

Methodist
Church

Partnership News

10 October 2004
28 in Ordinary

The Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30am Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church—Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr John Stubbs

Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard

Intercessions – Mr Mike Elliott

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr John Stubbs

Leadership Team - Mr Peter Bailey

Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

17 October

8.30 am Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St. Mark's Church – Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - Mrs Alison Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen

Intercessions - Mr Peter Bailey

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Bill de Boltz, in memory of his wife, Peggy.

The Flowers at St Mark's this week have been given in memory of John R. Singh who died suddenly on October 17 2003.

Prayer for Sunday

O Holy Spirit, giver of light and life;
Impart to us thoughts
higher than our own thoughts
and prayers better than our own prayers
and powers better than our own powers,
that we may spend and be spent
in the ways of goodness and love,
after the perfect image
of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen Eric Milner - White 1884– 1963

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

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(Day off Friday)

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The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

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Partnership News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - www.ThisisChurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in
Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

*Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved,
housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.
Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.*

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Elizabeth Wyatt 350188

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 304058

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Wendy@thisischurch.com

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.30 - 12.00 pm Pre-school** (See website for more details) Mrs Janet Smith 326685 (Putnoe Heights) or Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634** (St. Mark's).
- 10.00 am Day Care Centre** at St. Mark's Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
- 12.00pm - 1.00pm Storybox** at Putnoe Heights Church. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm!
- 4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms R.Mistry 01908 217555
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Alison McEwen 358583
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs. Jill Williams 357020
- 7.15 m Guides** -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
- 7.30- 9.30pm Creative Needles** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Hayward 307648
- 7.30pm Whist Drive** - At St Mark's each month. Next 18 October St. Mark's Contact Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313
- 7.30pm Housegroup** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
- 8.00 - 9.00 pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

- 9.30am - 12.30pm Candlewicking** (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights - Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203
- 9.30am - 11.30pm Jo Jingles** at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866
- 10.00am - 11.00am - Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230
- 1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers Playtime** Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828
- 12 noon - 10.00 pm Slimming World** at St. Mark's. Sessions start at 12, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm Contact Val Careless 345213.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next meeting - 12 October Harvest Festival Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 19 October Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709
- 2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's Church. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.
- 3.30 - 4.30pm Putnoe Heights Church** Essential Stretch Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
- 6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Contact

Rachel Leontyne 01234 783129

- 6.45pm Guides** at Putnoe Heights - Liz Rix 363607
- 7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's Church.** Contact Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.
- 7.30- 9.00pm Bibleway Church** at Putnoe Heights - Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746
- 7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Next meeting 19 October—Alzheimers - Pat Stock. Meets fortnightly . Contact Mrs C Davies 219130.
- 8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing) group) - Contact Mr F Steele 355937

Wednesday

- 10.00 am Childminding Support Group** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949
- 10.00 am Day Care Centre** Putnoe Height Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
- 10.00 am Holy Communion** at St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
- 10am Sewing & Chat** Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966
- 12 - 1pm Putnoe Height Church** Total Body Toning Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
- Luncheon Club** at St. Mark's meets fortnightly. Next one 20 October Contact St. Mark's 342613
- 1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired** - Meets weekly at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133
- 4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights Contact Ms R Mistry 01908 217555
- 6. - 7.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe** Contact Mr James 07711 687449
- 6.00 -7.30 pm Brownies** at St Mark's Contact Mrs Carol Warden 219731
- 7.00pm St. Mark's Church** Bunyan Bridge. Contact Brian Sallows 407725
- 7-10pm Putnoe Guild** - Putnoe Heights 3rd Wednesday each month. Contact Mrs Dallas 212609
- 7.45 - 8.45pm Kick Boxing** Junior classes St. Mark's. Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890
- 7.45pm Badminton Club** at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Contact Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

- 9.30am Thursday Prayer Group** at Putnoe Heights in the side chapel. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
- 10.30am - 12.00am Brickhill Clinic** at St Mark's with **Fledglings 2.00pm—3.00pm** Contact 267444
- 10.00am - 11.30am Yoga** at Putnoe Heights Contact 244970
- 12 - 1.00 pm Storybox** at St Mark's Church. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

1.30 - 3.00 pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.

Contact Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers

Playtime Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828

2.30 Bedford Arts Society at St. Mark's. Contact Celia Maddison 782901

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Mrs S Lewis 300198

7.30 - 9.30pm Club 2000 Putnoe 2nd Thursday of the month. Contact Mrs Moreton 771261

6.15 - 7.30pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Contact Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at St Mark's Contact Mr Hatton 824988

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd Thursday month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525

7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St Mark's Church 3rd Thursday each month. Contact Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Church Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

6 -7.00 pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

7. 30 - 9.30pm Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 376841

7.30pm Music Group St. Mark's Church/monthly

6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes at St. Mark's Contact Mrs L. Laton 365601

Saturday

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle 304865

7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Peace Project Saturday School at Putnoe Heights. For details contact Mrs.E.Tarr 309881

Sunday

1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 309881

News, Views and Information

The Calendar

Putnoe Centre Management -15 Nov

St Mark's Church Council

October 13 2004, Feb 1 2005

Churchyards Committee

Next meeting on Monday 17 Jan at 10am

St Mark's Centre Management Meeting

Wednesday 10 Nov

St Mark's Leadership Team

Next meeting on 17 Nov, 12 Jan

Deanery Synod

18 Nov,, 10 Feb

Partnership Council 18 Jan

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team

22 Nov

Putnoe Church Council

11 Oct 2004, 7 Feb 2005

13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting

January 24 at 2.00pm

Calendar dates now appear on our church website www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise us if you have a date to be added to the church calendar

Network -District Autumn Craft Day on Saturday 6th November at Priory Methodist Church. £3 per half day workshop. Please book by 16th October. For more information and booking forms contact Pam Seymour, Tel: 305695

Women's World Day of Prayer Bedford Day Conference will be held on Monday 25 October, 10.00am to 3.00pm at Priory Methodist Church. Cost £4.00. Bring your own lunch. Names and money required by Friday 8 October. Please contact Kathie Longden, Tel: 345760 for further details.

Wine Tasting Evening

An evening tasting wines, being informed, trying to guess the wines, places of origin etc. Prizes for the winners.

**St Mark's Church
6 November 2004
7.30pm**

Tickets £5

All proceeds in aid of the new building extension for Autism Bedfordshire

Tickets on sale from the St Mark's Office and Alan Cooper at Putnoe





Bible Notes

28 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Verse of Scripture

The land has yielded its harvest: God our God has blessed us Psalm 67:6

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Lord, in your goodness, open our eyes to your light, and so fill our hearts with your glory that we may acknowledge Jesus as Saviour, and hold fast to his word in sincerity and truth. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Reading – 2 Kings 5: 1-3 and 7-15c

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant."

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading– 2 Timothy 2: 8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; we are faithless he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself. Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarrelling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth

(Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading –Luke 17: 11-19

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he

saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

(Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms & Morning Worship Services)

1. All Hail the power of Jesu's name! 252
2. God's spirit is in my heart.315
3. From all that dwell below the skies.489
4. Give to me, Lord, a thankful heart 548
5. Father, who on man dost shower 341

Commentary

The Jewish Law, the Torah, regulated the treatment of leprosy. Num 5:2-3 commands Israelites "to put out of the camp everyone who is leprous." While that commandment also includes those with a discharge and those who are unclean by virtue of touching a corpse, these last two conditions are temporary while Leprosy (Hansen's disease) is likely to be permanent. Lev 13:45 requires a leper to shout "Unclean, unclean!" to warn uninfected people to keep their distance. Lev 13-14 governs the inspection of suspected lepers, their isolation, and the procedure for declaring the healed leper clean. It deals with infected clothing and houses as well as infected persons.

People regarded leprosy not just as a medical condition but also as God's judgment. That made them less compassionate, because they regarded leprosy as punishment for sin.

The lepers called out to Jesus, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." They did so from a distance in accord with Torah rules. If they had been addressing an ordinary traveller, their cry for mercy might have been a simple plea for alms. In this case, however, they know Jesus' name and address him as a person in authority. They have surely heard of Jesus' miracles, and their plea is a request for healing.

At this point they are united in their plea. Later, only the Samaritan returns to Jesus. We can imagine the other nine going their individual ways to resume their former lives. The end of the crisis brings to a close the community that they had as lepers.

"When he saw them" (v. 14). Jesus saw them. That is a small but significant detail. Jewish law and human nature conspire to make the leper invisible. We are inclined to ignore the leper, because to see his suffering is to suffer with him. We should draw comfort from the knowledge that the one who saw the lepers also sees our pain and perhaps sees the things which we prefer to close our eyes to and walk by on the other side.

Jesus does not heal the lepers immediately, but commands them to show themselves to the priests. This entails going to the temple in Jerusalem, about fifty miles distant, a journey of several days. Lev 13 requires the priest to examine skin lesions to determine whether they are leprous. If the lesion appears not to be leprous on first examination, Lev 13 requires a confirming examination after seven days. The ten lepers would visit the priest for the purpose of being declared clean so that they might regain normal lives. The ten lepers are healed on the way as they do what Jesus has commanded them.

One of them turned back praising God, He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Just as Jesus saw the lepers, this man sees that he is healed and God deserves praise and Jesus deserves thanks. We admire this man for taking time to give thanks for his healing, but this is more than a thanksgiving story. It is an instance of being touched by the creative power of God who is bringing order out of chaos and wholeness out of all that is disgustingly defective and contaminatingly

deteriorated.

The one who returns to Jesus is a Samaritan. The model of faith turns out to be the ultimate outsider. Luke was himself a Gentile, a foreigner. He delights in recounting the stories of foreigners whom God has blessed, and he makes foreigners (even Samaritans) the heroes of his stories. "The story anticipates what is yet to come in Acts (also written by Luke), a growing blindness in Israel and a receptivity among Gentiles.

Your faith has made you well

Jesus is critical that only one gave thanks, nine walked away, and we are tempted to join him in his criticism. How could they have failed to give thanks? We should consider, however, how eager they must have been, after such long isolation, to rejoin their families and to resume normal life. Under the same circumstances, would we stop to give thanks? We should not answer that question before we consider whether we have stopped to thank God for our blessings.

Luke told us that all ten lepers were made clean, so something additional has happened to this Samaritan. The Greek that is translated "has made you well" (*sesoken se*, from the verb *sozo*), has to do with salvation. It can legitimately be translated, "has saved you." What we have, then, is a story of ten being healed and one being saved. *Charles Royden*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week ahead

O consuming fire, O Spirit of love, descend into the depth of my heart and there transform me until I am fire of your fire, love of your love, and Christ himself is formed in me. Amen
Elizabeth of Schonau, d.1184

O God of love, we pray thee to give us love:
Love in our thinking, love in our speaking,
Love in our doing, and love in the hidden places of our souls;
Love of our neighbours near and far;
Love of our friends, old and new;
Love of those with whom we find it hard to bear,
And love of those who find it hard to bear with us;
Love of those with whom we work,
And love of those with whom we take our ease;
Love in Joy, love in sorrow;
Love in life and love in death;
That so at length we may be worthy to dwell with thee,
Who art eternal love. *William Temple 1881-1944*

Dear Jesus, help us to spread your fragrance everywhere we go.
Flood our souls with your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly,
that our lives may only be a radiance of yours.
Shine through us and be so in us,
that every soul we come in contact with
may feel your presence in our soul.
Let them look up and see no longer us but Jesus!
Stay with us and then we will begin to shine as you shine;
So to share, as to be a light to others;
the light, O Jesus, will be all from you, none of it will be ours;
it will be you, shining on others, through us.
Let us preach without preaching,
not by words but by our example,
by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do,
the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to you.
Cardinal Henry Newman (1801 –90)
used daily by Mother Theresa's missionaries of Charity

Wednesday Drop In (Bereavement Support Group)

We will have an entertainment on the first Wednesday in the month.

Wednesday 3 November

Jo Moore from Bedford Tourist Information will speak on Historic Bedford & her fascinating 'Bedford at War Project @ 2.30—3pm.

All drop in sessions are open to everyone.

Still time to vote!! The Daily Telegraph is compiling 100 favourite churches for Sunday worship. Please take time to complete a nomination form for St Mark's or Putnoe Heights by visiting the Telegraph website at www.telegraph.co.uk/churches. Please also encourage others. Computer access is available at St Mark's for those who wish to use it to register a vote. Please vote today! Please also consider voting for Partnership News as the best church newsletter

Storybox Plus is an After School Club for 4—9 year olds which will be starting in January from 4.00 to 5.00pm on Thursdays. The group will rehearse a short drama and make the props and costumes for a performance at the Family Service at Putnoe. Volunteers will be needed to make refreshments, help with the crèche and support the group. Please ring Joan on 344536.

Coffee Morning on Saturday October 16th for Mission Funds at the home of Irene and Eddie McKensie, 16, Chillingham Green. Cakes and Raffle. All Welcome

Sally Jeffree founder of Faith in Action (Malawi Wells Appeal) will be talking about her Christian witness on Premier Radio Sunday 1-2 (one Sunday in October, date uncertain). The station is aimed largely at the London area, but these are the frequencies to try. Medium wave 1035, 1332, 1413 Sky digital 873 ntl 886.

TNT 17 October at 6—7.45 at St.Mark's

Biggleswade & Sharnbrook Deaneries are offering a course on 'Caring for the Bereaved' at St.Andrews Church Hall, Bedford, Thursday evenings 7.45-9.45pm on 4,11,18 & 25 Nov. plus Saturday 27Nov. 9.30—3.30. Led by Clarissa Robinson : Cruse Councillor Cost £20.Details from Joan.

Putnoe Storybox The draft rotas are now ready. New storytellers are urgently needed ! Please see Joan if you can help. (344536)

NCH Diaries for2005 will shortly be available. These are excellent value @ £2 each. Please contact Grace Foster (215053) if you would like a copy/copies. Thank you for your kindness, buying just one diary helps many underprivileged children.

:NCH House to House. A BIG thank you to all who helped with this year's Collection on behalf of NCH. The total raised in the Brickhill area was £734.28 which is only a few pounds short of last year's record figure. NCH will be able to claim a further £44.55 as a result of those contributors who kindly filled in Gift Aid forms. Mike Elliot.

Putnoe Heights Harvest Festival and Lunch

Many thanks to all who made the lunch such a happy occasion. A profit of £250.00 will be added to the donation to 'Faith in Action' for the Wells in Malawi appeal. All goods donated to the Harvest Festival have been passed to Trudy Bunday at St. Mark's to be used for the benefit of patients in hospice care. Thank you for your generosity.

Putnoe Ramblers The walk planned for today on the Green Sands Ridge has been Cancelled

Putnoe Ramblers. The ramble on Sunday 24th October will start at **2pm**. Please meet at the Social Club car park of Colmworth House,Sharnbrook for a circular walk of about 3½miles. It may be muddy in places, depending on the weather in the preceding week. For further details contact Sue or Richard on Bedford 354183.

Advent Course. Our course will take the theme of 'Pilgrimage,' with four talks on 24 November, 1, 8 and 15 December at Putnoe Heights Church. The evenings will begin with refreshments at 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Each evening will finish at 9.00pm. We are delighted that the first two of our talks this year will be given by Professor Paul Crossley. Other speakers will be The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley and the detective novelist Kate Charles.

Ministers Away. Charles Royden will be preaching at Sandy Methodist Church this morning, Sam Cappleman is on holiday

See Round. Please collect you copy of See Round this morning. There is a copy for anybody who would like one.

Thank You to the congregations of St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Churches for the gifts of tinned goods and fresh produce from this year's harvest festival. You can be assured that all the items will be put to good use and for the benefit of all the patients and families in our care at Garden House Hospice. *Trudy Bunday is a member of St Mark's Church and Matron of Garden House.*

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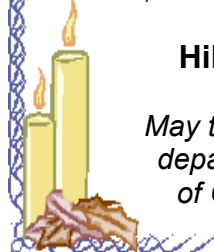
One to Watch out for ! The Church of St Mary Magdalene, Barnsley is to be the focus of a Channel 4 series in which a cleric takes up the challenge of turning around a parish in serious decline. Filming will take place over one year, and the programme will be screened towards the end of 2005. Its working title is *Priest Idol*. The parish has around 8000 residents, which a spokesman for the diocese of Wakefield described last week as "small for Barnsley". The congregation is down to single figures, and is currently being looked after by the priest-in-charge of a neighbouring parish. The Bishop of Wakefield, the Rt Revd Stephen Platten, has welcomed the opportunity as "a gift". The selection of the priest will be supervised by the church themselves, though they won't be expected to do a Simon Cowell. It's early days, but I think it will be good fun." Anthony Howe, a diocesan spokesman, described Lundwood as a "difficult area" ; but the parish of St Mary Magdalene had a lot of potential, he said. "I think that, for whoever serves there, it will be an honour. They're good people in Barnsley. There may be few of them, but they say their prayers, and much can be done."

Rest In Peace

On the Sunday following a funeral service we remember in church those who have died. We light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. If you would like a person remembered in our service when the candle is lit, perhaps on an anniversary or birthday, please inform the ministers, or telephone the church office.

Hilda Florence Tatum

May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.'



The funeral of Ivy Mary Douglas will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday October 14th at 12.15pm

The funeral of Ernest Mudd will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 13th October at 2.30pm

Flowers

We are extremely grateful when donations are made for the flowers. This may be as a celebration of a happy occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of someone who has died. **Contact** Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights).