

ESTD 1901

# The Recorder

May '18

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



[www.redlandparkurc.org](http://www.redlandparkurc.org)

# New Brunswick | May Diary

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## Preachers for **May** 11am services

6th Les Fry and friends

13th Angus Gregson

20th John Waines

27th Rev. Ruth Browning

## Preachers for **June** 11am services

3rd Brenda Munden

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 12th May Church Party 3pm to 6pm .

Thursday 7th June Church AGM at 7:30pm.

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We were sorry to hear that Jim Hayes daughter, Julie, has had a spell in hospital recently and that her husband Pete was in hospital at the same time having an operation. We send them both our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

It was with sadness that we heard of the passing of Mrs Jarrett and send our condolences to Lynn, Heather, Neil and the whole family.

We uphold all those who are in need of God's' strength, comfort, guidance and love at this time. May He hear their prayers and give to each as they need.

As we enter the 'holiday season' (although the weather isn't much like summer) we wish all those going away, visiting family or friends a time of rest, relaxation and refreshment.

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# Vestry Vibes by Douglas Burnett

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Dear friends,

This month sees the celebration of Pentecost. Ask any number of people to sum up Pentecost and they might describe it as the birthday of the Church. That is fair enough. It is the birthday of the Church. But I would also say that the day is much more than that.

It is much more interesting and much more risky than that. As part of that famous story (Acts 2.1-21) Peter quotes from the prophet Joel "young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams." If Peter were to revise his speech now I am sure that he would want to use language that is more inclusive.

These words remind us that as Christians that we are to be dreamers. I don't mean so much that we are to be individual "dreamers" who insist that they have "got a gift" or claim some special access to God. I am talking about communities of faith who discover that they together can be a means of making clear God's vision for the world.

In our Christian tradition Pentecost brings the 50 day season of Easter to a close. We might feel a bit disappointed at the thought of leaving Easter behind. ( Easter Sunday this year at Redland Park as celebrated with the Korean Church was wonderful! ) But Pentecost is also about looking forward to new beginnings.

The arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost signifies the new horizons that God bring to the world. The description of the known ancient world in this reading is a remarkably inclusive one. Had we been then to hear that sermon we might have felt a bit nervous, but maybe also expectant, and eager to play a part in the emergence of God's hopes and dreams.

This reading talks about prophecy, but I don't think that Peter is saying that God's Spirit gives people the ability to see clearly into the future. He is more interested in saying that the Spirit helps us make sense of the present. That is what Peter's Pentecost sermon does.

It made a new and better sense of the world of his time. In our world at present the direction of travel seems to be more in the direction of populism and nationalisms than anything to do with this broader vision of society that Peter celebrates. To be sure it has always been a challenge getting to that better place. That will always be the case because of human fragilities will get in the way. But then again what we celebrate as Christians is the truth that God's Spirit is with us in those struggles.

So, when it comes to Pentecost Sunday we can certainly celebrate the birthday of the Church, but we can also celebrate that broader and deeper sense of human community that comes with that special experience of God.

*Dougie*



We pray for **David Hayden** as he prepares for further hospital treatment in May and hope for a speedy recovery.

We were sorry to hear that **Michael Kearley** and his wife had a rather traumatic 'holiday' in France when Jean fell, broke her leg, and had to be airlifted back to Weston Hospital. Mike had to drive their vehicle back to the UK solo.

**Anne Moody** celebrated her 84th birthday at her new care home, Avenue House in Cotham, on 18 April; she has settled well there and is very happy.

We pray for the family of **Alison Dimond** who died in April aged 92, after a long and happy life. Alison became a member of Redland Park in 1982, and her daughter **Annie Manuel** was a member and Treasurer here for many years.

We pray for all our members and friends who are unable to attend church as much as they would like, and all who need our prayers at this time.

We also pray for the people of Korea, North and South, who seem to have a better chance of peace now than for many years. Redland Park members signed a card for the Bristol Korean Church who worship with us.

Please pray for all those people everywhere in the UK and especially from Redland Park who will be going out soon to support the Christian Aid house-to-house collection. This is one of the major fund-raisers for Christian Aid although it is not easy to do.

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## HANDBOOK ERRATA:

Please note that Les Fry's mobile phone number is 07769 253 279, and not as in the handbook.

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## Prayer page:

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### Prayer for the month

Generous God, sometimes we find it hard to give.  
To be generous with our time and money,  
To be willing to do what you have called us to do.  
The world's problems engulf us,  
It's so easy to make excuses.

But you call us to find the time and the will to give,  
To slow down long enough to see why.  
It is not to ease our hearts or lighten our wallets.  
It is to say thank you. Thank you for all you have done for us,  
For today, yesterday and tomorrow.  
For the living, the love and the energy you desire.

We pray for patience and strength to love others the way you love us. In your name we ask this.

Amen.

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Please pray for:

An end to the killing and maiming in Syria.

Jonathon and Luiza.

Sheila Radford and her husband Ian.

Alan undergoing chemotherapy.

Richard Pooler, waiting for test results.

Annie Diamond and her family after the death of her mother, Alison.

David Hayden - for a successful outcome of his surgery.

The work of Christian Aid.

The Windrush generation, who feel uncertain about their future in the UK.

Loving God, we ask you to be close to each one of your children in their suffering.



P e n  
t e c  
o s t

Is here!  
Our task's to make it clear  
So all the world will hear;  
Enlighten publicly. let all see and cheer!  
Spread the word 'till all have heard  
That Pentecost is here!

P e n  
t e c  
o s t

First came,  
With winds and tongues of flame  
The Holy Spirit came!  
Like the twelve, so must we, constantly  
proclaim.  
Tell the world of God's great love  
For all of those who hear!

P e n  
t e c  
o s t

Means we  
His PR voice must be,  
And do so fervently.  
Testament we must be to the Holy Trinity,  
Three in One and One in Three  
Is what we must make clear!

P e n  
t e c  
o s t

Brings love,  
From Christ, who with His love,  
His universal love,  
Rose again, set us free, so that we, through love,  
Never more, eternally,  
Of death, should need to fear.

## May

Wed 9th	7.30pm	Elders Meeting
Sun 13th	9.15am 10.30am 10.30am	Christian Aid "Big Brekkie" Morning Worship led by Rev Dougie Burnett Korean Worship Upper Room
Sun 20th	10.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Morning Worship led by Rev Dougie Burnett Korean Worship Upper Room Church Meeting
Sun 27th	10.30am 10.30am 7.00pm	Morning Worship led by Rev Dougie Burnett Korean Worship Upper Room Evening Worship led by members

## June

Sun 3rd	10.30am 10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion Led by Rev Dougie Burnett Korean Worship Upper Room
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# Redland Park Church Meeting Minutes 25/3/18

Minutes of the Church Meeting held on Sunday 25 March 2018

(Rearranged following postponement from 18 March)

## PRESENT

The Minister and 24 members. Apologies for absence were received from 9 members.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

## MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising from the previous meeting were covered in other items on the agenda.

## SYNOD REPORT

Helena McKinnon gave a report on the Synod Meeting, held three weeks previously. She explained that whilst Anne Neugebauer was Redland Park's Synod representative, and David Hayden attended as a Synod Trustee, all Church Members were welcome to attend, and Ministers were required to do so as part of their appointment.

At Synod, John Proctor led a discussion on sainthood and examined our individual roles with the Church community. We are challenged to think of ourselves as 'disciples', rather than 'followers' – further exploration of this point could be a useful theme for a future café Church.

Stephen Newell introduced 'Walking the Way', based on the books, 'Holy Habits'. One suggestion of eating together as a Church community reflected the value of this activity with the Bristol Korean Church.

The importance of good safeguarding policies and practices was reinforced, especially following recent scandals in overseas aid charities.

A Synod financial briefing was included.

Initiatives from local Churches in the Synod were shared, including a video made by Members in Mudeford.

Long term Minister cover was also discussed. By 2022, there would be 22 Ministers in the South West Synod, covering 110 Churches – a ratio of 1 Minister to 5 Churches. This represented a considerable challenge to the wider Church, as well as the need for new initiatives such as identifying and training local lay leaders. Dougie Burnett added that there would be a national Ministers' Conference in May to explore further the impact of Minister shortages.

## CHURCH IN SOCIETY

Carol Fry reported on recent activities.

The soup lunch for End Hunger had raised just over £200

Christian Aid Week 2018 will be 12-19 May. The Church Christian Aid Fair will be 5 May, and plants, books, and bric-a-brac were requested for sale. On 13 May, Les Fry was organising a Big Brekkie, open to all to attend.

Opening the Church for two hours each Wednesday lunchtime continues to attract a number of visitors on each occasion.

The Church has achieved Bronze status as an Eco-Church. This is regarded as a start, and to develop to Silver standard would require improvements to the Church fabric and operation, and Members' home life-styles

Although Redland Park had completed its turn with supporting the Night Shelter at Tyndale Baptist Church, Redland Park Church Members had given additional support to The Seventh Day Adventists during their allocated month.

The Prayer Box continued to be used by members of the wider community, and prayers incorporated into Sunday services.

## BROAD PLAIN

Dougie Burnett reported that the premises at Broad Plain, Knowle West, were to be sold, following the closure of the Youth Club some years ago.

The Meeting recorded its thanks to Andrew Sims and Richard Pedlar for their work in supporting the way forward, and to Andrew for his hard work supporting Broad Plain over so many years.

## MINISTERIAL MATTERS

Dougie Burnett highlighted the leaflet with details of the programme of Holy Week activities and services.

Further progress had been made with a programme to run summer activities for older people in the period 25 June to the first week of July. Plans were being made in association with Rachel Haig and officers from LinkAge Network. Activities proposed included music, crafts, films, bread-making, arts, and inter-generational activities with St John's School. Some funds

(c £2,500) would be provided from Redland Park URC via the late Reverend Cyril Grant's legacy. This would be a pilot project to see how further activities could develop.

## SECRETARIAL MATTERS

A note on General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) was read from the Church Secretary, in his absence.

GDPR come into effect on 25th May to tighten the law on the handling and processing of personal data. To prepare Redland Park, please let Andrew Hayden know if you hold any personal data on behalf of the Church. This includes names, addresses, phone numbers, nationality, personal preferences, hobbies, etc. of any living EU citizen. It does not include editions of the Redland Park Handbook (which are not held on behalf of the Church), but

could include details of people from outside the Church, such as users of the premises, attendees of Messy Church, cubs, scouts and their leaders, etc. If in any doubt, please contact Andrew.

## FINANCE AND PROPERTY

John Neugebauer reported on a very helpful workshop run recently by the Synod Property Officers and Moderator, and attended by six delegates from Redland Park.

Thanks were recorded to Derek Jones and Terry King for sorting out hardware and software problems with Church monitors and service presentation.

A new printer would be required at a cost of about £3,500.

John reminded those who would be receiving income increases at about this time (e.g. Salary reviews or Pension/State Pension Increases) that it was a good time to uplift personal donations and regular giving to the Church by the same percentage increase.

David Hayden, on behalf of Synod Trustees, told the meeting of the shortfall in the Synod M&M Budget for 2018 and expressed the Trustees' appreciation to those Churches, such as Redland Park URC, whose additional voluntary giving had closed some of the budget shortfall.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

News of members was shared.

## AOB

None.

The meeting ended with the Grace.

**Next meeting: Sunday 20th May 2018, following the morning service**

# Keeping up with the vicar Pt 84 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for May and the first Sunday in June. As we move from Easter to Ascension Day, the Old Testament reading is replaced by one from Acts. Pentecost – the church's birth day - is celebrated on May 20th this year; it's why we traditionally had a holiday near the end of May. Then the holiday became fixed as the last Monday in May doesn't always coincide with Pentecost, like this year. But it's a pity that we seem to have forgotten why it's a holy-day. The lectionary readings move us from resurrection appearances to Jesus' ascension, to the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost, and on Trinity Sunday, that passage from Romans as Paul tries to express his experiences of God, Father, Son and Spirit.

Depending on the lunar calendar, Easter can fall any time between March 22nd and April 25th (next one of the latter in 2038). Which means some years you get extra Sundays between Pentecost and Advent, and readings have to be set for them. June 3rd is one of those. These readings didn't appear at all three years ago when we last on this part of the cycle. Savour them this year.

Many preachers use the lectionary readings as a basis for their preaching, either on the "right" week, or the week after if they're using a sermon twice (?) 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.

Angus

May	OT or Acts	Psalm	Gospel	NT
6th	Acts 10:44-48	98	John 15:9-17	1 John 5:1-6
13th	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	1	John 17:6-19	1 John 5:9-13
20th	Acts 2:1-21	104:24-34, 35b	John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15	Romans 8:22-27
Pentecost				
27th	Isaiah 6:1-8	29	John 3:1-17	Romans 8:12-17
Trinity Sunday				
<b>June</b>				
3rd	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	81:1-10	Mark 2:23-3:6	2 Corinthians 4:5-12

# First Thursday The Way Forward

Our meeting in April was designed as a planning meeting to discuss the future of First Thursday, which was started by David and Viv Hayden 12 years ago.

All the members who attended, wish the group to continue to meet on First Thursday Afternoons.

It was recognised that a small group, as we are now, cannot expect speakers to come each month.

There was a lively discussion on 'the way forward', and a more informal approach to meetings, was suggested to allow time for conversation over tea.

Among suggestions were, visits to places of local interest, summer garden parties, games (board and card), memories, past radio, a winter party, and travel talks.

It was also suggested that in August and September there would be no meetings, due to school holidays, as grandparents help with children, and families travel.

It was also felt, friends and guests would be most welcome to meetings. Perhaps young people would join us too.

Our next meeting on May 3rd will be a talk on the Botanic Gardens, and the work of volunteers by Ann Brake.

Carole Atter

**Please support fair trade around the world by buying something from the Traidcraft Stall, which helps farmers and small traders in the developing world, or by buying something fairly traded from the larger supermarkets, which helps larger organisations in the developing world.**

Deadline for contributions for the June Recorder is 27th May.

Please send to the editor

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