

## 75 years of work for the Shortlands community



**Mark Dempsey, Chairman of the SRA, by the new community notice board at Shortlands Station ticket office.**

**This year, the Shortlands Residents' Association celebrates its 75th anniversary.** It was founded in 1934 when local residents came together to take action at the failure of the then local authority to provide adequate school places - the need had grown as family housing was built on former farms and estates in the 1920s and 1930s. Just as then the SRA remains a key organisation

for getting things done at a local level - from opposing undesirable development to road safety, protecting our green spaces and helping to fight crime and vandalism.

Mark Dempsey, SRA Chairman told SPAN, "We are planning events to commemorate this important milestone. Getting people involved in local issues isn't easy but we are determined that, with the support of

today's residents, the SRA will remain relevant, responsive, active and effective for another 75 years, whatever challenges the future may bring".

These events are being promoted through the SRA's newsletters, web site and kicked off with the installation of a new community notice board in the station ticket office. It includes information on what's going on as well as snippets and photographs demonstrating Shortlands history.

We are talking to Bromley about promoting a sense of the area and its unique identity by placing banners at three strategic entrances and exits to Shortlands to raise awareness of where Shortlands is, strengthen the sense that it contains a thriving community and build on the sense of pride in the area.

Coinciding with the St Mary's Flower Festival in early July we are running a best front garden competition, open to all members of the SRA. If you want to enter, please get in touch with Mark Dempsey (0208 460 4060 or via the web site) soon so that we can send you details.

And the links with St Mary's Church continue with a special Songs of Praise service in the evening of 29 March, with a community theme.

The AGM on Wednesday 22 April will feature reminiscences from John Carter, the former travel and news presenter and a long time resident. And we aim to run some guided walks, highlighting the history of the area, how it has developed, alongside some of its famous men and women. These build on a series of walks that were run as part of the SRA's 50th anniversary in 1984.

Details of all of these events and dates will be in newsletters and on our new community notice board, as well as appearing on our website - [www.shortlandsresidents.org.uk](http://www.shortlandsresidents.org.uk)

It is interesting that 2009 marks another local anniversary - Highfield Junior and Infant schools mark their 50th! It might have taken some time, but it shows what can be achieved when people come together to articulate what they need to improve their local community.

by Mark Dempsey, SRA Chairman

### Services and Events at St. Mary's

<b>Lent Retreat Day</b> 7 March		<b>'Roll back the Stone'</b> led by Reverend Jane Peters
<b>Sunday</b> 8 March	6.30pm	<b>Choral Evensong and Thanksgiving for the life of John Tout</b> Responses - Martin Neary. Canticles - Walmisley in D minor. Anthem - O for a closer walk with God (Stanford)
<b>Mothering Sunday</b> 22 March	10.30am	<b>Family and Parade Service with the Blessing and Distribution of Posies</b> followed by a Cake Sale in the Church Hall in aid of the Guides
<b>Sunday</b> 29 March	6.30pm	<b>Songs of Praise - Shortlands Residents' Association</b> <b>75th Anniversary Service</b>

### Holy Week and Easter Services

<b>Palm Sunday</b> 5 April	10.30am 6.30pm	<b>Procession of Palms and Eucharist for Palm Sunday</b> <b>Passiontide Service of Readings, Anthems and Hymns for Holy Week</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 9 April	8.00pm	<b>Washing of Feet, Eucharist of the Last Supper and the Watch</b>
<b>Good Friday</b> 10 April	10.30am 2.00pm	<b>Family Service</b> led by Reverend Jane Peters <b>'An Hour at the Cross'</b> led by Canon Paul Miller
<b>Easter Day</b> 12 April	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>Sunrise Eucharist</b> <b>Eucharist of the Resurrection</b> including the renewal of Baptismal Vows and the Easter Egg Treasure Hunt <b>Evening Prayer</b> in the Chapel

### Easter Lilies



If you would like to remember a departed loved one at the Great Festival of Easter, we invite you to make a donation to the Flower Fund as a memorial to that person.

A list of the names of all those to be remembered will be placed on the altar on Easter Day, to affirm our hope in the Resurrection to eternal life and the Christian's eternal security in Christ.

**Please contact Molly Tout on 8464 9593.**



## From the Registers

### Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

18 Jan Lucy Rogers

### Confirming their

#### Christian faith:

We welcome into God's family:

8 Feb John Adam

Victoria Beazley

Sarah Bingham

Julia Knox

Barbara Page

Harry Petty

### At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

9 Feb Patricia Grey, aged 66

9 Feb Ros Chase, aged 87

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between 3.00pm and 4.00pm

These meetings provide an  
opportunity for you to speak  
to the local Police team about  
any issues or problems.

Next meeting dates:

**21 March, 11 April & 2 May**

# Lord Coe welcomes Shortlands' own Special Olympian



Hannah Dempsey, 20, of Shortlands and William Cottrell, 21, of Greenwich are seen meeting Lord Sebastian Coe.

Local girl Hannah Dempsey was selected as part of the team of just 10 learning disabled people representing Great Britain as skiers in the Special Olympic World Winter Games in Idaho, USA, in February.

The whole team have been training hard as part of their preparations, and were invited to meet Lord Coe on 15 January, and see first hand the progress being made on the 2012 Olympic site.

Last January, they travelled with 15 other skiers from the Special Olympics South East, to Pila in the Italian Alps to compete in the Great Britain Games. Hannah impressed the selectors after achieving some of the top finishes at the national level and now progresses to ski on the international stage. Now she is among 3,000 athletes representing 100 countries at the Games. During her time in Idaho athletes compete in three different disciplines - Super Giant Slalom, Giant Slalom and Slalom.

Hannah competed as a swimmer in the Special Olympics of Great Britain (SOGB) National Games in Glasgow winning bronze and silver medals, a feat she repeated at the SOGB skiing competition in Pila.

## 'Well done and thank you'



On a cold Saturday morning in January, two Cub packs had a 'leaf cleaning competition' to clear the mountains of leaves in St. Mary's grounds around the Scout Hut. They managed to fill over 100 sacks. Pictured are some of the 28 Cubs and their grown-up helpers!

# Confirmation at St. Mary's



## Flower Festival

3, 4 & 5 July 2009

Date for your diary - there will be a Flower Festival at St. Mary's on 3, 4 & 5 July 2009.

On Sunday, 8 February the Rt. Rev. Michael Gear officiated at a service of Confirmation and Reception into the Communion of the Church of England at the Eucharist.

This was a wonderful occasion at which the candidates confirmed their Christian faith, and family, friends and parishioners welcomed them into God's family.

Pictured with the Bishop are (left to right) Ann Parks (Churchwarden), Julia Knox, Sarah Bingham, John Adam, Barbara Page, Harry Petty, Victoria Beazley, John Swatton (Churchwarden) and Canon Paul Miller.

# Up, up and away!

Once again, girls from Shortlands have been selected to participate in Guiding events overseas. Young Leader Sarah Hunter is off to Mexico in August with a group representing London & South East England. They will be carrying out a service project with VAMOS, a Mexican charity which helps children and families living in poverty, and also staying at the World Guide Centre "Our Cabaña" where they will take part in a Friendship Project.

Three other girls from the Friday Guide unit: Young Leader Hannah

Stanton, and Guides Hannah Dowling and Sophie Webster will be attending "Flamboree", an international camp for Scouts and Guides in Belgium. The camp lasts for 11 days, and will be attended by 1,500 Scouts and Guides from all over the world.

In all, the four girls have to raise around £4,000, so they are busy fundraising! They will be holding a sale of home-made cakes, sweets and drinks in the Church Hall on Sunday 22nd March after the Mothering Sunday Parade Service. Please come along and support their efforts!



Left:  
Young Leaders -  
Hannah Stanton &  
Sarah Hunter



Right:  
Guides -  
Sophie Webster &  
Hannah Dowling

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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.

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**PARISH OFFICE** Tel/Fax 8460 5682

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**SPAN**

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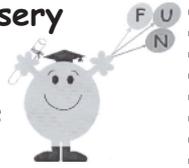
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