service. We celebrate your friendliness and affability, your love of the organ, knowing how to pull out the stops and make it thunder. We thank you for your leadership of the choir, and that with all of that you ensured that there would be Music in Worship slots week in and week out.

We also know that this is not a total farewell. For as Claire inherits your mantle, a bit like Elisha taking over from Elijah, you won't be swept up in a chariot never to return. Instead of that you will be in Clevedon and you will still be one of our deputies on various Sundays in the year. That is very good news.

But for today and at this time we say thank you, and we present you with these tokens of appreciation. As you unwrap them, you will see that one of them is yours for you to keep. But the other one is yours but for us to keep. Unwrap them and you will see what I mean. Mike's response.

Blessing:

Lord God, we give thanks for Mike and his many years of service, for his gifts of music and how those have inspired and led our worship. Bless him in the years ahead, and may his many gifts continue to bear good fruit in the service of Christ.

THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.



Dougie

Look after your Organist.

These are my thoughts after 65 years playing the organ.

We are fortunate at Redland Park to have had Mike Kearley as our organist for 33 years and fortunate to have been able to appoint Claire as his successor. Mike and Claire are both highly talented and skilled musicians, they received superb training in many centres and are very experienced. We owe Mike a huge debt of gratitude for his expertise and commitment over the years he has been at Redland Park.

We are and have been fortunate with our musicians, now, how can we help Claire as she settles into Redland Park? In essence, I'd say: support her and listen to her. Listening means two things – listen to her ideas for music in Redland Park and listen to her as she plays. Claire is talented, highly trained and experienced. The RP organ is a resourceful instrument which sounds well in many different styles of music.

One suggestion from me is to make a point of sitting and listening to the music before and after the service. It is good to greet friends and people new to the church as we arrive and there are preparations for worship that need to be made but we should give ourselves time to sit quietly and listen to the music before the service. It will help us to prepare for worship. Claire will have chosen music that fits with the service, so we shouldn't regard the music as background only, rather think of it as part of the service. Some may say "I don't understand music". A carefully written piece of music, with a tune, developed to a climax (even a quiet climax) will help all of us order our thoughts. Listen to Claire (and our other organists) and the music will have its effect.

Remember that the hymns are where we as a congregation contribute actively to worship. Sing well, expressing your faith, with Claire's lead.

Also, after the service, sit and listen to the music as well, but remember newcomers among us – greet them – they may be enjoying the music.

An organist can feel isolated from the congregation and choir and there is so much to remember and get right when playing for a church service. Do speak to Claire at the right time so that she knows her work is appreciated.

John Turner

Minutes of the Church Meeting

19.05.21 (via Zoom)

Minutes of the Church Meeting held on Wednesday 19th May 2021

via Zoom

Present

The Minister and 29 members were present. Apologies for absence had been received from 2 members.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

All matters were covered by agenda items.

Church in Society

Carol Fry reported that around 1,000 Christian Aid envelopes had been delivered to households near the church. A fair in aid of Christian Aid was being planned for either the first or second Saturday in September; she asked for donations of books, plants, CD's and bric-a-brac.

A quiz in aid of Christian Aid would be held online via Zoom at 7:30pm on Friday 28th May.

Finance and Property

John Neugebauer presented a few slides which showed that, in 2020, income was down by roughly £50,000 compared to 2019, expenditure was down by about £80,000 and about £44,000 had been lost in lettings income. Reserves had been used to cover the shortfall in cashflow with a hope that it could be repaid in full in due course. An interim payment of £14,000 had been received from an insurance claim for loss of income, with the prospect of a further payment at some point in the future.

Despite the Covid pandemic, John thought we had thrived and this was reflected in the annual report and accounts, which he presented for approval. In response to a question from Angus Gregson, John explained that our M&M assessment had reduced and we had reduced to £1,000 the

additional voluntary payment that we had made. The report and accounts for 2020 were duly adopted unanimously. Thanks were expressed to John, Sally and Terry King, David and Viv Hayden, Andrew Sims, Tony Milligan, Dougie and Andrew Hayden for their roles on the Finance and Property Committee, and to all those who had contributed to the narrative sections of the report and accounts.

While many of our lettings had returned, Sally King reported that the choirs had been forced to close again almost immediately due to Covid restrictions.

Ministerial Matters

Nothing to report.

Walking the Way

Dougie thanked all those who contributed to the writing out of Mark's Gospel, in English and Korean, which was now on display in church.

Ministerial Deployment in Bristol

Andrew Hayden provided an update on progress regarding ministerial deployment in Bristol. He had written to the Synod Pastoral Committee (SPC) as requested at the previous Church Meeting, but had received no reply.

The Elders had met with Rev. Ruth Whitehead and Rev. Sue Cossey at the April Elders Meeting, together with Elders from New Brunswick URC. The meeting had been very long, with protracted answers provided to the questions asked, leading to a feeling of filibustering on the part of Ruth in particular. Ruth had stated that the original letter, sent to us in February, was intended to be a discussion starter, although it had not been read or received as such, and that there was no direct link between a minister's stipend and the scoping of their pastorate, despite a clear correlation being made in the letter.

We had asked for clarification on the meaning of "emergency funding", but we were only told that it wouldn't be up to retirement; there was no clear indication of what it would cover.

There was some concession towards the combining of pastorates, although Ruth was not in favour of large pastorates. She also talked about the possible creation of a new "Transition

Minister" role, although it wasn't clear what the role would entail or who would fill it.

Whilst not stated categorically, there was a distinct impression that the Bristol Korean Church would be scoped at 50% when the SCM funding ends at the start of 2023.

Ruth acknowledged that certain changes would be occurring in the foreseeable future: Stephen Newell would be leaving Zion in Frampton Cotterell next year, Sian Collins would be retiring next year, and John Gray had made known his intention to move on from his pastorate.

It had been announced that Rev. Lythan Nevard would be leaving her pastorate in Devon to become the next Moderator of Eastern Synod. Her husband, The Rev'd Phil Nevard, also a URC minister in Devon, would be moving with her.

A Bristol-wide consultation was being planned for Tuesday 25th May, at which Redland Park's representatives would be Dougie, Andrew and Carol Fry. Each pastorate had been asked to make a three minute statement of their hopes and fears; Redland Park would be combining with New Brunswick to make a joint statement.

David Hayden said that a fundamental aim should be that Redland Park and New Brunswick should not become a 60%-scoped pastorate, even if that meant adding other responsibilities to the minister's role. Dougie responded by saying Ruth had stated that it was her intention for Dougie to be 100%-scoped until retirement. In addition, James Jang had been told that his stipend was not being reduced from 100%.

Andrew Sims echoed David Hayden's remarks and also observed that neither the Moderator or her representatives had offered any positive prospects. Carole Atter was baffled by the confusing messages coming from the SPC, a feeling shared by others.

Sally King was concerned that the SPC had no idea about the good work being done by Redland Park. David Hayden said he had raised such concerns in his letter to the Moderator, to which he had received no reply. Helena McKinnon agreed; she thought that the SPC's approach seemed to be a cold, numbers-led exercise, with no regard to the quality of ministry being undertaken in each pastorate.

It was agreed that a report from the consultation should be circulated as soon as possible after it was held. Andrew Sims asked if there was anything that the members of Redland Park could contribute to the deployment discussion; it was agreed that we should let the consultation happen before making any decisions in this regard.

Secretarial Matters

Mike Kearley's last Sunday as our organist would be June 27th, after which a celebration of his service to the church was being planned. Interviews and auditions for his successor would be held on Saturday 5th June and the interview panel were very hopeful of being able to appoint a successor from the candidates.

The church would be re-opening for worship from Sunday 23rd May with the same Covid restrictions as had been employed prior to Christmas. Anyone wanting to attend in person would need to book a place in advance, via Andrew. The Elders had decided that Church and Elders' meetings should continue to be held online via Zoom until September.

Andrew's term as Church Secretary would be ending at the November Church meeting, and Les Fry had agreed to take over for a term of three years so that his secretary could become accustomed to the post before Dougie retired in six years time. His appointment was ratified nem con.

An election of Elders was planned for the November Church Meeting; nominations for the eldership should be returned to Andrew before the end of May.

News of members

News of member was shared.

A.O.B.

None.

The meeting closed by sharing the Grace.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st July at 7.30pm (via Zoom)

Water is a precious resource. We all know that and our lives depend on it.

Every litre of clean water coming into our homes has produced 0.292 grams of CO₂. Individuals in the UK use an average of 142 litres a day, and houses with water meters use on average 3% less water than unmetered properties.

We use water in 3 areas in the house. On average, the bathroom uses 68% of this, the kitchen 22%, and outdoors 10%.

Of all the CO₂ emissions in the UK, 6% are from water use, and a massive 89% of this comes just from heating water in our homes.

The energy used to heat water in our homes emits an average of 875kg of CO₂ per household per year. This is equivalent to the CO₂ emissions from driving more than 1,700 miles in an average family car. That's Bristol to John O'Groats almost 2½ times. Every year.

The biggest use is in the bathroom so let's look at this. We all know that showering uses less water than baths, depending of course on how long we spend in the shower. How long do you actually need? I usually have the radio on. One item on the "Today" programme is more than enough time. How much purified water is wasted down the drain while we wait for the water to warm up, unless perhaps you're one of those people who have been persuaded to have a cold shower for the benefits of your health! For the benefit of the planet we could collect that water and use it to fill the cistern after flushing the toilet. And don't forget you can get free water displacement devices from your water supplier.

In the kitchen, water and energy use can be reduced by ensuring the washing machine and dishwasher have full loads before running them. If you still do the washing up by hand, you can collect the water, while you're waiting it to run hot, in a bucket or empty milk cartons {unless you have the milkman and avoid single use plastic}. Use it to water your plants.

Washing clothes at 30°C will save energy too.

Another easy energy saving way is to only boil the required amount of water in the kettle.

So to reduce your carbon footprint, save water, save energy and help save the planet.

Myra Jones /Angus Gregson.

Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter

What did we do?

We block booked seven rooms for guests at a central B&B and ran the shelter from one static location. Guests had their own rooms en suite and food provision was served in a 'team room' by volunteers who were on hand to chat to guests (several of these from Redland Park). The team room was staffed by volunteers three times a day (breakfast, lunch and dinner) and the B&B owner was responsible for the guests overnight.

What was the impact?

There were 82 volunteers who served at the B&B during the three months. Feedback indicates volunteers enjoyed the consistency of working with the same partner and the chance to engage with guests. There were 17 guests who came through the project of which seven were housed during or at the end of the project, and four had a positive reconnection. Sadly six guests abandoned or were asked to leave due to breaking the guest agreement. There were two female guests who stayed with us for 21 days and 82 days. Six of the guests stayed more than 50 days and on average six out of the seven beds were filled throughout the project. We have stayed in touch with five of our guests and helped to support them with items for their new rooms as well as a food voucher to help them as they adjust to their new accommodation and cooking for themselves. We are also continuing to build relationships with three guests through our befriending project.

Thank you We are so grateful to all who have been supporting this year's project. through prayer, food contributions, cleaning, donating, driving, volunteering at the B&B or something else. We decided to hold a celebration via zoom this year. This was an opportunity for us to hear about the project's impact, thank those involved in making it happen and share a little about next year's plans; this was on Monday 7 June.

BCWNS Next Year

The guidance from Public Health for Winter 2021/22 is that shelters with communal air space will not be allowed to run. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has announced a £3 million grants' fund to enable community and faith groups to provide winter services for people sleeping rough in 2021/22. Please read more about it here: <https://homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2021/apr/07/homelessness-winter-transformation-fund-2021/22-is-announced>

We are praying into options for next year and how we could use this grant money wisely to make a difference to the lives of the homeless people in Bristol. If you know of a building we could use as a static shelter over the Winter then please do get in touch with Amanda at bristolchurcheswinter-shelter@gmail.com. There is the option to apply for funding for capital costs to convert existing buildings to contain self contained units within it.

Homes not Houses

Some of you may already be aware of the Homes not Houses initiative but I would love to bring it to your attention. You can find out more details here. If you are passionate about walking alongside BCWNS guests in the long term then this is definitely something to explore. Homes not houses is about obtaining properties, placing homeless or vulnerably housed people in those properties, and through the committed involvement of local church communities, creating safe, trusting, empowering and loving communities where tenants are able to thrive. Please do get in touch with Cathy at cknowled.hnh@gmail.com if you are interested in discussing this opportunity further. Thank you!

Kind Regards, Amanda Munday, Project Coordinator
Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter

**Deadline for contributions for the
September Recorder is 29th August**

Please send to the editor Sarah Trigg

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**or by post to The Recorder at the Church
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