

SHORTLANDS PARISH NEWS

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endeavours to bring the love
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February 2012. Year 32 Number 2

A Tap on the Shoulder!

by Canon Paul Miller

In the middle of December I returned to the parish where I was a Vicar from 1978 to 1986. St Luke's Torquay is a late Victorian Church that claims to be the most colourful church in Britain! It overlooks the main sea front and promenade, and when we lived there we enjoyed a large seven-bedroomed vicarage with servants' quarters (but with no servants!)

The Churchwarden who interviewed me, and recommended me for appointment to the Bishop, was a man called Percy Dimmock. He was seventy-two then. My reason for returning was to officiate at his funeral. He was one hundred and five when he died and had left instructions in his will for me to take his funeral service.

The reason he joined St. Luke's was a tap on the shoulder! He was

watching Torquay United playing on a Saturday afternoon when the then curate, who knew him, found himself standing near him on the terraces, invited him to come to St. Luke's and to a church service. The rest is history!

Percy Dimmock was an enormous help to me in the early years of my ministry. I was a young 29 year-old - one of the youngest vicars in England, and his wise

counsel and fatherly support kept my feet very much on the ground. It is amazing what a simple gesture like a tap on the shoulder can lead to. Mary was quietly living her simple life when the angel Gabriel 'tapped on her shoulder' ... and look what happened!

We need to keep alert because we never know when God might come tapping!

2012 Confirmation



On Sunday, 8 January, Bishop Brian Castle, the Bishop of Tonbridge visited Shortlands for the Annual Service of Confirmation. The service was attended by over 200 people and included friends and families, some of whom had travelled some distance.

Photographed from left to right (back row) are Canon Paul Miller, Olu Jimi Ogunsola, Bishop Brian, Sally and Lucy Montague, Reverend Jane Peters and (front row) Charlie Bailey, David Tillotson, Rhiannon Brown and Molly Montague.

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at 7.30pm**

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Special Services

Sunday 5 February

10.30am - Family and Parade Service

Sunday 19 February

6.30pm - Choral Evensong
Responses: Smith

Canticles: Brewer in E flat
Anthem: Evening Hymn by Balfour Gardiner

Ash Wednesday 22 February

"The Beginning of Lent"

10.00am - Holy Communion with the
Imposition of Ashes - Rev Jane Peters

8.00pm - Holy Communion with Hymns and
the Imposition of Ashes - Canon Paul Miller



From the Registers

Confirming their Christian faith:

8 Jan Charlie Bailey
 Rhianon Brown
 Sally Montague
 Lucy Montague
 Molly Montague
 Olu Jimi Ogunsola
 David Tillotson

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

29 Nov Paul Bateman, aged 66
 5 Dec Yvonne Niles, aged 83
 13 Dec Peggy Edwards, aged 93
 14 Dec Emily Moys, aged 88
 13 Jan Joan Starling, aged 77



Remembering

Paul Bateman

Except for a short period of time spent in Canada, Paul had lived with his family in Durham Road for many years.

He was born and brought up in West Wickham with his brothers, Ron, Mick, John, David, and sister, Janet. He became a craftsman by trade. Paul had been married to Sue for forty years. They had four children, Steve, Phil, Nikki and Matty. He was proud of them all and their achievements, and being a great family man also enjoyed the company of his four grandchildren Louis, Luke, Talia and Harriet.

Paul loved gardening, and enjoyed sitting in his summer house, which he built himself, listening to music. His other great interest was his motorbike, and he used to go out riding it with his brothers and friends.



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24 years experience

Struck down by illness a year ago, Paul was largely cared for at home, thanks to Sue and the support of the family. He died on 29 November, aged 66.

A Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by Peter Stotesbury, took place at Beckenham Crematorium on 9 December attended by the family and many friends. Sadly his mother, Dolly was unable to be present.

Yvonne Niles

Yvonne was born in Greenwich and grew up and went to school in Charlton. She was one of four. She married Ken and had one daughter, Lesley.

She had a variety of jobs including being an office secretary at British Insulated Callender's Cables, and helping out in family businesses ranging from working in a motor cycle shop, a grocers, a dress and haberdashery shop, and an engineering business.

Her interests included gardening, sewing and knitting and family. She was devoted to her grandchildren, Charlotte and Christopher, whom she supported as she shared a house with them, and also her great-granddaughter, Ella.

A Service of Thanksgiving took place at Beckenham Crematorium prior to cremation: Canon Paul Miller officiated.

Peggy Edwards

Peggy was born in 1918, the younger of two sisters. She did well at school in Croydon, gaining her School Certificate in 1934.

She worked as a secretary in various parts of the country. She loved dancing and tennis, always watching Wimbledon on television while her love of cats was legendary. After her marriage to Ted they did a lot of walking and on one occasion they walked over the hills from Folkestone to Dover to visit her sister and family. She was widowed in 1969 when Ted died.

When she retired she planned to visit many seaside resorts in this country but it was always "next year". She did, however, make the long journey to South Africa to visit

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Ted's relatives.

In later years she became very infirm and was confined to one room in her flat but she never lost her friendly nature and everyone who met her became her friend.

A Service of Thanksgiving prior to cremation, and conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at Beckenham Crematorium attended by family and friends

Emily Moyes

Emily was born in Houghton-le-Spring, a mining village near Durham. She grew up there and was educated there too. She trained and qualified as a nurse and worked at Lewisham Hospital and later as a secretary in her husband's building business.

She met her husband, Jimmy,

through their interest in racing pigeons. She loved gardening, cooking and holidays.

Emily was cared for in the last seven years by her husband, who recently celebrated his 100th birthday. They were married for sixty-three years and had a daughter, Violet. Their stepdaughter, Carol, sadly died when she was only thirty-nine, but she is survived by her three granddaughters, three great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

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

Fairtrade Fortnight 27 February - 11 March

Take a step for Fairtrade Fortnight 27 February to 11 March. This event is held by the Fairtrade Foundation each year.

This year at St. Mary's we are marking the fortnight by asking you to "take a step for Fairtrade" by simply swapping one item of shopping for a Fairtrade item, it could be your tea or coffee at home or at work, there are many other items you could swap. Come and see a wide selection of Fairtrade goods at our stall at St. Mary's Church; on 5 February, after the 8am and 10.30am services (at the back of the Church), and on 18 March after the 10.30am service (in the Hall). Look out for promotions in your local supermarkets; by changing to and using Fairtrade goods we can all bring about positive changes in the lives of thousands of producers in the developing world.

Many farmers and workers struggle to provide their families with basics such as clean water, schooling and health care. But Fairtrade puts the power of trade back into the hands of these farmers and workers.

Mission of the Month Sue Ryder Foundation

Sue Ryder is a national charity providing health and social care services in local communities.

Paul Rouse, a resident of Shortlands, is running the London Marathon in 2012 to raise money for Sue Ryder. At the start of 2011 Paul's grandmother, Eileen, was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Over the next six months the strain of caring for their sick mother became increasingly overwhelming for Paul's parents, aunt and uncle. The respite care and the subsequent end-of-life care offered by a Sue Ryder hospice gave invaluable support and ultimately enabled the family to spend precious final days with Eileen in a peaceful and dignified environment. Paul is raising money for Sue Ryder to thank them for the work they do every single day across the country.

Sue Ryder offers local communities every year:

- 4 million hours of care
- Over 100,000 days of long-term residential care
- More than 8,000 volunteers

One of the largest specialist palliative care providers in the UK, Sue Ryder provides compassionate care services to people with long-term and end of life needs. They do this in hospices, residential care centres, in the community and in people's homes. And they support families, friends and carers. They do this in three ways:

- health and social care at home
- specialist palliative and end-of-life care in 7 hospices
- neurological and complex care in 7 residential centres

There will be a Quiz Night, on Saturday, 25 February, at 8pm, in St. Mary's Church Hall, in aid of the Sue Ryder Foundation and St. Mary's Pre School. Please come along, call the Parish Office on 8460 5682 for information.



Lent 2012



Lent is an opportunity before the great Festival of Easter to take time out and reflect on our journey through life. There are a number of ways we would like to help you to get the most out of Lent.

1. Join a Homegroup

It seems no time since we were celebrating Christmas, yet Easter is already in sight – such is life in the Church!

Lent is a great time to get together with other people to learn more about our faith. Lent Homegroups meet in people's houses during the day or during the evening on different days of the week. You do not need to be academic or have a degree in theology to join – in fact it's better if you come with a completely open mind and fresh point of view. This year we shall be looking at 'Prayer - An Adventure with God'.

Why not join a group this year if you haven't done so before? You don't have to be able to attend every week. Lists are at the back of the church with sign up sheets.

If you wish to know more please ring the Parish Office on 8460 5682.

2. Christianity Explored

What is it all about? An opportunity to find out about the life of Jesus and what relevance it has for our lives today.

Anyone is welcome and the meetings will be held at the Vicarage on 29 February, 7, 14 and 21 March, at 8.00pm. The meetings will consist of a short DVD, an opportunity for questions, and refreshments. Each meeting will last for about an hour.

3. Lent Lunches

A simple lunch for up to 10 people to provide an opportunity for hospitality and to support a charity.

Thursday, 23 February - Cliff & Shirley Broughton, 1 St. Mary's Avenue - supporting Demelza House

Wednesday, 29 February - David & Jane Green, 84 Barnfield Wood Road - supporting Médecins Sans Frontières

Friday, 16 March - Sue Slaney, 31 Elwill Way - supporting St. Christopher's Hospice

If you would like further information please contact the Parish Office on 8460 5682.

For both the Homegroups and Lent Lunches there are sign up sheets at the back of the Church.

4. Attend the main Sunday morning service at 10.30am every Sunday to hear four different speakers helping us to engage with the challenge of Lent.

February 26	Lent 1	Canon Paul Miller
March 4	Lent 2	Reverend Cathy Gardiner, Vicar at St. Paul, Anerley
March 11	Lent 3	Reverend Juliet Donnelly, Chaplain at Bishop Justus School
March 25	Lent 5	Susie Shelton on behalf of the Mission Aviation Fellowship

275 - A Record!...

That was the number of Christmas cards the Youth Organisations of Shortlands sent to the Mission to Seafarers at Christmas 2011 - well done everyone!



5. A Lent Retreat Day

Saturday, 3 March led by Tim Aldred and Reverend Jane Peters

This will be a quiet day in the Church buildings - a time for reflection and fellowship and will include lunch. Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the porch if you would like to attend. Donations of £10 suggested.

6. Endeavour to participate in the experience of Holy Week

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year is Wednesday, 22 February. There will be two services: Holy Communion at 10.00am and Holy Communion with Hymns at 8.00pm, both to include the Imposition of Ashes.

April 1		
Palm Sunday	10.30am	Procession of Palms and Eucharist for Palm Sunday
	6.30pm	A Passiontide Service of Readings, Anthems and Hymns for Holy Week
April 5		
Maundy Thursday	8.00pm	Washing of Feet, Eucharist of the Last Supper and the Watch
April 6		
Good Friday	10.30am	Family Service led by Reverend Jane Peters
	2.00pm	An Hour at the Cross led by Canon Paul Miller
April 8		
Easter Day	8.00am	Sunrise Eucharist
	10.30am	Eucharist of the Resurrection including the renewal of Baptismal Vows and the Easter Egg Treasure Hunt

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 (8464 9593) or the Parish Office (8460 5682).

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of St. Mary,
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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 0-18.
- 10.30 All Age Eucharist or Parade Service (1st Sunday in the month, term time).
- 18.30 Choral Evensong (3rd Sunday in the month)

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
Priests		
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PARISH OFFICE Tel/Fax 8460 5682

e-mail: office@stmaryshortlands.plus.com
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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
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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	07516 650940
Guides (Fri.)	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
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Residents' Association	8460 4060
Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood	8721 2614

SPAN

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