

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

May 2010. Year 30 Number 5



Easter Egg Joy

Two Shortlands children show the Easter eggs they found after over 100 children and young people took part in the annual Easter egg hunt after the main Easter Day Service.

'The Easter services were very well attended and the Church looked magnificent,' enthused Canon Paul Miller. 'We have seen steadily more people joining St. Mary's and the community very much values a Christian presence here in Shortlands. Over 500 people attended our Mothering Sunday service in March. We are finding more and more that people are wanting a spiritual dimension to their lives. Families and young people in particular are finding a welcome here and they want to belong.'

'I also feel that many want a good Anglican service. There is so much variety now that sometimes people are never sure what they are going to get when they go to Church. Here in Shortlands we offer a traditional Church of England service with excellent music and a down to earth approach to preaching. We try and involve as many people as possible but also provide an environment for people who just want "to be". We are inclusive and welcome everyone. Through our outreach to families we host a large number of baptisms and are involved in caring for many people who have been bereaved.'

Holy Land Pilgrimage 2011

Canon Paul Miller will be leading a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May 2011. Brochures are available in the Church porch.

Parish Picnic & Barbecue, Fun & Games

Sunday, 13 June 2010

in the church grounds, following the 10.30am
Family and Parade Service in the church.

Bring your own picnic - barbecue food and
refreshments available to buy.

There will be a toddler play area, and many fun games for
adults and children.

Come and enjoy the Shortlands community!

Christian Aid Week

9-15 May

Poverty – Let's End It: Christian Aid Week 9-15 May 2010

Christian Aid is an international development agency with a vision – an end to world poverty – and it believes that vision can become a reality.

It works through partner organisations in around 50 countries for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality.

Christian Aid Week is Britain's longest-running fundraising week and is one of the biggest expressions of compassion for the poorest communities in our world.

In Shortlands, many of us will be taking part in the national house-to-house collection. The commitment and energy of those volunteers is fantastic, but the impact of our hard work can be multiplied with your support!

Please contact Sarah or Tricia to offer assistance with this year's Collection.

Sarah Craggs 020 8464 4379

Tricia Braithwaite 020 8460 4152

'Pennies from Heaven'

Calling all Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts!

Calling all Mothers and Toddlers, Pre-School, Junior Church
and Junior Choir!

Let's see how much we can collect this year for others who have so little.

We hope you will place your coins in an **enormous circle** around the inside of St. Mary's, to remind everyone that we all belong to one big family - rich and poor alike! We've had such fun in previous years, raising hundreds of pounds so far! Congratulations to everyone involved.

Please bring your 'Pennies from Heaven' to Pack Night (or your next meeting) in the week starting 9 May, so that you can place your coins in the circle.

Special Events and Services

Sunday 2 May	10.30am	All Age Eucharist and Parade Service to welcome our friends from Douai
Ascension Day Thursday 13 May	8.00pm	Eucharist for Ascension Day followed by drinks and the lighting of the Ascension Day Rocket
President and Preacher: The Bishop of Tonbridge		
Pentecost - The Birthday of the Church		
Sunday 23 May	10.30am	Family Communion
	6.30pm	Three Choirs Festival at St. Mark's, Bromley
Sunday 13 June	10.30am	Parade Service followed by the Parish Picnic and Barbecue



From the Registers

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

4 Mar Sarah Pritchard, aged 95
13 Mar Phyllis Slade, aged 84
15 Mar Dorothy Rankin, aged 91



Remembering

Sarah Pritchard

Sarah, or 'Sybil' as she was known to many, was born in Llandwrog near Caernarvon in Wales.

She came to London when she was 17 and worked as a Secretary. Her last job was as Head Medical Secretary in Tooting Bec Hospital.

Sybil loved reading, the theatre and visiting museums. She was very knowledgeable about London. She also loved watching horse racing.

In the last eleven years she had lived at Merlin Court where she made many friends.

A Service of Thanksgiving, prior to Cremation, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at Beckenham Crematorium which was attended by her daughters, Rhoda and Susan and four grandchildren, Tracey, Adam, Neil and Robert.

Phyllis Slade

Phyl was born in Penge 84 years ago and remained very much a local girl all her long life. It was in Penge that Phyl met and married Bill to whom she was married for nearly 67 years. In pride of place on their mantelpiece is a card from Her Majesty attesting to the first 65 years.

They went on to have two boys, John and Haitch. Her family were the most important thing to Phyl. She had five lovely grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Phyl worked all her life including for a long time at the Payne's Poppets factory near Croydon, at the Valma Caff in Penge and at The George Pub

in Beckenham.

It may be said that Phyl had a strong character. Anyone who tried to persuade her to see a doctor or go to hospital would tell you that. For all that she was tiny by the time she died, she had the stubbornness for a woman many times her size! She did not want to go near a hospital – even if she could hardly breathe – and she had no truck with doctors.

Her creativity showed particularly at Christmas when she would make decorations and baskets of flowers. Her flat was highly colourful at that season.

She was proudest of her family: she adored her grandchildren and great grandchildren – there were always little treats for them.

On being asked her greatest achievement, Haitch remarked wryly: 'living to 84 given the number of cigarettes she smoked!' She was never without that handbag, her fags and lighter! Phyl needed her strength of character. Her life was not easy. She survived TB as a younger woman.

Phyl will be greatly missed – she was one of a kind.

A Service of Thanksgiving, prior to Cremation, conducted by Reverend Jane Peters took place at Beckenham Crematorium where a good number of family, friends and neighbours joined her sons John and Haitch to say farewell to her.

Dorothy Rankin

Dorothy was born and brought up in Hull, and had two sisters and a brother. Sadly she lost her father at the age of only 2 to gas poisoning.

She left school at the age of 14 and began a hairdressing apprenticeship before joining the RAF in 1939. During the war that she met Ron at a dance. Their courtship was carried out during black outs and bombings and within six months they decided to get married. One of the girls in the fabric shop where Dorothy worked as a parachute packer made her wedding dress. The cake was real but the icing was on cardboard, hired from a shop and had to be returned.

When peace was declared they

headed for London, initially living with Ron's parents in Kingswood Road with their son Tony. When Tony later married Jan and had two daughters, Joanna and Nicole, Dorothy became not only a very proud grandmother but considered them the two daughters she never had.

Dorothy was a very independent woman – probably in part because of Ron's unsocial hours in Smithfield market – and so she had various hobbies. At the age of 55 she learned to swim! The couple had a good social life at the Foxgrove Club, she belonged to the Ladies' darts team, played bingo and continued her love of dancing. She also took up pottery and upholstery and loved boot sales. Dorothy continuing hairdressing until well into her 80s.

Sadly her last few years were marred by dementia, but there was still something of the old Dorothy there, the lovely personality and generous heart.

Dorothy was a life long believer and her funeral reflected this. A Service of Thanksgiving, prior to Cremation, conducted by Reverend Jane Peters took place at Beckenham Crematorium where a large gathering of family and friends – some from her childhood – met to say farewell to her and to pay tribute to a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, mother-in-law and friend.



Thank you to all who contributed for the Easter Flowers and Lilies.

Music Awards



The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) runs a Voice for Life scheme in which choristers progress through a succession of awards and gain a badge with different coloured ribbons. In addition, choristers are able to work towards external awards, also set by the RSCM. Two of these are the Deanery Award and the Diocesan Award.

On Easter Sunday Frank Roddy, Organist and Musical Director at St. Mary's, announced that David Tillotson had passed the Deanery Award and Rachel Tillotson the Diocesan Award, and presented them with their badges and ribbons. 'We are delighted that our Choristers are achieving so much,' commented Canon Paul Miller, 'Rachel and David have done very well and we are very pleased for them.'

The Choir are looking for new members of any age. The Choir meets during the week for practice on Thursday evenings at 7.45pm, sings at the 10.30am Sunday services, sings once a month at 6.30pm at Choral Evensong and at a number of special services throughout the year.

If you would like to join or would like more information please the Parish Office.

SPAN THANKS

We record our thanks for recent donations of £5.00



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Bishop to visit Shortlands on Ascension Day

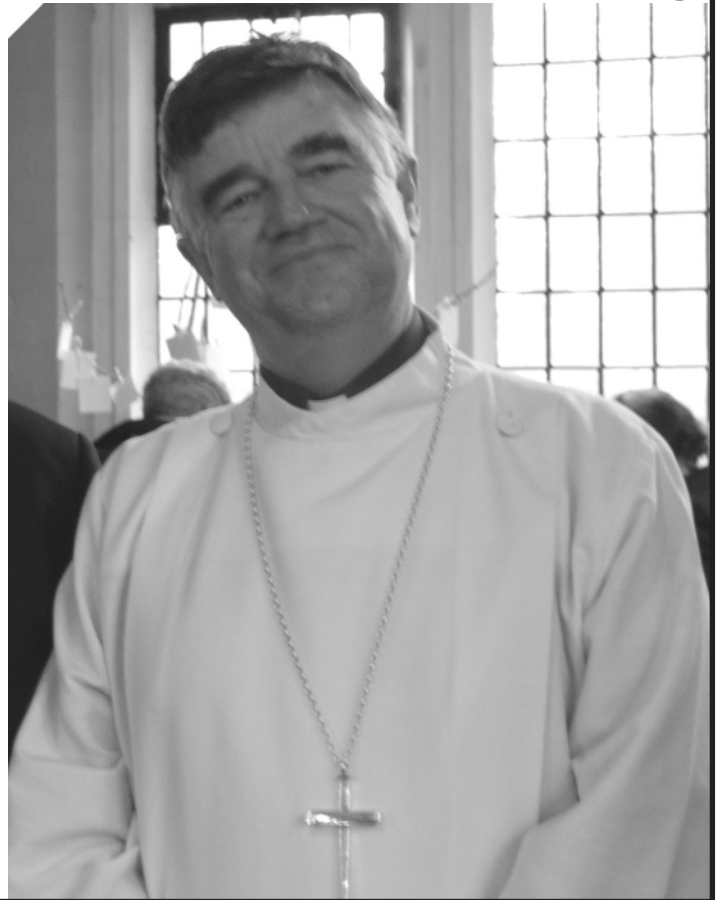
The Bishop of Tonbridge is to visit Shortlands on Ascension Day, Thursday, 13 May. He is currently visiting parishes and spending a day in them to find out more about what is going on.

'We were delighted to receive the news that Bishop Brian is to visit Shortlands. We are a very busy parish and there is a lot going on. He will have much to see! It is good he is coming on a major Christian festival' commented Canon Paul Miller.

The day will conclude with an Ascension Day service at 8.00pm to which all are welcome. The service will be followed by drinks and the Bishop will light the Ascension Day rocket!

The Bishop's itinerary is as follows:

9.30am	Arrive and coffee
9.45am	Visit St. Mary's Pre-School
10.00am	Visit Mothers and Toddlers Group
10.30am	Visit Highfield Junior School to lead Assembly
11.15am	Coffee at Shortlands Golf Club with 2WW's Group
12.30pm	Lunch at a Parish house with some members of the Ministry Team
2.00pm	Meet members of the Shortlands Community Police Team
2.45pm	Visit Highfield Infants' School for Assembly
3.15pm	Visit Sloane Hospital and meet staff
4.00pm	Rest
5.00pm	Evening Prayer with Ministry Team
6.00pm	Supper at the Vicarage
8.00pm	Sung Eucharist for Ascension Day, followed by
9.00pm	Drinks and the Lighting of the Ascension Day Rocket
9.30pm	Home



Guide News



2nd Shortlands (Friday) Guides recently celebrated the success of three of their Patrol Leaders: (Left to right) Hannah Dowling, Sarah Bingham and Sophie Webster, in gaining the Baden-Powell Challenge Award, the highest award which can be gained in the Guide section. The Guides and a large number of invited guests also enjoyed hearing all about Sarah's experiences in Australia where she attended a special international camp to celebrate the Centenary of Guiding.

The three girls have now moved on from Guides to the next stage in their Guiding careers – Sophie has joined Hayes Ranger Unit, and Hannah & Sarah have become Young Leaders helping with the Wednesday Brownie Pack at St. Mary's.

Shortlands Residents' Association

Why not take part in

Shortlands' Best Front Garden Competition

For more information and how to apply
call Mark Dempsey on 020 8460 4060 or
info@shortlandsresidents.org.uk

Treasures of Lambeth Palace Library 400th Anniversary Exhibition 1610-2010

To celebrate 400 years since its foundation, Lambeth Palace Library is set to open its doors with a fascinating exhibition.

On show will be key items collected during Lambeth Palace Library's four hundred years as a working library. Treasures include a Gutenberg Bible (Mainz, 1455), the first book printed in Western Europe from movable metal type; the 12th century Lambeth Bible, regarded as one of the monuments of Romanesque art; and King Richard III's 15th century manuscript Book of Hours, which was in his tent at the Battle of Bosworth in August 1485.

'Treasures of Lambeth Palace Library - 400th Anniversary Exhibition 1610-2010' runs from Monday, 17 May to Friday, 23 July 2010. It will be held in The Great Hall, Lambeth Palace Library, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7JU. For further information and advance bookings (recommended), visit www.lambethpalacelibrary.org or ring 0871 230 1107.

When you plan your garden this Spring

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be happy
Lettuce really love one another.

No garden should be without turnips:

Turnip for service when needed
Turnip to help one another
Turnip the music and dance.

Water freely with patience and
Cultivate with love.

There is much fruit in your garden.
Because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden

We must have thyme:
Thyme for fun
Thyme for rest
Thyme for ourselves.

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	Mrs. A. Gimson	8460 6494
Readers	Mr. P. Stotesbury	8650 3259
Pastoral Assistants	Mrs. S. Harrison	8464 0284
	Mrs. L. Miller	8460 4989
Parish Administrator	Mrs. D. Speller	8466 1184
	Mrs. M. Westropp	8650 5178
Assistant	Mr. R. Vickers	8460 5682
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	Miss A. Parks	8464 1157
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	Mrs. P. Chase	8464 6188
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Assistant Treasurer	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947
Organist &	Mr. T. Dawson	8460 5884
Director of Music	Mr. D. Weekes	8650 2950
Assistant Organist	Mr. F. Roddy	01689 877025
Electoral Roll	Mrs. C. Tillotson	8460 7368
Stewardship	Mr. N. Stoffel	8460 0063
Junior Church	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
	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	8650 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.)	Mr. 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 'Ws'	Mrs. A. Heayberd	8460 9537
OTHER NUMBERS		
Church Flowers	Mrs. M. Parr	8460 3871
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Clr. 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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