

SHORTLANDS PARISH NEWS

St. Mary's, Shortlands endeavours to bring the love of God into the everyday lives of the people of Shortlands.

the SPAN

www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk

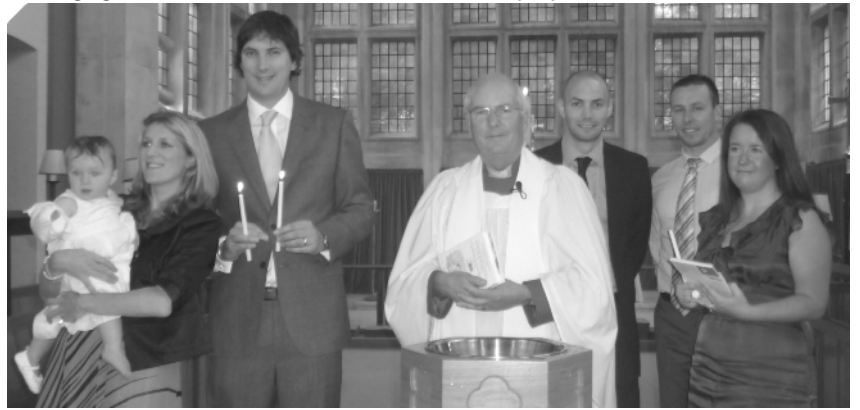
November 2009. Year 29 Number 10



Shortlands couple tie the knot

Lee Buckingham and Emma Cuthbert were recently married at St. Mary's, Shortlands in a service at which Canon Paul Miller officiated. Lee and Emma, of Highfield Drive, initially came to see the Vicar about the baptism of their daughter Milly. In the event they arranged their wedding at the same time and then Milly's baptism took place a month later. 'We were delighted to support them in this important step' commented Canon Miller.

Lee and Emma were introduced to St. Mary's by another family who encouraged them to come to see St. Mary's. Lee and Emma are now going to be confirmed early next year. 'It's a lovely story and a wonderful example of the Church engaging with people where they are and encouraging them to embrace Christian faith in their everyday lives.'



"WHAT THE DICKENS!!!!!"

it's

St. Mary's Christmas Fayre

on

Saturday, 14 November

from 1.00pm - 4.00pm

in the Church Hall

Join us for a Dickens-style Christmas.

A family event.

Light lunches, cards, cakes, gifts etc.

We have Christmas wrapped up



St. Mary's Advent Dinner and Dance

Friday, 27 November, 7.30pm for 7.45pm
in the Garden Suite of the Bromley Court Hotel

Black Tie or Lounge Suit

Tickets £30, inclusive of three course dinner with coffee and all age Dance/Disco, available from the Parish Office (8460 5682) or from Churchwardens.

Special Services for the weeks to come

Sunday, 1 November - All Saints Day

10.30am - Family Eucharist for All Saints Day

President and Preacher - The Bishop of Tonbridge

4.00pm - Service to Remember Departed Loved Ones

A book will be placed in the church porch for you to enter the names of those you would like to be especially remembered at this service. Candles will be lit during the service in memory of our departed loved ones.

Sunday, 8 November - Remembrance Sunday

10.15am - Family Communion and Parade Service

to include the traditional Act of Remembrance, the Two Minutes' Silence and the Laying of Wreaths at the War Memorial.

6.30pm - Choral Evensong

Responses: Ayleward. Canticles: Walmisley in D minor.

Anthem: Greater love hath no man (Ireland).

Sunday, 29 November - Advent Sunday

6.30pm - Advent Carol Service

Readings, Anthems and Congregational Hymns

Sunday, 6 December

10.30am Toy Service

3.00pm Christmas Concert by XBY Concert Band



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

- 13 Sept Rosie Larkam
 20 Sept Zakariah Saggar
 Lee Buckingham
 Jon Buckingham
 Jennifer Dearing
 Milly Buckingham
- 27 Sept Finley Stock
 Evie Stock
 Samuel Trim
- 3 Oct Lucy Schofield
 Daniel Schofield

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

- 27 Jul Margaret Lilley, aged 75
 22 Aug Dorothy Lewis, aged 63
 13 Sep Daisy Morgan, aged 96
 21 Sep Martha Andrews, aged 84

Interment of Ashes

- 11 Oct Paul Baker
 William Parks
 Elsie Parks



Remembering

Dorothy (Dot) Lewis

Dot Lewis was born in London, and on leaving school went to work for the Prudential Insurance Company where she was to meet her future husband, Allan. They were married in 1967 and were blessed with two children, Robert and Emma, and later a baby grandchild, Ruby.

Dot was a devoted and loving wife and mother with a wonderful capacity for friendship and for knowing just the right word when it was needed and when to say it. A skilled home-maker and needle-woman, Dot was tragically to develop cancer some two years ago and died in Guys hospital on 28 August, at the early age of 63.

Her funeral at Beckenham Crematorium, conducted by Ann Gimson, was attended by her

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husband Allan, Robert, Emma, Dot's mother Dorothy as well as a large congregation of neighbours and friends.

Daisy Morgan

Daisy was born and brought up in Bermondsey, and married there on Christmas Day in 1937. Sadly there are no photographs because it was a foggy day in London and she thought it a bit daft to dress up again when the fog had gone.

She worked in Peak Fren in the days when biscuits tasted less like cardboard and later worked for a dentist, first as a cleaner and latterly as a dental nurse.

In August she celebrated her 96th birthday and it was then that she had a fall from which, sadly, she began to decline, dying on 13 September.

Her husband George, to whom she was married for 65 years died five years ago in September and her son Barry died 13 years ago.

Many of the family were at Beckenham Crematorium for a Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by the Reverend Jane Peters.

Martha Andrews

Martha was born in Mossley, near Belfast, N. Ireland. She was one of four and is survived by her brother Bill.

In 1941 she left school to join the Royal Navy Supply Department, based in Belfast. A transfer to London with the Ministry of Defence brought her to Beckenham and Shortlands.

She was a tennis fanatic, regularly visiting Wimbledon as well as Beckenham Tennis.

Like the Vicar of Shortlands she owned in her lifetime three corgis who played a big part in her life.

A Service of Thanksgiving, prior to cremation, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, was held at Beckenham Crematorium attended by her family, friends and neighbours.

Highfield Infants' School needs to appoint a new Community Governor. If you would like the opportunity to become involved in the life of this highly successful local school then please speak to the Chairman of Governors, Tony Chase (020 8464 6188) or the Vice-Chairman, James Wyatt (020 8460 3438) who will be happy to explain what is involved.



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New addition to the Ministry Team



Canon Paul Miller interviewed Debbie Speller who, on Sunday, 15 November at 6.30pm at a service at Christ Church, Orpington, will be authorised as a Pastoral Assistant to service the Parish and Community of Shortlands.

Canon Paul: Debbie, tell us a little about yourself.

I have lived in Shortlands with Andy, my husband for twenty years. We have two adult daughters, Nicole and Lynsey, and have been coming to St. Mary's since 1992. In 1993 I was Confirmed and have been involved at St. Mary's as a Sidesman, a member of the Parochial Church Council and am currently serving on committees for the Friends of St. Mary's, Children and Youth and the St. Mary's Pre-School.

Canon Paul: Why did you choose to train as a Pastoral Assistant?

After completing a Faith and Ministry course many years ago, I knew when I had time I would like to train as a PA. Many people at St. Mary's quietly do good deeds and help others every day and yet have neither title nor qualification for their efforts, so I did seriously consider the question 'do I need to become an Authorised PA?', but after a difficult time I had been through personally, I realised the value of working in an Authorised Ministry team; a team that would support each other as we minister to the church and community.

Canon Paul: What is a Pastoral Assistant?

A PA is primarily involved in pastoral care. It is that part of the ministry of the church which recognises people as whole beings - body, mind and spirit - and helps both the people and mission of the church in the community.

Pastoral care becomes particularly Christian when God is at the centre of our decision-making as we try to help and live out the word of God in life - making God's love visible in the world.

Canon Paul: What did you do to become a Pastoral Assistant?

After attending two introduction days to ministry, including a day called 'It's your calling', and an interview with the Warden of PAs, I was put forward for training. I began the Certificate in Ministerial Theology at the University of Canterbury Christchurch, which was a joint course with the Diocese of Rochester. The course lasted for two years and followed modules of Opening the Word, Knowing the Word, Doing the Word and Living the Word plus one designed specifically for PAs.

Canon Paul: What will you be doing as a PA?

As a PA I have a working agreement, and I will be part of the PA team which includes Sue Harrison, Lynne Miller and Marion Westropp. I am taking responsibility alongside the team to do home visits and administer Communion to those who require it as extended members of our church community. I am also Verger for Baptisms, which I have been performing for a number of months already.

St. Mary's has a strong Ministry team of Vicar, Curate, Readers and PAs. The team supports all members of the church and wider community, and I consider it a great privilege to be part of that team.

Demelza
Christmas Coffee Morning
 Thursday, 19 November
 10.30am - 12.00 noon
 at
 The Rosary Church
 West Common Road, Hayes
Cakes, cards and
Demelza goods for sale
 For more information contact
 Janet Whitlock 8650 8749

Christmas Fair
 at
Franklin House
Mays Hill Road
 on
Saturday, 28 November
10.00am - 1.00pm
All welcome

Marathon Runners in Cheque Presentation



Tim Dawson along with his daughter Gemma ran the Flora London Marathon back in April to raise money for ZANE: Zimbabwe a National Emergency and the St. Mary's Accessible Toilet Fund. Pictured presenting a cheque for £1,500 to Canon Paul Miller at a Church service in September are Tim and Gemma who took time to explain how painful it had been but so very rewarding.

Could you be a Street Friend?

You may have noticed people out and about litter picking round the area of St. Mary's Church armed with lilac plastic bags and long-armed 'pickers'. These and many others are now joining a Bromley Borough initiative to keep Bromley as clean and tidy as we like it to be.

Whilst Bromley has a good record in dealing with such things as litter, rubbish collection, graffiti removal and so on, its resources are limited and they would like to hear from anyone who would like to offer a little time each week to help. All you need is supplied.

There are many things you can do including graffiti removal and litter picking in your own street and we all benefit from the efforts of those who help. It gives us a sense of community and is a way of getting to know neighbours better. Go out in twos and threes; maybe walk the dog at the same time. Existing volunteers say they thoroughly enjoy themselves and have met many people in the area they didn't know before.

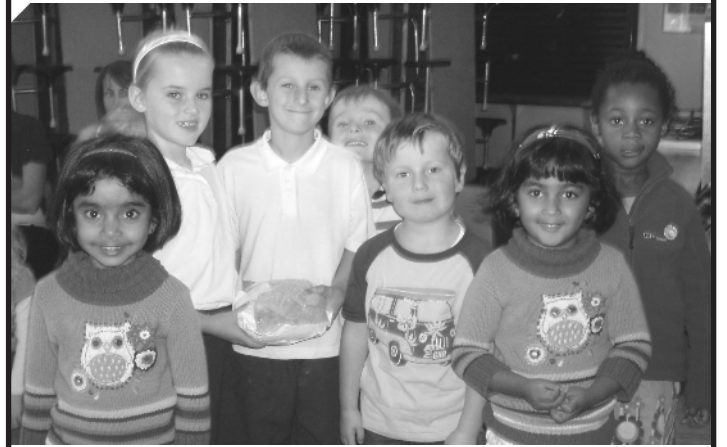
For more information telephone Bromley Council on 83 13 4621 and ask about becoming a Street Friend.



Ten children were recently welcomed into the Church family at St. Mary's after their baptisms had taken place in recent weeks.

The Saggar family, of Mays Hill Road, are pictured here with Zakariah after his baptism. Pictured with him are his parents, Sunil and Suzanne, godparents and sisters, Rebecca and Isabella.

Harvest Festival at Highfield Infants'



Canon Paul Miller recently took part in the Highfield Infants' School Harvest Festival which was also attended by those children at St. Mary's Pre-School who will be joining the school in January. The Headteacher, Mrs Ann Golding, distributed different kinds of bread to each class for them to 'taste and try' and included a gift for St. Mary's Pre-School.

Pictured are two children from Highfield Infants' with some of the children from St. Mary's Pre-School who attended the occasion.

St. Mary's Pre-School has recently been commended by OFSTED for being 'Outstanding'. 'This is a truly excellent response from a recent inspection and clearly shows the commitment and ability of Pat Chase, our Pre-School Leader, Stephanie Davis, our Deputy Leader and all the staff. We are delighted' commented Canon Paul Miller.

XBY Band returns to St. Mary's to play Christmas Concert

A renowned concert band is to give a Christmas Concert at St. Mary's Shortlands for a third consecutive year, on Sunday, 6 December at 3:00pm.

The XBY Concert Band has established a reputation as one of the foremost symphonic wind bands in the United Kingdom. Its success has emerged through repeated achievements at the National Concert Band Festival Finals by gaining two silver and five gold awards.

The competition winning band has around 200 players who have had some association with the band since its formation and there are currently around 40 regular players.

Its leader is Claire Tillotson, the Assistant Organist at St. Mary's Shortlands. Some members have completed courses of study at music

colleges and universities and are now professional musicians. However, the majority of members are either studying or pursuing careers in other areas and welcome this opportunity to keep up their music in their spare time.

Since 1989, XBY Concert Band has secured a valuable relationship with Musical Director Dennis Mycroft. Dennis is Head of Brass Teaching for the Bromley Youth Music Trust, being actively involved in the training of young musicians and conducting the XBY Concert Band.

Admission will be by programme at £5. More information about the band can be found on their website: www.xbyconcertband.co.uk

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



Link Parish
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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. M. Westropp	8650 5178
Parish Administrator	Mr. R. Vickers	8460 5682
Assistants	Mrs. J. Fiddeman	8460 5682
	Rev. J. Peters	8460 5682
Churchwardens	Miss A. Parks	8464 1157
	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	01 689 877025
Assistant Organist	Mrs. C. Tillotson	8460 7368
Electoral Roll	Mr. N. Stoffel	8460 0063
Stewardship	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Junior Church	Mrs. F. 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 GSL	Mr. C. Wood	8658 1825
Scouts (Fri.)	Mr. T. Watson	8650 0184
Cubs (Mon.)	Mrs. L. Swatton	8650 0397
Cubs (Tues.)	Mr. D. Hope	8466 5545
Beavers & admissions	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Guides (Tues.)	Miss G. Dawson	8249 1799
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	Mrs. V. Jones	8290 6531
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	Mr. R. Hogg	8464 3129
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

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