

## Pre-School Patio opened



The newly rebuilt patio attached to St. Mary's Hall was officially opened on Friday, 12 November.

Representing the London Borough of Bromley, who had co-ordinated the funding of the project through a Government grant, were Councillor Brian Humphreys, the Children and Young People's Deputy Portfolio Holder, Robert South, the Head of Services at the Early Years and Childcare Department and Rosemary Meissner, the Business Support Officer.

The children of St. Mary's Pre-School under the direction of its Leader, Pat Chase, sang two songs and then the patio was officially opened.

'We are delighted with the new facility,' said Canon Paul Miller, the Chairman of the Pre-School Committee, 'and would like to thank the London Borough of Bromley for their wonderful support.'

Photographed are the visitors from the Borough and Pat Chase with some of the children.

## Special Events and Services

### Sunday, 28 November

6.30pm - Advent Carol Service  
*Including music by Archer, Quest, Hadley, How and Stainer,  
as well as popular congregational carols.*

### Sunday, 5 December

10.30am - Toy Service  
*You are invited to bring one new, unwrapped toy, which will become a gift  
for a local child in need of support through Welcare in Bromley.*

### Friday, 10 December

10.00am - Highfield Infants' School Nativity Play

### Sunday, 12 December

6.30pm - The Christingle Carol Service  
*Come and see the children's faces glowing in the light of the candles, and  
support the work of the Children's Society.*

### Monday, 13 December

2.30pm - Sunnyfields Christmas Service

### Tuesday, 14 December

9.45am - Highfield Junior School Carol Service

### Wednesday, 15 December

11.00am - St. Mary's Pre-School Christmas Service  
2.00pm - St. Christopher's School Carol Service

### Sunday, 19 December

6.30pm - The Traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas  
in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Bromley  
*with music by Rutter, Pearsall, Head, Archer and Willcocks.*

### Christmas Eve: Friday, 24 December

3.30pm - 'How many miles to Bethlehem?' - Nativity Play and Crib  
Service

*led by Fiona Bratt, Junior Church Co-ordinator. All children and adults are  
welcome to take part, and if you wish, come dressed as angels, shepherds  
or wise men.*

11.30pm - Procession by Candlelight, Midnight Mass of the Nativity of  
Our Lord and Carols for Christmas

*The Choir will be singing carols from 11.15pm to welcome you.*

### Christmas Day: Saturday, 25 December

9.00am - Holy Communion  
10.30am - Family Communion for Christmas Day  
*You are invited to bring a newly opened present!*

### St. Stephen's Day: Sunday, 26 December

10.30am - Family Communion  
*(Please note this will be the only service on Sunday, 26 December)*

# A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS !



## From the Registers

### At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

29 Sep Hetty Archbutt, aged 95

14 Oct Freda Phillips, aged 90

16 Oct Bill Slade, aged 89

### Interment of Ashes

30 Oct Margaret Lilley

7 Nov Paul McKinnon

Monica McKinnon



## Remembering

### Hedwig (Hetty) Archbutt

Hetty was born in Dutch Guyana where her father was a Dutch pastor and she was one of four children. When she was six they moved to Curacao where she continued her schooling. Needing further study, Hetty left on her own for the Netherlands where she was to gain her nursing diploma. It was while working as a nurse in war time Holland that she met and fell in love with Jim who was on military duties there. After only two weeks of their engagement, with Jim's awareness of an imminent transfer, they were married and had only a few days together. Eventually Hetty was able to get to England and meet her new family and resume her nursing here.

After the war they came to live in Beckenham, and in 1952 moved to St. Mary's Avenue with their growing family of Christopher, Jane, Jolyon, Sarah and Stephen. Hetty was a good and kind neighbour to so many as she was to the patients she nursed at Bromley Hospital. She was a woman of deep and profound faith who cared about people and listened and took time for them. A worshipper at St. Mary's for many years, her faith was deeply rooted in her prayer life. Sadly Jim died in 1992 but Hetty was always supportive and supported by her growing family. Hetty lived a long and faithful life and died peacefully with her family around her.

A Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by Canon Paul Miller and assisted by Ann Gimson, took place at St. Mary's, Shortlands, when many tributes were given, and which was attended by a large congregation of

family, friends and neighbours. The Cremation followed at Beckenham Crematorium

### Freda Phillips

Freda was born 90 years ago in North Yorkshire, one of three children. She came to live in Shortlands in 2002 to be closer to her family.

On leaving school she became a teacher and when war loomed qualified to join the Air Raid Precautions Auxiliary Reserve of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Freda married James in 1948 and they had two children, Carolyn and James.

Proud of her northern roots, Freda was hard-working and conscious valuing decency, honesty and fairness. She enjoyed sport, particularly motor racing, and she regularly took part in the poetry mornings and Church services at Durham House.

A funeral service was held at Beckenham Crematorium conducted by the Reverend Jane Peters.

### Bill Slade

Bill was born in Croydon 90 years ago and was brought up and educated there. Bill met his wife Phyl in Penge and they were happily married for nearly 67 years. They had two sons, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

He was General Montgomery's driver during WW 2, and it was Bill who carried a heavily shrouded plan of the D-Day landings into the War Room – although he didn't know what it was he carried. He was also in the room when the Peace Treaty was signed.

In his working life he found he could turn his hand to anything practical, and worked as a coalman, lorry driver and mechanic amongst other things.

A funeral service was held at Beckenham Crematorium conducted by the Reverend Jane Peters.



## SPAN THANKS

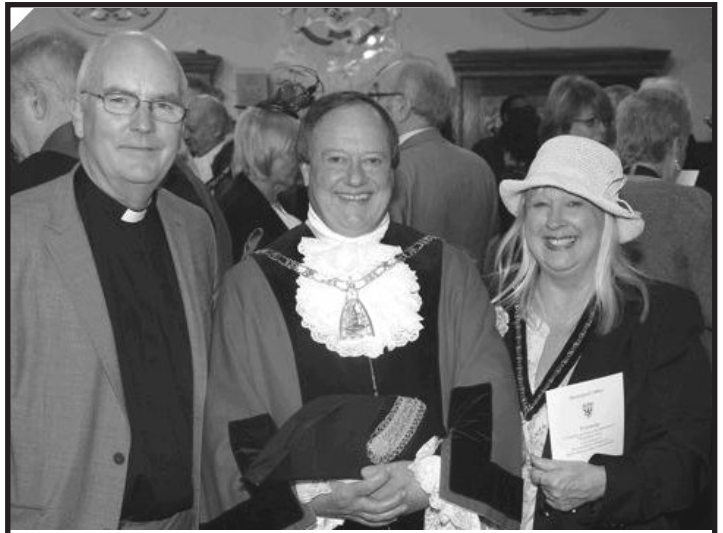
We record our thanks for recent donations of £10.00

*Shortlands Golf Club*  
Long established (1894)  
**Family Golf Club**

*currently seeking men, ladies and juniors to expand the membership base.*

Monthly medals,  
Honour Board Competitions,  
excellent Social Events  
Calendar.

*"A garden oasis in suburbia"*  
Contact Ken Murray:  
8460 2471/8828 or  
Peter May: 8460 8828



Canon Paul Miller with the Mayor of Bromley, Councillor George Taylor, and the Mayoress, Mrs Carole Selden at the reception after the Annual London Mayoral Service held at Westminster Abbey.

Photo: Picture Partnership

## Maritime St.Mary's

During the summer St Mary's welcomed the Rev Ray Trudgett back to Shortlands. Ray is the Pastor at Tilbury Docks for the Mission to Seafarers which we regularly support.

Armed with a bag of goodies and a pizza, he demonstrated how much we all rely on seafarers travelling the world over to bring us the necessities and luxuries that we take for granted – the armchairs we sit on and eating our pizza whilst watching the TV for instance!

These hard working seamen are away from their homes and families for many months at a time and rely heavily on the pastoral care and support that they receive from the Mission. Imagine facing any crisis when you don't speak the local language, have no money nor friends to help you! You really would be "all at sea!"

For the last two years and again in 2010, the St. Mary's youth organisations have been making Christmas cards for these isolated seafarers as a contribution to their well-being.

We all wish him well in his worthwhile work and must thank God for all those men who strive, often in tempestuous seas, to provide us with most of the goods in our homes or look after us on our cruise holidays.

## Mission of the Month

### The Children's Society

The Children's Society is a leading national children's charity committed to making childhood better for all children in the UK. It provides vital help for tens of thousands of children every year:

- It provides specialist support at a local level for those forgotten children who face the greatest danger and disadvantages in their daily lives; children who are unable to find the support they need anywhere else.
- Its work in children's centres, schools and churches gives children the chance to develop the skills and confidence they need to make the most of their childhood and play a full part in their local communities.
- Its thought-provoking research influences everyone – from people like the general public to politicians and decision makers – about how to create real change.
- Its hard-hitting campaigns attract large public support and make institutions, government bodies and authorities take action to make childhood better for all children.

**Its mission** is to make childhood better for all children in the UK.

**Its vision** is to see a world where every child enjoys a good childhood.

**Its values** are Love, Justice and Forgiveness.

You are warmly invited to attend our Christingle service in St Mary's on Sunday, 12 December at 6.30pm, which will highlight our financial support for the Children's Society this year.

The Children's Society is St. Mary's Mission for the Month of December. There will be a display on the Missions notice board during December and further information can be found on [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)



20 Bromley Gardens, Bromley, Kent BR2 0ET  
Tel/Fax: 020 8249 8198  
Mob: 07721 454716  
Email: [gmminstallationsltd@gmail.com](mailto:gmminstallationsltd@gmail.com)  
J.I.B. Approved Electrician

NAPIT Part P

24 years experience

# Remember how to play?

This Christmas you have a great opportunity to relearn something you may have forgotten: how to simply play with your children. It seems that one in five parents has 'forgotten' how to play with their own children, according to recent research. Constant lack of time and a shortage of inspiration were given as the main reasons. But one in three parents admitted they found playtime 'boring'.

Sadly, more than half of the children surveyed said they would like to spend more time playing with their parents.

The survey, commissioned by

Disneyland Paris, concluded that play is in danger of becoming a 'lost art' for British families. Prof Tanya Byron, a clinical psychologist and television presenter, stresses that play is crucial to a child's development, and advises parents to hark back to simple games from their own childhoods such as dressing up, drawing, and 'let's pretend'.

The survey also found here is a generation gap in how to have fun. Children say they want to play computer games on their own, but they want to play board and outdoor games with their parents.

## A Christmas Carol

Silent Night is one of the world's most popular Christmas carols. Every year it is sung in many different languages across the world evoking the spirit of Christmas. Popularly it is said that the carol was composed in one night, to be accompanied by a guitar, because the mice had eaten the organ bellows! But what is the real history of this carol?

The carol 'Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht' was first heard in St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf on Christmas Eve 1818. The congregation at Midnight Mass listened as the assistant pastor, Father Joseph Mohr, and choir director, Franz Gruber, sang to the accompaniment of Father Mohr's guitar. The priest had composed the words two years earlier in 1816 as a six verse poem.

Since then this Christmas carol has achieved world wide appeal and has been translated into over 40 languages including English. It has been sung on a variety of occasions and in some unexpected places. On Christmas Day 1918, during the First World War, German and Allied armies faced one another in France. The song was sung simultaneously in French, English and German by the troops during a Christmas truce, as it was one of the few carols that soldiers on both sides of the front line knew.

So what is the reason for the enduring popularity of this carol? The simple words and tune communicate the heart of the Christmas message. The eternal God has made himself known, by entering time and space, in the person of Jesus Christ. The baby in the manger is not just fully divine, but he is born as a real human being. Jesus comes as a Saviour to rescue us from the mess of our lives, so that we might share the life which Jesus has with his Father. Now there is something worth singing about!!

**Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
'Round yon virgin Mother and Child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace**

**2. Silent night, holy night  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia  
Christ the Saviour is born  
Christ the Saviour is born**

**3. Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth**

### QUIZ NIGHT THANKS

Laura Andrews of 2nd Shortlands Guides would like to say a very big "thank you" to everyone who supported her fund-raiser for her World Scout Jamboree trip to Sweden next year. She is delighted to report that a magnificent total of £600 was raised.

## Morning

There are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

# 20:10 20/10 2010



Bromley Central District Guides - Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section members and adult leaders from St Mary's Shortlands and Bromley Parish Church came together for their final celebration of 100 years of Guiding.

The girls enjoyed decorating trefoil-shaped biscuits and making a huge collage in the church hall to mirror the badge designed by Nicola Blake, Brownie Guider, which they would all receive as a souvenir of the evening. They then processed down into Church Gardens with their lanterns and into a darkened church where many former leaders and friends were waiting. The lanterns were placed in the chancel to form a Guide trefoil, and then the Guide band, specially convened for the occasion, struck up "Colours of day".

The girls enjoyed sharing their centenary highlights with everyone, and predicting what Rainbows, Brownies and Guides would be doing in 100 years time! District Commissioner Sue Tight read Baden-Powell's last message, and then at exactly 20:10 20/10 2010 around 150 girls, old and new, re-affirmed their Promise. This coincided with similar special events all over the UK, including 6,500 members of Girlguiding UK assembled in Trafalgar Square.

## Glory to God in the High Street

Many years ago in Finchley, north London there was a local Methodist Church which would offer various inspirational messages in illuminated lights to the passers-by on the main road. Their Christmas one, very appropriately, was the song of the angels: 'Glory to God in the highest'.

Unfortunately some inclement weather or a simple technical failure put out one of the lights. Just as appropriately, however, it now read, 'Glory to God in the high st'. An electrical fault, perhaps – but how wonderfully true it was. In fact, nothing could better sum up the deep meaning of Christmas than that splendidly distorted message.

Those same angels told the shepherds in the fields that the 'sign' to identify the special baby to be born that night in Bethlehem would be that they would find him 'lying in a manger'. Well, 'manger' is a fancy word for a simple thing. The truth is that they would find the infant Son of God lying in a feeding trough.

At Bethlehem the Creator entered the Creation. 'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us' - and the 'Word', John's Gospel tells us, 'was God'. In Jesus the divine became human. 'In him (Jesus) all the fullness of deity dwells bodily', St Paul tells us (Colossians 2:9). 'Hail the incarnate deity', we sing - but it's hard sometimes to recognise his identity in the bonny baby in the traditional crib scene. It's a pity that the Christmas story can so easily be sentimentalised, because in fact this was the most radical and revolutionary action of God since the creation itself. God, in Jesus his Son, actually came among us - not as a super-being, not even as a fully grown adult, but as a baby.

You will find the baby lying in a feeding trough.' Exactly. Right where we are, in all the mess and muddle of ordinary life, in the fun and tears, in the feasting and the poverty, the glory of God was seen in a tiny scrap of human flesh. In that helpless baby God showed how far he was prepared to go to bring us back to himself. When God took flesh he did it properly. Glory to God in the high street!

**The Parish Church  
of St. Mary,  
Shortlands**



Link Parish

St. Francis of  
Assisi, Douai, France

**WORSHIP**

**Every Sunday**

- 08.00 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Family Communion, except the first Sunday in the month in term time. During term time there are separate groups in the Church Hall for children aged 2½-14.
- 10.30 All Age Eucharist or Parade Service (1st Sunday in the month, term time).
- 18.30 Evening Service

**Every Monday**

- 17.00 Evening Prayers

**Every Wednesday**

- 10.00 Holy Communion

Further information about all services can be obtained from the Parish Office.

**PARISH DIRECTORY  
STAFF**

Vicar	Canon P. Miller	8460 4989
Honorary Curate	Rev. J. Peters	07531 617302 (Sunday, Monday and Wednesday)
Honorary Assistant	Archdeacon P. Wright	8467 8743
Priest		
Readers	Mrs. A. Gimson	8460 6494
	Mr. P. Stotesbury	8650 3259
Pastoral Assistants	Mrs. S. Harrison	8464 0284
	Mrs. L. Miller	8460 4989
	Mrs. D. Speller	8466 1184
	Mrs. M. Westropp	8650 5178
Parish Administrator	Mr. R. Vickers	8460 5682
Assistant	Mrs. E. Parker	8460 5682
Churchwardens	Mrs. A. Swatton	8650 1114
	Dr. D. Jefferys	8460 6030
Deputies	Mrs. P. Chase	8464 6188
	Mr. S. Clark	8464 0696
	Mr. D. Cooper	8460 0682
	Mr. C. Stokes	8460 0661
	Mr. B. Waring	07957 186027
PCC Secretary	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947
Treasurer	Mr. T. Dawson	8460 5884
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. D. Weekes	8650 2950
Organist & Director of Music	Mr. F. Roddy	01689 877025
Assistant Organist	Mrs. C. Tillotson	8460 7368
Electoral Roll	Mr. N. Stoffel	8460 0063
Stewardship	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Junior Church	Mrs. E. Bratt	8460 6947

**PARISH OFFICE** Tel/Fax 8460 5682  
e-mail: office@stmaryshortlands.plus.com  
Open 9.00 am - 12.30 weekdays. Information regarding Baptisms and Weddings can be obtained during these hours.

**ST. MARY'S ORGANISATIONS**

Mothers & Toddlers	Mrs. J. Runicles	8650 4553
Mothers' Union	Mrs. P. White	8460 9357
Friends of St. Mary's	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947
Scouts G.S.L.	Mr. C. Wood	8658 1825
Scouts (Fri.)	Mr. T. Watson	8650 0184
Cubs (Mon.)	Mrs. J. Garvey	8249 8785
Cubs (Tues.)	Mr. J. Griffiths	8285 3968
Beavers & admissions	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Guides (Tues.)	Ms. N. Keast	07825 648472
Guides (Fri.)	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
Brownies (Mon.)	Ms. N. Blake	8460 7951
Brownies (Wed.)	Ms. H. Preston	07754 444453
Brownies (Thurs.)	Ms. D. Allen	8650 1720
Brownies admissions	Ms. N. Blake	8460 7951
Rainbows	Ms. W. Keeping	8466 8120
Pre-School	Mrs. P. Chase	8290 6704 or 07960 988552
The TWO 'W's'	Mrs. A. Heayberd	8460 9537

**OTHER NUMBERS**

Church Flowers	Mrs. M. Parr	8460 3871
Mission Chairman	Mrs. S. Shelton	8402 3299
Douai Link	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
Fair Trade	Mrs. C. Willatt	8313 0246

**LOCAL COUNCILLORS (L.B.B.)**

Cllr. E. Noad	8462 3295
Cllr. G. Taylor	8289 7893

**LOCAL NUMBERS**

Highfield Infants' School	8464 7804
Highfield Junior School	8460 2597
Residents' Association	8460 4060
Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood	07920 233848

**SPAN**

Website	www.stmaryshortlands.org.uk
Editorial	Parish Office 8460 5682
Distribution	Mr. A. Jones 8460 5437 Mrs. J. Kelsey 8466 1093

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those supported by the publishers, and no responsibility can be accepted for accuracy. Neither can the publishers accept responsibility for work carried out by advertisers.

ADVERTISING: £15.50 per column inch per issue. For details please call 8460 5682 during office hours. Copy by the 5th of each month to SPAN, Church House, 39 Kingswood Road, Shortlands, BR2 0PU

**AEROBICS - BUMS, TUMS & THIGHS  
LADIES - COME AND JOIN JACKIE**  
Every Monday 8-9p.m.  
at St. Mary's Church Hall, St. Mary's Avenue, Shortlands.  
For more information Tel: 8650 2083 mob. 07967 214279  
*A class all ages can enjoy, beginners welcome.*

**Dawoods**  
*The Family Law Solicitors*  
For advice on all aspects of family and relationship breakdown, please contact Mrs K Dawood  
**www.dawoods-solicitors.co.uk**  
e-mail: confidential@dawoods-solicitors.co.uk  
Tel: 8249 6047  
50 Burnhill Road  
Beckenham, BR3 3LA

**THE SHORTLANDS  
DENTAL PRACTICE**  
98 MARTINS ROAD  
SHORTLANDS BR2 0EF  
**PRIVATE \* QUALITY CARE \* NHS  
DENPLAN AVAILABLE**  
Tel/Fax 020 8464 7520  
**www.shortlandsdentalpractice.co.uk**

**QUALIFIED PLUMBER  
P. J. EDWARDS**  
**01322 868212 or 07831 54 59 51**  
*Bathrooms, kitchens and  
all domestic work undertaken*

**LOCAL PLUMBER**  
**24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE**  
fully insured - free estimates & advice, bathroom/shower installations, central heating pumps/radiators etc.  
Big enough to cope, small enough to care.  
Phone Michael on 0800 183 0063

**Cranial Osteopathy**  
• Specialist Children and Baby Clinic  
• Pain Management  
• Sports Injuries  
**Romeo Stafford**  
Insurance approved Tel: 020 8249 0159

**Bromley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club**  
Sandford Road, Bromley South  
14 tennis courts of which 2 indoors and 6 floodlit. 3 squash courts. Competitive subscriptions. Coaching for all ages and abilities. Clubhouse with bar. Social events and hall available for hire.  
**020 8460 0936 or visit our website  
www.bromley-lawn-tennis-and-squash-club.co.uk**

**J. E. Neal**  
**Builder and Decorator**  
*Property Maintenance - interior & exterior; painting & decorating; plumbing & tiling; odd jobs; no job too small.*  
*Established in Bromley for 24 years.*  
For a competitive quote,  
**call 8777 2860 or Mobile 07719 620696**

**Vicky - Mobile Hairdresser**  
over 25 years experience **07958 210577**

**HOLT MAINTENANCE**  
Garden Maintenance, Landscape Gardening,  
Window Cleaning, Domestic and  
Commercial Cleaning.  
Accredited Safe Contractor  
Tel. 020 8460 9396 or 07956 172979

**J. & R. KILLICK Ltd.**  
**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
FAMILY RUN BUSINESS EST. 1879  
\* Personal Service \* 24 Hours a day  
\* Pre-paid Funeral Plans Available \* Classic or Modern  
\* Information Brochure Available \* Funeral Fleet  
For Advice and Assistance Please Contact Mr. Peter Killick  
**020 8777 4502** www.jrkillick.co.uk  
112 High Street, West Wickham BR4 0ND

**Sunnyfields Day Nursery**  
19 Bromley Grove, Shortlands  
7.30am - 6.30pm daily  
children 3 months to 5 years  
**Tel: 8313 9191**

**PICTURE FRAMING**  
Oils, Photographs, Watercolours, Tapestries,  
Prints, Embroideries  
**Jo Powell**  
3 Highfield Drive, Shortlands  
**020 8464 3149**

**Langley School of Dancing**  
**Istd Ballet, Tap, Modern and Street Jazz**  
Pre Primary Ballet and Tap classes from age 2½  
Adult tap dance classes  
**Tel: 07540 400615 for a free trial class**

Payroll, book-keeping & management accounts  
HMRC-compliant accounts & Tax Returns for sole traders  
Accounts maintenance for community projects  
**Christopher Mezzetti**  
020 8460 6363 christophermezzetti@btinternet.com

**SHORTLANDS  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
We're here to look after  
your local interests.  
Membership details from - **8460 7371**

**OSTEOPATH**  
Back Problems - Sports Injuries - Cranial  
**ANDREAS JOCHIM DO MSc**  
**020 8650 0509**  
www.jollybacks.co.uk  
12 Station Approach, Hayes, Bromley, BR2 7HE

**Chiropodist - Reflexologist**  
**Sally Thorogood**  
MSSH MBChA MRXS MCRS  
100 Kenwood Drive  
Beckenham BR3 6RA **020 8650 2738**

**INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVICE**  
Savings & investments, Pre- and Post-Retirement  
Planning including Pensions & Annuities,  
Protection, Long Term Care and Tax Planning  
**Contact David Maguire**  
Tel: 020 8460 6088 Mob: 07970 810572  
Email: david.maguire@lawrencefinancial.co.uk

**DON'T D.I.Y.** ... Decorating ... Tiling  
... Decking ... Carpentry  
let us ... and more.  
Contact Luke, telephone : 07946 545049  
or e-mail at lukeb12345@yahoo.co.uk

**ROOFING**  
ALL TYPES OF WORK UNDERTAKEN  
GENERAL BUILDING \* LOFT EXTENSIONS \* FENCING  
GUTTERING \* SKYLIGHT WINDOWS  
SEAMLESS FLAT ROOFING \* NEW SHED ROOFS  
PATIO & DRIVES PRESSURE WASHED  
**HARRY ALLEN 020 8402 0156**