

Two new Heads for Highfield



Highfield Infants' School and Highfield Junior School have recently had new Head Teachers appointed. Ann Golding (above left), currently Deputy Head Teacher at Pickhurst Infant School, has been appointed Head Teacher at Highfield Infants' School and will commence in September. Karen Bigg (above right), who was Acting Head Teacher at Highfield Junior School was appointed Head Teacher and commenced her appointment at the beginning of this term.

SPAN spoke to both firstly to congratulate them on their appointments and then to find out a bit more about them.

Ann Golding was born in Bromley and attended Highfield School as a child when it was a single school. She went on to Hayes Secondary School before obtaining her B. Ed. at Brighton. She is married with two sons and 2 cats! Her interests include education, walking, gardening, travel and painting. Commenting on her appointment Ann said 'I am looking forward to starting in September. I have already been made to feel very welcome by children and staff. I know I can continue to build on the work

that David Payne and Jason Wood have done.'

Karen Bigg was born in Surrey and was educated in Sutton before moving to Warwick. As a member of the Warwickshire County Youth Orchestra she appeared on Blue Peter! Karen later studied at Middlesex University where she obtained a B.Ed.(Honours) with a music specialism - she plays the clarinet.

On finishing her training, Karen's first post was in Newham. She then taught at a junior school in Croydon, where she had particular responsibility for special needs



provision, before moving on to Redbridge Primary School with over 700 children. In January 2000 she became Deputy Head of Highfield Junior School, teaching year 3 classes and then maths groups across the school. Karen moved on in 2004 and became Head Teacher of a Medway junior school. In September 2007 she moved back to Highfield as Acting Head Teacher and has subsequently been appointed as Head.

Karen lists amongst her interests music, netball (she played for Shirley Netball Club for many years), travel and coastal walks. She lives in

Ramsgate (although she is considering moving closer to Shortlands now!) with her husband and 2 cats. Following her appointment Karen told us 'I am currently working to develop further our relationship with the Infants School, especially to support children as they move to the Junior School. Jason Wood and I recently appointed a Joint Family Worker to strengthen the links between home and both schools and I am also keen to develop links with the community.'

Special Services and Events for June

Sunday, 8 June at 10.30am - Family and Parade Service

followed by the Parish Picnic in the Church grounds.

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.

Free Raffle for a ride on the Archdeacon of Bromley and Bexley's Harley Davidson motor bike.

Sunday, 15 June at 6.30pm - Taizé Service

Saturday, 21 June at 6.30pm - Summer Soirée

Full details on page 2.

Sunday, 22 June at 6.30pm - Choral Evensong

Responses - Sanders, Canticles - Stanford in G, Anthem - O Lorde the maker of al thinge (John Joubert)

Sunday, 29 June at 6.30pm - Songs of Praise

Come and listen to your favourite hymns.



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

27 Apr Jessica Matthews

Ella Matthews

Zac Finch

11 May Luke Yeulett

Georgia Yeulett

At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

29 Apr John Russell, aged 66

30 Apr Peter Petty, aged 89



Remembering

John Russell

John was born in Norfolk. He loved the outdoors and as a boy became a King Scout and enjoyed sailing, youth hostelling and fishing.

He married Pam in 1965 beginning married life in Biggin Hill and they had two children, Sophie and Paul.

His varied life included owning a car showroom, a property business in Spain, an advertising business in Carnaby Street, he was Elton John's agent in the United States, he managed a band, drove stretch limos, managed an Indian restaurant and built a gun club in Spain - all this before he started his building career. John was a man of many talents who loved life. He adored his granddaughter Tatiana.

A Service of Thanksgiving, conducted by Canon Paul Miller, took place at Beckenham Crematorium followed by cremation. A large congregation joined family and friends to celebrate his life and to say their goodbyes.

Residents' Association Website launched at AGM

Yet again, it was standing room only at the Shortlands Residents' Association (SRA) AGM on 23 April. The event is when Shortlands residents turn out in force, with Beckenham MP Jacqui Lait and Councillors George Taylor, Ernest Noad and Michael Tickner, to hear about progress in the last year.

In his report Chairman Mark Dempsey said; "One of our objectives for the year was to set up an SRA web site for residents, and I am delighted that this is now up and running. It already contains a lot of interesting information about the SRA, Shortlands itself and useful local

contacts. But we want it to be something for the whole community. So if local groups or residents have events or activities that they would like to promote we'd be very happy to hear from you". The website is at www.shortlandsresidents.org.uk.

The AGM also provided an opportunity to hear from Sergeant David Harvey and his colleagues about the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT). He valiantly stepped in at short notice after the Borough Commander for Bromley could not attend. Residents commented on how helpful and effective they found the team to be,

but several also mentioned that there were problems with communications that meant it could be difficult to get hold of the team. Jacqui Lait MP is now taking this up with Sir Ian Blair and the Commander for Bromley.

Looking forward, next year marks the 75th anniversary of the SRA. Mark said, "We are working up a series of activities to commemorate the occasion, but if residents have ideas or can help with planning and organising things, we would be delighted to hear from them." Keep watching www.shortlandsresidents.org.uk!

The Friends of St. Mary's

The Friends of St Mary's held their AGM on 27 April followed by the Friends Annual Service which this year was a Choral Evensong. After the service wine and nibbles were served at the back of the church.

In his address Canon Paul Miller, who is Chaplain to the Friends, reminded the congregation of some of the many items the Friends had provided for the church recently - choir robes, Church House kitchen refurbishment, piano renovation, a sound system, equipment for power point presentations in church, the replacement of the Hall crockery, a set of anthem books for the choir, a digital

camera for the church to record events and they are providing a notice board shortly to be erected outside the Church Hall. The Friends also give a Choir Award each year to a chorister who has shown improvement over the previous year.

To enable the Friends to support the church in these ways, they raise funds from subscriptions of Friends and by holding fund-raising events. Last October they held a successful wine-tasting quiz, which challenged our palates! and there will be another on 10 October this year. In March this year a very successful All-Age Quiz and Beetle Drive was held.

Our next venture is the Summer Solstice Soirée on Saturday, 21 June, in the church grounds. Tickets are available from the Parish Office at £2 - numbers limited! Of course, everyone is welcome at our fund-raising events, but we would welcome more Friends and if you feel you would like to help support your local church in this way, please contact the Secretary, Judy Rambridge, 020 8650 0947, or pick up an application form from the Friends Notice Board in the church. The minimum subscription is £7. We look forward to greeting you as a Friend.

The next local **Police 'Surgery'** will be held at Unit 3, Albemarle House, Albemarle Road, Beckenham from 7.30pm to 9.00pm on Wednesday, 11 June.

SPAN THANKS

We record our thanks for donations during the month of April of £18.50

Franklin House Summer Fair

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St Mary's Shortlands Holiday Club 2008



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Douai and Shortlands Weekend a great success!



The annual 'Jumelage' between St. Francis of Assisi, Douai and St. Mary's Shortlands took place during the first weekend in May. Over 30 French visitors came over, including some who had not been part of the exchange before.

We met at Hever Castle when a picnic was enjoyed before a visit to the Castle. Seven Dinner Parties were then arranged across Shortlands when food, wine and friendship were enjoyed in plenty!

The Sunday service was a wonderful occasion in which both the Roman Catholic and Anglican communities shared fully in the Eucharist / Mass. Finally before the Douai group headed home, a lunch was enjoyed in the Church Hall.

'An amazing occasion'

commented Canon Paul Miller. 'This is what ecumenical cooperation is all about. Real people sharing real friendship and participating in united worship.'

Abbe Michel Rimaux on arriving back in France said, 'Everyone on the trip was delighted by the warm welcome they received. The visit to the Castle, the celebrating of Mass together, the evening spent with families, and the meal together were great gifts to stimulate our faith and service.'

This is the 12th year of the exchange which commenced under the encouragement of Bishop Michael Turnbull in his endeavours to foster friendship between Churches in England and Churches in Europe.

**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 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

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

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Associate Vicar	Rev. A. Newman	8658 7784
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	Mrs. J. Peters	8650 5986
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PARISH OFFICE Tel/Fax 8460 5682

e-mail: office@stmaryshortlands.plus.com
Open 9.00 am - 12.30 weekdays. Information
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ST. MARY'S ORGANISATIONS

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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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