

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

July 2010. Year 30 Number 7

London Borough of Bromley to the rescue!

The Early Years Capital Funding Panel of the London Borough of Bromley have come to the rescue of St. Mary's Pre-School. They have awarded further support to their initial grant to create an improved outdoor play area after it was discovered the Hall floor's foundation had sunk.

The Department of Children Schools and Families allocated the London Borough of Bromley over £4 million in capital grants to support standards and access in early years settings. From this grant St. Mary's Pre-School was one of over one hundred settings to receive support to improve its facilities and it was agreed that the outdoor play area on the existing patio would be an appropriate facility to improve and develop.

'We were delighted to receive the grant,' reported Canon Paul Miller,

'but when work started we discovered a large hole not only in the existing patio but one that stretched under the Hall floor. Over the years there has been considerable movement and this has created the problem.'

After consultation with the Borough surveyor and the engineers and surveyors employed by St. Mary's it was decided to create a scheme to fill the void.

'The Early Years and Children's Access service have been brilliant and so helpful. I cannot speak highly enough of their support and advice. Councillor Noad, one of the Shortlands Councillors and Children and Young People Portfolio Holder, has also taken a keen interest.'

'The major works are set to begin in August and will be completed as soon as possible. One of the



challenges we face is that the builders, Calmore Construction, who will be supporting the main contractor Uretek, the floor stabilisation specialists, commence constructing our new toilet and washroom facility in Church House

in early July and will be involved in both schemes at the same time,' continued Canon Paul Miller.

The engineers are GDC Partnership Ltd of Bromley and the surveyor Martin Verrell.

Guides' Outdoor Skills Weekend

Twenty eight Guides from St. Mary's joined other Guides and leaders from all over Bromley South Division to brush up on their outdoor skills at Cudham recently.

For the newest Guides this included their first experience of lighting a fire and cooking on it, for more experienced campers there was the challenge of the Outdoor Cook or Advanced Camper badge. Guides camping overnight also enjoyed a variety of other activities to gain the "Traditions of Guiding" badge. Some girls came just for the day, but the vast majority camped overnight - for many it was their first night under canvas or these days in a cosy inner "pod" in a lightweight patrol tent!



New campers Natasha, Megan and Bleu about to tuck into their first camp meal!

Celebration of Christenings

This month on Sunday, 18 July at 10.30am St. Mary's is holding a Celebration of Christenings Service. We have sent invitations out to all the families who have brought children for baptism during the last 10 years. But everyone is welcome and the regular congregation will have an opportunity to celebrate their baptism as well, wherever that happened to be.

Everyone present at the service will be offered a small wooden cross which was made in Jerusalem. It will remind each person of the sign of the cross that was made on their foreheads when they came for baptism.

The service will focus on the four main symbols that a christening service embraces. Firstly the cross, secondly the Christian name or names given at baptism, thirdly the water in which we are baptised and finally the candle given to the baptised.

'We hope many will come that have been invited and that together we can celebrate and affirm our Christian beginnings. I have never organised a service like this before and am looking forward to the opportunity' said Canon Paul Miller.

Anyone is welcome to come and there will be drinks afterwards.

St. Mary's own version of STRICTLY COME DANCING

comes to Shortlands

on Saturday, 25 September

at 6.45pm for 7.00pm in the Church Hall

Watch this space for further details

Arranged by the Friends of St. Mary's



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:
23 May Frank Dunt

Holy Matrimony

We congratulate:
12 Jun Nicholas Johns and
Francesca Nella

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:
24 May Julia Marriott
Barbara Holl



Remembering

Sharon McCrick

Sharon was born in Londonderry but moved as a child with her family to Scotland. She was one of four and is survived by her parents, William and Marion, her brothers, Anthony and James and her sister Denise.

At a young age she decided to follow a career in nursing. She was a ward sister by the time she was 24. Her last post was at the Priory Hospital in Hayes where she found great fulfilment as a psychiatric nurse.

She married Andrew in 1993 and they had one daughter, Katrina.

She was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and spent a long time in care at St. Cecilia's before her death in March.

Sharon was buried in Scotland, but a Thanksgiving Service was held at St. Mary's, Shortlands, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, at which family, neighbours and friends gathered to support Andrew and Katrina.

Julia Marriott

Julia (or Julie as she was known) was born in Beckenham. She was one of

four and is survived by her brothers, Stephen and Paul, and her sister, Mary. She attended Valley Primary School and Cator Park Girls School before beginning a career in banking firstly at Barclays and then at the Qatar National Bank in Mayfair where she became Information Systems Manager. It was here in 1989 she also met her partner Chris.

Julie loved classical music, visiting National Trust and English Heritage sites as well as holidays and playing bridge.

A Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at Beckenham Crematorium prior to cremation at which a large congregation of family and friends paid tribute to a much loved and respected person.

Barbara Holl

Barbara was born in Newcastle upon Tyne. She spent her early years in Paris. At the age of 15 she returned to England and to boarding school in Durham.

She qualified as a teacher working in Scotland, Paris and eventually East Dulwich.

In 1988 she moved to Blenheim Court in Shortlands and in 2007 to the Heather Retirement Care Home.

Her interests included embroidery, music, reading, scrabble, crosswords, nature and cats.

She worshipped at St. Mary's from 1979 but joined Christ Church, Bromley when she moved to the Heathers as it was nearby.

A Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at Beckenham Crematorium prior to cremation, and was attended by many of her longstanding friends and acquaintances.



House-keeping problem:
when you have too much month
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Peter May: 8460 8828

Parenting Course in Shortlands

We are delighted to announce that a Parenting Course is to be offered in Shortlands in September.

Julianne Medway, a trained facilitator for the Triple P - Positive Parenting Program Course, is to lead two courses in Shortlands during 2010/2011. One will be for parents of teenage children and the other for parents of under 11s.

'I am excited by this opportunity,' enthused Julianne. 'The course equips parents from every walk of life with skills that can directly and positively affect their children's welfare.'

Triple P is an eight week course. It is a support strategy aimed at the prevention of behavioural, emotional and developmental problems in children. This is achieved by enhancing the



knowledge, skills and confidence of parents. It helps to improve parenting skills and assists parents in building positive relationships with their children.

The first course in Shortlands will commence on Tuesday, 28 September at 8.00pm and will run for 8 weeks. It will be for parents of under 11s. The course for parents of teenage children will commence in January 2011.

If you would like to register your interest please contact the Parish Office.

Holiday in Moldova?

Well, not quite... 'Telecommunications Eastern European Challenge' (TEECH) is a registered charity established in 1999 to provide practical and material aid to the people of Eastern Europe. Each summer we take a coach load of volunteers and an articulated lorry packed with aid to work on a project in Romania or Moldova; the project planned for 2010 is based on an orphanage at Falesti in Moldova. We have already provided cash for urgent repair work on the heating system at the orphanage but much remains to be done. Individuals with plumbing or electrical skills are particularly welcome but there is plenty to do for the DIY enthusiast. The dates for the trip this year are August 14 - 28. If you would like to join us, please contact Robert Standley on 07708 299 159 or email robert@kalopa.net.

If you cannot commit to the trip but would still like to help, we are looking for clean, warm clothing in very good condition for children and adults. Warm bedding is also welcome as the temperature can sink to -20 degrees C in winter. Unfortunately, storage limitations prevent us from handling large volumes of general second-hand clothing.

Why 'Telecommunications ...'? We started back in 1998 as 'BTRL Aid to Romania' based at BT Research Labs, Martlesham Heath, Suffolk. BT has given very significant support over the years and continues to provide a lorry and fuel for the trip.

Mission of the Month

Mercy Ships

Mercy Ships, a global charity, has operated a fleet of hospital ships in developing nations since 1978. Following the example of Jesus, Mercy Ships brings hope and healing to the poor, mobilising people and resources worldwide.

In 1978 a retired ocean liner called Victoria was purchased and work began recruiting crew and raising funds to bring the vessel into compliance with international standards. Over four years Victoria was transformed into a hospital ship, with the addition of 3 operating theatres and a 40 bed ward, carrying a volunteer crew of 350 from all over the world. In 1982, the vessel sailed as the newly christened Anastasis – the first Mercy Ship. Since then, various ships in the Mercy Ships fleet have served in more than 150 ports in developing nations around the world, bringing lasting change to hundreds of thousands of lives.

Imagine a ship crewed by doctors, nurses, water engineers and agriculturalists visiting some of the world's poorest countries. Now imagine their life-changing services offered free of charge... right now dedicated volunteers from around the world are bringing hope and healing to thousands of people who could never have believed it possible. Welcome to Mercy Ships, a compassionate response to a world where many have lost hope.

Mercy Ships is St. Mary's Mission for the Month of July. There will be a display on the Missions notice board during July and further information can be found on www.mercyships.org.uk

SPAN THANKS

We record our thanks for recent donations of £5.00



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Sun shines on Parish Picnic

On Sunday, 13 June, for the ninth successive year, the sun shone for the St. Mary's Parish Picnic and Barbecue held in the Church grounds following the Parade Service.

The bouncy castle, giant snakes and ladders, giant connect four and other garden games kept the children and young people occupied while their families and friends sat and enjoyed lunch. The Friends of St. Mary's were on duty in the drinks tent.

Laura Andrews and her family organised the BBQ, ice creams, tuck shop, treasure map, ping pong balls into cups etc and they would like to thank everyone for supporting these fundraising activities. A grand total of £356 was raised, which is a great boost towards the £2,200 Laura needs to raise in order to attend the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden next year.

Thanks are due to all who helped make the day such a great success - for organising and planning, for setting up, for clearing up, and to everyone who came along and supported. Roll on 2011!



Barnado's Big Toddle

Children from St. Mary's Pre-School took part in a sponsored walk to raise money for Barnado's, the children's charity.

Sixty children walked around local roads dressed as pirates, and stopped at various gardens on the way. In the first garden the children 'walked the plank', and in the next they found pirate bookmarks in a treasure chest. In the third garden they found a 'talking parrot' which repeated what the children were saying and in the final garden they found a real treasure chest full of chocolate money!

The children raised over £700 for Barnado's and they all received a medal for taking part. Well done everyone!

SPONSORED SKY DIVE
in aid of BROMLEY WELCARE
by Anna Lambrou

on Thursday, 29 July 2010

For more details and to sponsor Anna,
 please contact:
 Bromley Welcare (8466 0399)
 or Marion Westropp (8650 5178)

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S SHORTLANDS

The Friends invite you to
 a
SUMMER SOIREE
 in the Church Grounds
 on

Saturday, 3 July,
from 6.30 to 9 pm

**4 Play Sax will play at
 intervals during the
 evening.**

Bring your own picnic.

Dress: smart casual
Tickets: £2 available
from the Church Office
- numbers limited

In Church Hall if wet

Christian Aid Collection 2010

The magnificent total of £4056.34 was collected by you this year!

This is indeed a "concrete expression of discipleship" and we want to thank you all for the part that you have played in fulfilling God's vision for all his people - giving them hope to fight on against poverty and injustice the world over.

Those of you who attended St. Mary's on Christian Aid Sunday were privileged to hear an inspiring and informative address by Martin Birch (Head of Finance for Christian Aid).

Our "Pennies from Heaven" totalled £252.61, so thanks go to all the youth groups and leaders who participated - not forgetting Brenda and Richard Vickers who bravely counted it all!

To all our collectors, we say "Well done and thank you for your efforts!" To all those whose donations were received, may God bless you and those whose lives will be transformed by your generosity!

Sara and Tricia.

**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	Wright	
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. J. Fiddeman	8460 5682
Churchwardens	Mrs. A. Swatton	8650 1114
	Dr. D. Jefferys	8460 6030
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	Mr. S. Clark	8464 0696
	Mr. D. Cooper	8460 0682
	Mr. C. Stokes	8460 0661
	Mr. B. Waring	07957 186027
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Organist &	Mr. F. Roddy	01689 877025
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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
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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	Ms. W. Keeping	8466 8120
Pre-School	Mrs. P. Chase	8290 6704 or 07960 988552
The TWO 'W's'	Mrs. A. Heayberd	8460 9537

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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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