

THIEVES STRIP ROOF

On the middle weekend of August, whilst many were away on holiday, thieves visited St. Mary's Church and stripped a considerable amount of the lead from the roof.

Building work had already begun to repair the coping stones on the highest level of the roof, and now the

church faces considerable extra costs. It is estimated that a further £30,000 will have to be found.

As a result of the theft of the lead, a great deal of rainwater found its way into the church, and so much of the north side of the church and the Millennium Chapel will have to be

redecorated. A gate was broken down, and much of the mortar and many tiles to which the lead was attached were badly damaged.

"It is amazing that no-one saw anything," commented Canon Paul Miller. "We have now had an alarm fitted to the scaffolding, again at

considerable cost, in order to protect ourselves.

We are hoping to reclaim some of the extra costs from our insurance, but currently my fear is that we shall not get it all. Repair work will now continue well into October."

Canon Paul Miller

Summer Enjoyment



Unit Leader Gemma Dawson, supervising guides Eleanor (left) and Grace (right) as they saw firewood

The Guide Summer Camp in Hertfordshire included many outdoor activities, including archery, climbing, crate stacking, pedal go-karting, pot holing, rifle shooting, toboggan running - and there was an assault course too!



Youth Organisations from St. Mary's have been busy this summer. At the 'Bromjam' jamboree our 7th Bromley Scout Group set up a corral of 30 tents for over 100 campers. The boys enjoyed human table football, zip wire, grass sledging, archery, woggle making, and a vampire drop tower; our own Austin Tyler also won the sandcastle building competition!

Meanwhile the Mowgli Cub Pack formed their own football team, and after very little practice time

managed to work their way up to the semi finals of the Bromley Six-a-side Competition. They also took part in the annual sports day, with wellie throwing, three legged race and tug-of-war. "The boys have done really well;" said Akela (Louise Swatton) "we are so proud of their sportsmanship and their achievements."

Photographed below left is the Mowgli Pack football team, and above are Ian Swatton and Gareth Davies striking camp after Bromjam.

Special services for the weeks to come

Sunday, 7th October

10.30am: Harvest Parade Service & the Welcoming of the Newly Baptised - Canon Paul Miller & Reverend Alison Newman followed by the Harvest Lunch in the Church Hall

Sunday, 14th October

3.30pm: Pet Service - Bring your pets (or toy pets!) along!

Sunday, 21st October

6.30pm: Choral Evensong - Canon Paul Miller

Responses: Sanders; Setting: Sumision in A;

Anthem: Evening Hymn (Balfour Gardiner)

Sunday, 4th November

3.30pm: Service to Remember Departed Loved Ones and the Dedication and Blessing of six new banners and piano

- Canon Paul Miller & Reverend Alison Newman

Anthem: The Lord bless you and keep you (John Rutter)

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.



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

22nd July Isabella Tappin
Emma Larkam
Robert Ward

5th Aug Matilda Rouse

19th Aug Lucia Philpott
Benjamin Philpott
Betty Rider

26th Aug Roger Lyddon
William Godman
Abigail Godman

2nd Sept James Wood
Annabel Stafford
Frederick Stafford

Holy Matrimony

We congratulate:

4th Aug Matthew Stone and
Clare Durden

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

16th July Michael Powley, aged 73

19th July Harold Rans, aged 85

29th Aug Dick Miller, aged 93

10 Sept Phyllis Ray, aged 95

Interment of Ashes

16th Sept Cyril Clarke



Remembering

Michael Powley

Mick Powley was born in Chatham. By profession he was a sheet metal worker, and worked in Battersea. Mick never married, but had a close relationship with his nieces and nephews, who remembered well his love of gardening, his ability at cooking (carrot cake and rock cakes were his speciality!), and his keen sense of humour.

A Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at St. Mary's, Shortlands, followed by burial at St. Luke's, Magpie Hall Lane.

Harold Rans

Harold Rans, known to all as Mick, was born in India in 1921. One of four children, he was brought up in Portsmouth, and later worked for the Admiralty and for the Crown Agents.

His particular interests were tennis and golf, and when he was well into his 60s, he reached the quarter finals of the Men's Veterans Doubles at Wimbledon.

A Service of Thanksgiving,

conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at Beckenham Crematorium, attended by Selina, his wife and Alison and Michael, his children, as well as many friends and relatives.

Dick Miller

The youngest of four children, Dick was educated at Wilsons Grammar School in Camberwell.

During the war Dick saw active service with the Tank Regiment in Europe, Palestine and on the front line near the Rhine, and was awarded a military medal for personal bravery. After the war he worked, right up to his retirement, as Insurance Manager for Thomas Cook.

He married Florence in 1939 at St. John's, Deptford, and they were to enjoy 65 years of marriage until Florence's death in 2005.

They had two children, but were to know sadness in the loss of their first child, Ian, to pneumonia at the age of only six. They were, however, blessed with a second son, and Dick was a wonderfully encouraging and supportive father to Paul and grandfather to Andrew, Benjamin and

Edward, sharing with them and the rest of the family his enthusiasm for, and his enjoyment of, life. He was delighted to see his love for sport, particularly cricket, carried down through his son and grandsons.

Described by friends as "a man of God ... a real gentleman ... with charm and cheeky smile", Dick will be much missed and fondly remembered.

His funeral, conducted by the Reverend Alison Newman, took place at St. Mary's, Shortlands, and was attended by many friends and family members. It was followed by a private cremation at Beckenham Crematorium.

Missions for 2008

**Monday, 15th October
8.00pm**

in the Choir Vestry

to discuss and decide upon the charities to be supported as Missions for the Month in 2008.

THIS WILL BE AN OPEN MEETING

Anyone who would like to put forward a particular mission should submit their suggestion, with supporting information and details of the person who will be the liaison for this mission, to the office by Friday, 12th October.

Please note that missions will not automatically be supported in 2008 because they have been in previous years, so it is important to act now or attend this meeting if you would like to have some say in the choice of missions for 2008. We hope to see you there.

Susie Shelton, Mission Chairman

Wine Tasting / Quiz Evening

run by the Friends of St. Mary's
**Friday, 26th October,
7.30pm in the Church Hall**

a blind tasting of up to 8 different wines (4 white, 4 red) with quiz questions related to the wines.

£7.50 per ticket (over 18s only) from the Parish Office, Chairman of the SRA (see back page for tel. nos.) or Friends' Committee members

Quiz masters will take orders at the end of the evening.

Parish Administrator jets off to New Zealand



The welcome presence and smile of Suzie Evans is about to depart to the other side of the world!

Suzie, who has been

Parish Administrator at St. Mary's, Shortlands for the past six years, is moving as a result of her husband, Stephen's, posting to a new position with the Foreign Office in

Wellington, New Zealand.

"We shall miss Suzie very much" said Canon Paul Miller. "She has been totally dedicated to her position, and managed the many administrative tasks of a busy church organisation with great energy and enthusiasm. We wish her well."

The P. C. C. has appointed Mr. Richard Vickers to succeed her. Richard lives in the parish, and his family has had a strong link with the church. We look forward to welcoming him to the Parish team.

SPAN THANKS

We record our thanks for donations during the months of August and September of £41.54.

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PATHFINDER ACTION



Has anybody seen our wings ?!!!



Messing about in the water - going quite fast downwards actually!

Once again this year Alison and Mark Newman were the leaders of a Pathfinder venture which ran from 21st -28th July in Blandford, Dorset. The venture is for school years six to nine, and young people come from all over the country as well as Shortlands!

It's a great week away, packed with activities, outings, and lots of fun, as well as the opportunity to discover more about the Christian faith. This is an annual event, and if you would like to find out more about the 2008 venture please contact Alison Newman on 0208 658 7784.

Holiday Club fun and friendship !



"They MADE me do this - honest!"

Over 93 children joined us during our holiday club week from 20 – 25th August. We had a great time, making bird boxes, animal masks, puppets, T shirt painting, candle holders (see right), hats, gardens, crosses.

We had a visit from Andrew Smith (the minibeast man) and pony rides, Mavis Righini came with some baby hedgehogs and Eagle Heights brought along some birds of prey. We learnt about God the Creator and the difference Jesus made to us by coming into the world.

There were games and challenges, and Captain Ketchup helped us 'ketch up' with all the news. We did face painting (below), wonderful junk modelling and much more!! Thank you for all the cards and letters of encouragement - but sorry - no, we won't be running it for two weeks next year!! **Reverend Alison Newman**



Painting candle holders ...



London Zoo? Shortlands Safari Park actually !



It's all good, clean fun - when you're wearing a glamorous overall !

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



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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 4-14.
- 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

Every Friday

- 20.00 Night Prayers

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

PARISH DIRECTORY

STAFF

Vicar	Canon P. Miller	8460 4989
Associate Vicar	Rev. A. Newman	8658 7784
Readers	Mrs. A. Gimson	8460 6494
	Mr. P. Stotesbury	8650 3259
	Mrs. J. Peters	8650 5986
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	Mrs. J. Jackson	8325 1972
	Mrs. L. Miller	8460 4989
	Mrs M. Westropp	8650 5178
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	Miss A. Parks	8464 1157
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Assistant Organist	Mrs. C. Tillotson	8460 7368
Electoral Roll	Mr. N. Stoffel	8460 0663
Stewardship	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178

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

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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
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Guides (Tues.)	Miss G. Dawson	8460 5884
Guides (Fri.)	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
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Brownies (Wed.)	Mrs. A. Bailey	8313 3745
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