

Looking Forward

For many people, 2020 was a year they would rather forget for many reasons. A year when we had to say goodbye to so many who no longer reside on this earthly place, but people who remain in our hearts forever. A year of lockdowns, resulting in isolation and loneliness for many. Not being able to hug our friends and family... a time to forget for so many.

But, as we turn to the New Year, let us not forget the wonderful sense of community that we have re-discovered. The opportunities of serving one another in a way not witnessed for many years, the work of front-line workers, to all these people we give thanks and continue to give thanks as their work is far from over.

Within this issue of SPAN, we have included some New Year Resolutions shared by local people.

Typical resolutions within the UK would appear to be more exercise (47%), losing weight (44%) and saving more money (31%) three of the more common resolutions many of us make each year, which we generally fail to fulfil by the end of February!

How about we take what we have learnt from the past year and take three simple resolutions into the New Year? From all that we have learnt I see three resolutions to be focussed on... Love, Compassion and Prayer.

LOVE - for Christians, love is the most distinguishing characteristic: 'everyone knows that you are my disciples if you love one another'. Jesus exuded love to everyone he encountered, whether saint or sinner. Let us continue to love one another, whether Christian or not; it is a gift that can be freely given.

COMPASSION - Compassion is borne out of love for others. It means 'to suffer together'. Compassion compels us to come alongside and partner with someone who is suffering, whether physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually. Let us continue to show compassion to all those around us who are in need.

PRAYER - Prayer is a great way to exchange our own wishes and to listen to and discern what God might like you to do. Prayer is a way to bring a community together to pray for something or someone specific in our lives or in our community. Prayer is a way of saying sorry, but it is also a means of giving thanks for all that we have in life.

I would encourage you to consider love, compassion and prayer within your New Year Resolutions

and to continue to feel blessed with what we have around us and to continue to be grateful for the people and the community in which we live and serve.

Love and Blessings, Revd Gary Best

Stay in touch!



To keep up with the latest news from St Mary's, you can 'like' our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter - search for '**St Mary's Shortlands**'.



If you're not sure how to do it, ask in the office and they'll put you in touch with someone who can give you an introduction to 'social media'.

Special Events and Services

Sunday 10 January

10.30am - All-Age Service

This service does not include Holy Communion

Sunday 17 January

6.30pm - Choral Evensong

Services will be held in church unless otherwise stated above, but all may be subject to change based on government coronavirus restrictions. Any updates will be shared through www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk and www.facebook.com/stmarysshortlands

My day job

I was brought up in New Cross and attended Edmund Waller Primary School and then Mary Datchelor Girls' School.

I trained as a teacher in Exmouth and got married to Colin immediately after leaving Rolle College in 1967. I taught at Haseltine Primary School in Lower Sydenham where I became Deputy Head and then Acting Head before leaving to have our children Tim, Anna and Gareth.

Once Gareth was at school in 1987 I returned to teaching at Dulwich College Prep School. In 1997 I moved 500 yds along the road to become Head of Junior School at Dulwich College where I stayed until I retired in 2009.

Having spent my whole life in education I became a lead inspector for the Independent Schools Inspectorate. I inspected over 60 schools right across the country which was a fascinating and rewarding experience. I stopped inspecting in 2013 and began working with my husband's nephew who was developing a group of independent prep schools across the south of England between Gloucestershire and Kent. The group now numbers nine schools and I still visit all of them in a consultancy role.

During my time at Dulwich Prep in the 80s I was baptised and then confirmed at St Mary's and joined the choir. I sang for several years and then pressure of work led me to have a break until I re-joined under Claire Tillotson when she took over the music. I love singing in the choir and I also make cakes for the mobility class and am a member of the Craft and Chatter Group. I also love spending time with our four grandchildren, one of whom is a regular visitor to the Mobility Class!

Penny Horsman

Pictured: Penny with Saskia, the honorary member of the Mobility group.



Now you see us...

Thank you to those who helped cut the hedges and bushes to make the church more visible from the road and pavement. Look for more news on how St Mary's looks outwards to the local community in the New Year.



New Year's Resolutions

We asked some local people what resolutions they will make:

As a general rule, I don't make New Year resolutions, despite the fact there are so many ways in which I could be so much better. Rather, we tend to have "projects" – things that we would like to achieve in the next year.

(Mark Dempsey - Shortlands Residents Association)

I don't 'do' New Year's Resolutions ... I used to, and whatever theme or topic or lifestyle choice I resolved to address I managed to fail by the Feast of the Epiphany (6th January)!

(The Ven Dr Paul Wright - Archdeacon of Bromley & Bexley)

Our New Year Resolution is about family and making quality time the priority. We also want to continue to commit to learning mandarin which we started this year!

(Aisha Cuthbert - Local Councillor)

Charles and Renate Keeping



This is the latest in a series of articles on blue plaques commemorating notable people in and around our parish.

Charles Keeping was an English illustrator, children's book author and lithographer. He first came to prominence with his illustrations of Rosemary Sutcliff's historical novels for children, and he created more than twenty picture books. He also illustrated the complete works of Charles Dickens for the Folio Society.

He was born in Lambeth and his background of markets and docks was a great influence on him. Keeping won two Kate Greenaway Medals from the Library Association for the year's best children's book illustration, for his own story *Charley, Charlotte and the Golden Canary* (1967) and for a new edition in 1981 of Alfred Noyes's poem *The Highwayman*.

His prints are in many collections, including at the Victoria and Albert Museum, and he was one of the most revered and respected illustrators of his day.

Charles' wife was the internationally recognised artist **Renate Keeping**. Born in Berlin, she was brought to England in 1933 by her father to escape increasing danger for Jewish people in Germany.

Renate met Charles at the Regent Street Polytechnic. They married and then settled in Shortlands in 1960. Renate experimented with a range of art forms using paint, text, thread, papier-mache and textiles as well as writing children's books and teaching in further education.

When Charles died in 1988, Renate created the Keeping Gallery in part of the house where they lived, to exhibit their work to classes of children and adults. You can find out more at www.thekeepinggallery.co.uk

The Blue Plaques are on the wall of 16 Church Road where they lived and where the gallery remains (visits by appointment).

MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Leprosy Mission

World Leprosy Day will fall on 31st January 2021: it is annually observed on the last Sunday in January, to coincide with the anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's death. A fearless campaigner for the rights and dignity of all people, Gandhi was a big crusader against leprosy.

Many people believe leprosy to be extinct. However, every day nearly 600 people are diagnosed with this disease that, if untreated, can cause extensive nerve damage leading to loss of sensation, ulcers, infections, weakness in the eyelids causing blindness, permanent disability, deformity and long periods of hospitalisation and surgery, which may involve amputation.

The physical effects are often outweighed by the stigma and discrimination suffered by leprosy patients, many of whom lose their jobs, struggle to find new employment and suffer rejection by their partners, families, friends and communities.

Many years of research surrounding leprosy appear to be leading to the day, hopefully not far off, when an effective and tried and tested vaccine is ready to be rolled out, initially in India, which could lead to the eventual eradication of this pernicious disease. There are however currently over three million of its victims worldwide with irreversible disabilities who will continue to require ongoing treatment and support for many years to come.

The Leprosy Mission is an international Christian organisation, founded in 1874, transforming the lives affected by leprosy, with a vision for a world without leprosy. Further information is available from the display at the back of the church throughout January or at www.leprosymission.org.uk

Safer Neighbourhoods update

Crime is low but let's not be complacent!

The current prevalent crime is theft from motor vehicles and theft of catalytic converters. Police advice is to always lock your vehicles and not to leave valuables in plain sight (better to remove them altogether); park your car in a locked garage; and if this is not possible park in a well-lit area, with the exhaust closest to a fence or wall to make catalytic converter theft more difficult. Keeping your vehicle keys in a Faraday cage, which can be bought from the internet or Halfords (£5), will prevent computer interference used by criminals.

If you would like to receive the regular local Police crime updates, including more advice, contact Graham Pyefinch (graham658@hotmail.com), Chair of the Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood Panel, with your postal address and contact telephone number.

If you see someone acting suspiciously around or under your vehicle, report it immediately by calling 999. Obtain as much information as possible including any vehicle registration being used by the criminals. Reporting suspicious behaviour or a crime actually happening helps the Police enormously in fighting crime and keeping us all safe.

If reporting any incident on discovery after the event, call 101 or report on the Police UK website (www.met.police.uk/ro/report).

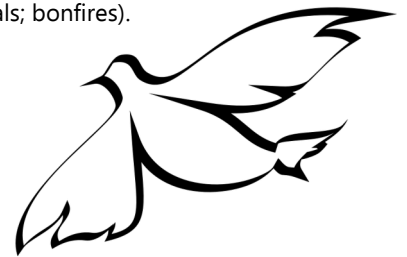
Our new Dedicated Ward Officers (DWOs), PC Leanne Hartley and PC William Shelley, have now joined the local Police team; please have a welcome chat when you see them on patrol. Our PCSO is Adam Charles.

Useful contacts:

Bromley Trading Standards Rapid Response Team - Tel 07903 852090 (Rogue Traders and Scams).

Action Fraud – www.actionfraud.police.uk - Tel 0300 123 2040 (Fraud and cyber crime).

Bromley Council Public Protection – Tel 0300 303 8657 (Nuisance: e.g. noise where you should give the source address; animals; bonfires).



St Mary's welcomed many people from the wider community to a Nativity scene in the church grounds on 5 and 12 December. The socially distanced visitors enjoyed Christmas music, mulled wine, roasted chestnuts - and raised money for the church's work and the organ fund.



 **DOG CARE**
24/7
IN A SECURE FAMILY HOME WITH GARDEN
Located near to Bromley Shopping Centre
Tel: LILY 07404 763699


Offering
* **Outstanding Care**
* **Choice**
* **Dignity**
* **Creating Independence**
Providing
Fully trained and experienced
Care workers
Contact us on
02087773840
Email bromley@careoutlook.co.uk
Or visit our office at
128 High Street, West Wickham BR4 0LZ

GMM
INSTALLATIONS LTD
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
20 Bromley Gardens, Bromley, Kent BR2 0ET
Tel/Fax: **020 8249 8198**
Mob: **07721 454716**
Email: gmminstallationsltd@gmail.com
J.I.B. Approved Electrician
NAPIT Part P 24 years experience

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 when notified. During Term time there are separate groups for children aged 0-18
18.30 Choral Evensong, except when notified. (3rd Sunday in the month)

Every Tuesday
17.30 Evening Prayers
Every Wednesday
10.30 Holy Communion

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

PARISH DIRECTORY	
Vicar	Revd Gary Best 8460 2626
(day off Friday)	Vicar@stmmaryshortlands.church
Curate	Revd Beverley Ejimofa
(Tue, Wed, Sun)	0772 621 7571
Licensed Lay Ministers	Mrs S. Aldred 8460 3978 Mrs C. Bingham 8460 0324 Mrs A-M. Jefferys 8460 6030 Dr. D. Jefferys 8460 6030
Readers	Mr. P. Stotesbury 8650 3259 Mr. S. Buchanan 8777 8008
Pastoral Assistants	Mrs. S. Harrison 8464 0284 Mrs. M. Westropp 8650 5178 Mrs. D. Speller 07941415082
Parish Administrator	Ms. N. Blake 8460 5682
Churchwardens	Mr A. Williams 07914343495 Mrs S. Leonard 07725313432
Deputies	Mrs. P. Chase 8464 6188 Mr. S. Clark 8464 0696 Mr. D. Cooper 8460 0682 Prof. M. Fox 8650 3252 Dr. D. Jefferys 8460 6030
PCC Secretary	Mrs. S. Maurel 01689 331793
Treasurer	Mr. T. Dawson 8460 5884
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. R. Hoag 8290 0613
Organist and Director of Music	Canon C. Tillotson 8460 7368
Assistant Organist	Mr. D. Beach 8289 6510
Safeguarding Officer	Mrs. K. Coleman 07879337567
Electoral Roll	Mrs. S. Maurel 01689 331793
Junior Church	Mrs. J. Eade 3624 0559
Stewardship	Mr. T. Dawson 8460 5884

PARISH OFFICE 020 8460 5682
office@stmmaryshortlands.church
Open 9.30am - 12.30pm weekdays.
Information regarding Baptisms and Weddings can be obtained during these hours.

ST. MARY'S ORGANISATIONS
Toddlers Mrs. J. Runicles 8402 6599
Craft and Chatter Mrs. J. Boam 8460 7101
Friends of St Mary's Mr. T. Chase 8464 6188

For admission to Beavers, Cubs and Scouts please contact email: 7bromleyadmissions@gmail.com

Scouts (Fri)	Mr. R. Howe 8462 7132
Cubs (Mon)	Mrs. P. Braithwaite 8460 4152
Cubs (Tue)	Mr. J. Griffiths 07954437658
Beavers	Ms. E Hay 07932758801

For admissions to Rainbows, Brownies or Guides please go to www.girlguiding.org.uk

Guides (Tue)	Ms. N. Critten 07767242920
Guide (Fri)	Mrs. G. Dawson 8460 5884
Brownies (Mon)	Miss. K Higgs 8462 3285
Brownies (Thu)	Mrs S. Tight 8460 8122
Rainbows	Ms. H. Last 8460 1705
Pre-school	Mrs. C. Hall 8290 6704 or 07960988552
The 2WW's	Mrs. A. Swatton 8650 1114
Church Flowers	Mrs. C. Willatt 8313 0246
Mission Chair	Mrs. S. Shelton 8402 3299
Douai link	Mrs. G. Dawson 8460 5884
Fair Trade	Mrs. C. Willatt 8313 0246

LOCAL CONTACTS
Cllr. M. Cooke 07912 649058 (E: Mary.Cooke@bromley.gov.uk)
Cllr. A. Cuthbert (E: aisha.cuthbert@bromley.gov.uk)
Residents Association 8460 4060
Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood 8721 2614

SPAN INFORMATION
Website www.stmmaryshortlands.org.uk
Editorial Parish Office
Distribution Mr. M. Harrison 07821 691567

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those supported by the publishers and no responsibility can be accepted for accuracy. The publishers cannot accept responsibility for work carried out by our advertisers.

ADVERTISING: £21.00 per column inch per issue. For details call 020 8460 5682 during office hours. Copy to be submitted by the 5th of each month.

Local, friendly and professional building company for your larger projects.

Extensions, Conversions, Refurbishment and Electrical. Excellent references available. No job too large.
E: steve@rutlandbuilding.co.uk
T: 020 8249 8769 M: 07949 593294



AEROBICS - COME AND JOIN JACQUI
Every Monday 8-9pm in St Mary's Church Hall
T: 020 8650 2083 M: 07967 214279 W: bromleyaerobics.co.uk

PODIATRY AND CHIROPODY SERVICES

Mrs Pam Naylor MSc. Podiatry M.Ch.HCPC
Tel: 020 8658 7718
Mob: 07814 746545
www.bromleypodiatry.co.uk registered



Progetto

We provide Drawings & Design for:
Loft conversions, Extensions, Internal Alterations, Planning Applications, Design and Build
Please call or email Nick for more information
07590 434487 - npmcadam@gmail.com

Langley school of Dancing


Ballet, Tap, Modern, Street Jazz,
Boys Street Jazz & Zumba
From age 2½ to adult - at St Mary's Hall
Tel: 07540 400615 for free trial class

**QUALIFIED PLUMBER
P. J. EDWARDS**

Tel: 01322 868212 or 07831 54 59 51
Bathrooms, kitchens and all domestic work undertaken
Advertising in SPAN for over 15 years

HOLT MAINTENANCE
Garden Maintenance, Landscape Gardening,
Window Cleaning,
Domestic and Commercial Cleaning
Accredited Safe Contractor
Tel: 07956 172979

HANDYMAN SHORTLANDS
Competitive rates, professional, reliable service.
Most trades covered.
Call John Prior 07967 963162 / 020 8699 8695
Or email JPPHILTD@gmail.com

Beckenham based Funeral Caterer

Established for over 30 years and able to provide catering in your own home or a venue of your choice. Waitress service or contact free delivery available.
To see our suggested menus please go to www.careysfuneralcaterers.co.uk or tel: 020 8658 5008


homezone Local estate agents based in Shortlands village
104 Beckenham Lane Shortlands BR2 0DW
t. 020 8464 9952
e. bromley@homezone.co.uk

J. & R. Killick Ltd.
FUNERAL DIRECTORS Est 1879
The Killick family have provided the local community with a personal and efficient service for over 135 years.
* Private Chapel of Rest * Classic or modern cortege
* 24 hour service * Advice given on pre-arranged funeral plans
Please ask for an information folder and estimate.
Telephone Peter or Michael Killick on 020 8777 4502
Website www.jrkillick.co.uk (full fee list shown)
112 High Street, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 0ND



Sunnyfields Day Nursery
19 Bromley Grove, Shortlands
7.30am - 6.30 pm daily
Children 3 months to 5 years
Tel: 020 8313 9191



Dawoods
The Family Law Specialists
Family and relationship breakdown is a very difficult time for anyone. Please contact Kumari Dawood in Confidence for advice. Tel 020 8249 6047 or email confidential@dawoods-solicitors.co.uk
Now based in Shortlands Village above Home Zone
www.dawoods-solicitors.co.uk


ROOFING
ALL TYPES OF WORK UNDERTAKEN
GENERAL BUILDING*LOFT EXTENSIONS*FENCING
GUTTERING*SKYLIGHT WINDOWS
SEAMLESS FLAT ROOFING*NEW SHED ROOFS
PATIO & DRIVES PRESSURE WASHED
HARRY ALLEN 07801 755199

Creativity, Confidence Communication
Developmental Drama classes for 2 ½ - 18yrs
01689 812336
bromley@helenogrady.co.uk
www.helenogrady.co.uk

refreshers
LOCAL INDEPENDENT WINE MERCHANT
Over 500 wines beers and spirits from all over the world, personally tasted and hand picked for our customers.
FREE NEXT DAY DELIVERY
just ring our shop on 020 8460 7441
or you can order through our website www.refreshers.wine

or come down, we are open 11am to 10pm every day
60 Beckenham Lane, Shortlands, BR2 0DW



Vicky - Mobile Hairdresser
Over 25 years experience 07958 210577

