



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

15 January 2006

## Second Sunday of Epiphany

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



Church of  
England

### Church Services Today

**8.30 Holy Communion** both churches Communion

**9.30am St Mark's Church**

Preacher - Dr Veronica Moss (Mildmay)

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs

**11.00am Putnoe Heights**

Preacher - Dr Veronica Moss (Mildmay)

Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash

Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

**22 January 2006**

**8.30 Service of Holy Communion** Both churches

**9.30am St Mark's Church – Morning Worship**

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership - Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard

**11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship**

Preacher – Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mrs Betty Wyatt

**Reading 1 : Genesis 14 : 17 - 20**

**Reading 2 : Revelation 19: 6 -10**

**Reading 3 : John 2 : 1 -11**

### Thank You

The flowers at St.Mark's have been given by  
Barbara Joy in memory of her husband Alan.



HIV/AIDS is the new apartheid,  
the new enemy. Let's stop  
playing around and roll up our  
sleeves and invoke the spirit that  
fought apartheid *Bishop  
Desmond Tutu*

Like leprosy in Biblical times and  
cholera in the 1800s, people  
experience terrible stigma by virtue of having this  
disease. *Mildmay*

AIDS is not a threat against people of a particular  
group or country or continent; AIDS is a threat  
against all of us... the world has to wake up to a  
simple truth: everybody counts. Everybody has a  
role to play. And we all do better when we help each  
other *Former US President William J Clinton*

### Contact Details

#### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR  
266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com  
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

#### The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)  
12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE  
326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

#### The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.  
Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

#### The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY  
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

#### Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@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 - 12 noon Monday & Friday**

**9am - 5pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday**

**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

**Centre Manager** Mr Barry Snelson 365630

**Leadership Team** - Mrs Sue Allen 407264

**Treasurer** Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

**Gift Aid Administrator** - Mr John Hitt 404186

**Junior Church Co-ordinator** - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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

**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 342613 office@thisischurch.com

**Centre Manager** Miss Wendy Rider 342613

**Leadership Team** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

**Treasurer** - Mr John Day 295592

treasurer@Thisischurch.com

**Gift Aid Administrator** Mr Jim Williams 360605

**Children's and Youth Worker**-Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

- 9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school** Mrs Janet Smith 326685
- 9.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school** Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634  
(See website for more details)
- 9.00 am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
- 12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box** Putnoe Heights church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz on 01234 302349
- 4pm Story Box Plus** at St. Marks for 4 -11 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments & games, then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church the 1st Sunday of each month. Lots of fun. Free. Contact Liz 302349
- 4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Miriam Adcock 01908 565044
- 4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 400987
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott 768419
- 7.15 m Guides** -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
- 7.15pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights Church. Contact Karen Simpson 244970
- 7.30pm Creative Needles** at Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.
- 7.30pm Whist Drive** - At St Mark's each month the next 16 January Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313
- 7.30pm Housegroup** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
- 8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

## Tuesday

- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203
- 10.00am Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230
- 1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime** at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4 - 9pm Slimming World** at St. Mark's. Val Careless 345213.
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Contact Morag Tompkins 356895
- 2 - 5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next meeting 17January -Miss M.Wiles 'Cops & Robbers' Betty Wyatt 350188.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 17 January Bible Study Acts 10 Breaking the Rules... Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets

- fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
- 2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Mary Stubbs 406784.
- 3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance.** Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.
- 6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne 783129
- 6.45pm Guides** at Putnoe Heights. Emma Holloway 293792
- 7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit** at St. Mark's. Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.
- 7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club** meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton 346718
- 7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr on 360188 or 07866775515
- 7.45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly.at 7.45pm Next meeting 24January 2006 The History of Jaffa Orchard Community Café Jenny Roberts & Afaf Musallam. Madge Walsh 359088
- 8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing group) - Mr F Steele 355937

## Wednesday

- 9.30am Childminding Support Group** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949
- 9.30am - Body Control Pilates.** Stephanie Smith 357787.
- 9.00 a.m. Clubhouse** at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.
- 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
- Luncheon Club** at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 25 January 2006 Putnoe 365630
- 1 - 3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .
- 1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired** at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Mrs Webster 856966
- 4.15pm - Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
- 6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe** Mr James 07711 687449
- 6.00 pm Brownies** at St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden 219731
- 7.00pm Bunyan Bridge** at St. Mark's. Brian Sallows 407725
- 7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society** meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting . Sylvia Woods 365095
- 7pm Putnoe Guild** meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073
- 7.45pm Kick Boxing** Junior classes at St Mark's. Contact Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890

**7.45pm Badminton Club** at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

**8.45-9.45pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing group) starting Mr F Steele 355937

### Thursday

**9.30am Thursday Prayer Group** at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*

**9.30am Jo Jingles** at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips 01582 485333

**9.45am Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

**1.00pm - 3.00pm Clinic** at St. Mark's 267444

**12pm Story box** St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 1234 302349

**1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime** at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828

**1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.** Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

**2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club.** Gerald Palmer 345991

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

**2pm U3A Indoor Games** at Putnoe Heights. Radmila Dancer 404811

**4.00 Story box Plus** at Putnoe Heights for 4-11 year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun .Free. Liz Spavins 302349

**5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.

**6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.**

Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

**6.15pm Brownies** at Putnoe Heights. Helga Nash 218521

**7.00pm Club 2000** at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992

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

**7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club** at St Mark's Mr P Housden 376597

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

**7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr 360188

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

**8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle** meets at St Mark's 3 Thursday each month. 1 Thursday as from January 2006 Mr John Broadhouse 740271

### Friday

**9.30am U3A Exercise** at Putnoe Heights. Carole Maunder 301325

**9.00 am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.

**1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

**6pm Self Defence** at Putnoe. Mr James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

**7. 30pm Bibleway** Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 360188

### Saturday

**9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

**10.00am - 1.00pm Theatre Train** at St Mark's - dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414

**2.30pm Calligraphy Group** at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting. Philip Jones 350295

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

### Sunday

**Junior Church with crèche for under 3's**

**9.30 - 10.30 at St.Mark's**

**11-12 at Putnoe Heights.**

**1 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** at Putnoe

Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob.

07866775515 **6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens)** meet

fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities.

Contact Putnoe Office 365630

## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council** 8 February 2006

**Circuit Meeting** 16 March 2006

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 2006 17 January, 24 April, 6 June, 12 September

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team**

**St Mark's Church Management Meeting**

All meetings to start 7.00pm

**Putnoe Heights Management** - 16 Jan 2006

**Putnoe Church Council** 6 February 2006

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 6 February 2006 2.00pm

**Churchyard Committee** -

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting-**

18 January 2006 7.30p.m. at 14 Flint Way..

**Partnership Council** - 24 January 2006

**Brickhill Parish Council** - 12th January

**Joint Deanery Circuit** 18 January 2006

**Annual Congregational Meeting** 7 May 2006

**Mission Group Meeting** - 18 January 2006, 7pm at 14 Flint Way.

Calendar dates appear also on our church website [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com).

**Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.**

# Bible Notes

## Epiphany 2 Year B

### Verse of Scripture Matt 25: 36 & 40

For I was sick and looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me... I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.

### A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, where HIV and AIDS causes untold suffering, claims premature deaths and makes orphans of millions. And by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### First Reading Samuel 3: 1-10

The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions. One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD : The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."  
(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

### Second Reading Revelation 5: 1-10

Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" But no-one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. I wept and wept because no-one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals." Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the centre of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth"  
(Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)



The calling of the fisherman, from St Hilary's Church, Los Angeles

### Third Reading John 1: 43 –51

The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip. When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false." "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel." Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that." He then added, "I tell you the truth, you<sup>l</sup> shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

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

### Post Communion Prayer

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: Fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### Hymns *(Please distribute )*

Come down, O love divine, **89**; I have decided to follow Jesus, **272**; O for a heart to praise my God, **495**; I the Lord of sea and sky (on Partnership News); Hail to the Lord's anointed, **204**

### Mediation

It is interesting to reflect on the story that unfolds in the books of Samuel in light of the power struggles that often plague the church today and how they can detract from putting all our energy into the task of serving God effectively. It can be very easy in all aspects of life to be too concerned with how we are organised and led rather than focusing on what we should be doing and why we are here.

### Commentary

#### Who Calls the Changes?

In the books of Joshua and Judges we read about the gradual settlement of the Israelite tribes into Palestine. As threats from other nations materialised these tribes would come together to combat such crises, and in each instance an individual was raised up by God to lead the tribes on that particular occasion. The books of 1 & 2 Samuel, which follow chronologically then tell of the extraordinary change in the way Israel is organised and governed around the end of the 10th century BCE, of how first Saul became king and is commissioned to defeat the Philistines, who by this time had become a significant and real threat to the very survival of Israel. The books describe how the new political and government structures evolve in Israel, how the voices for setting up a monarchy become stronger, and how it fell to Samuel, the last of the judges, to be instrumental in the wrangling between those who wanted a monarch and those who believed that God would continue to raise up leaders as required. At the beginning of 1 Samuel the centre of government was at Shiloh but by the time we get to the end of 2 Samuel, the centre of what is now an empire, has moved to Jerusalem, a fundamental shift in the manner in which God's rule on earth is made manifest.

With the incarnation of Christ, the manner in which God's rule on earth is made manifest changes once again. Through Christ, God intervened in our world in human form at Christmas and from then on 'the government was on His shoulders'. The old regime and covenant was to be superseded by the new, graphically demonstrated at Epiphany as kings come to worship Jesus.

But in both the Old Testament and the New Testament we see a common thread in the rule and intervention of God in our world. God calls individuals. In the Old Testament reading today we see how God called Samuel, even though initially Samuel did not know it was God that was doing the calling. In the gospel reading God calls Philip and Nathanael, just as He had called Andrew and Simon Peter a few verses previously. All through history God has been calling individuals to serve Him; some of whom recognise His voice, others who don't; some of whom respond to the call, others who don't. Since that first Christmas, people from kings to stable hands, from the highest to the lowest have been declaring, 'We have found the Messiah' as they respond to the call of Jesus. And as He calls and speaks He simply says to follow the example of Samuel and the disciples; to look, to follow, to hear and to act.

The Mildmay website ([www.mildmay.org.uk/ChristianEthos.html](http://www.mildmay.org.uk/ChristianEthos.html)) informs us that Mildmay's origins go back to 1866 when a cholera epidemic was raging in the East End of London. It was the vision of a local Anglican minister and the brave response of two young deaconesses that put Mildmay on the map and shaped its future. The minister was The Rev William Pennefather, a social evangelical from Mildmay Park in Islington. His deaconesses shared his sense of duty to the local community and together they braved the slums of Bethnal Green where even doctors had feared to tread. They ventured into the midst of the sick and dying on a mission to 'heal the sick and preach the gospel'. Thus 'Mildmay' was founded.  
*Sam Cappleman.*

### Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

O God, you have called men and women of every land to be a holy nation, a royal priesthood, the church of your Son: unite us in mutual love across barriers of race, culture and background, and strengthen us in our common task of being Christ and showing Christ to the world He came to save. **Amen**

Our Father, whose Son came to bring wholeness to the lives of all people, we thank you for the wealth of knowledge brought to us through medical research, and for the healing ministry of doctors, nurses and all those involved in the ministry of healing. We pray that all those who work in different ways for the healing and wholeness of their fellow men and women that they may be inspired for their task and calling by the spirit of Him who is wholeness indeed. **Amen**



Lord God, whose Word and will are made known in Jesus Christ, inspire in us faith in that Word and obedience to that will, for our salvation and for your glory. **Amen**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

### A Hymn for Sunday

I, the Lord of sea and sky. I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if you send me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have bourned my peoples pain.  
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them, whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied,  
I will give my life to them, whom shall I send.

We are all human, and the HIV/  
AIDS epidemic affects us all in the  
end. If we discard the people who  
are dying from AIDS, then we can  
no longer call ourselves people'  
*Nelson Mandela*

# News, Views and Information

**Putnoe Heights New Year Lunch** 1pm Sunday 15 January Tickets now available £8 (£4.50 children under 10). 3 courses, wine, coffee & seasonal festive atmosphere. Proceeds to Mildmay Charity and Putnoe Church Funds.

**Footprints** Sunday 22 January 2pm Meet at Clapham (Shopping Parade) for 4mile circular walk through Clapham Park, across the golf course and Twinwoods with good views across the Ouse Valley. Further details from Sue 407264

**Sale of Unwanted Christmas Gifts** at Putnoe following the Teddy Bear All Age Service on Sunday 5 February. Proceeds to Church Funds. Please see Liz for more details.

**Putnoe Junior Church 'Help' rota** is now on the notice board in the welcome area. If you would like to join us one Sunday & see what we get up to please put your name down. We look forward to welcoming you. Liz & Sam.

**Confirmation/Membership Course 2006** We shall be holding a five week course for those wishing to be Confirmed or admitted to full Methodist church membership. Bishop Richard will be coming to conduct the Confirmations on Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>. Neil will perform the Methodist section of the service. We already have a number of people, young and more mature, wishing to take part. But there are still places available The classes will be held on Sunday mornings during the 11am service at Putnoe. The first class will begin on **29 January**. We begin with a brief history of the Anglican and Methodist traditions. Where are they similar and what defines them? We will also talk about the identity of the partnership. (Neil and Joan)

**5 February** 'So why do you want to be confirmed/ admitted to Membership' (Neil)

**12 February** 'What difference does being a Christian make?'

**19 February** Using and understanding the Bible.

**26 February** Prepared for change.

**12 March** Confirmation and admission service 11am Putnoe.

**John and Margaret Standley** thank the members for their support over the past weeks. The staff at South Wing were brilliant.

**Concert by Ouse Valley Singers** at All Saints Church Milton Ernest on Saturday 4 February 2006 at 7.30pm. In aid of the Friends of All Saints Appeal to repair & improve the church. Tickets £5 including light refreshments from John Brown 823469

**Mission Group Meeting** Friday 20 January at Putnoe Heights. Please note change of date. Sylvia Cohen 343424.

**Flower arranging** We have recently lost two of our flower arranging team at St Mark's & urgently need to find new people to take their places. If you'd like to 'have a go', or discuss what is involved please have a word with any of the team members. We will happily have shadowing or arrange practical sessions. Now is not the time to be hiding your lights under bushels! Contact Marion 303254

**Craft Club '06.** There will be a monthly session at 23 Orwell Close, 7.30pm, to which you can bring your own craft work, perhaps with a view to producing items for the Craft Fayre or to learn a technique you wish to tackle. Card making with iris folding is on the agenda for the first meeting on January 24. Materials will be provided for this, with a small nominal charge. All welcome. (Bring diaries for further dates.) Contact Marion 303254

**TNT** there will not be any TNT this Sunday, it will start on the 29th January with a craft evening. We are short of leaders and helpers for TNT and if anyone would like to help once a fortnight during term time then please contact Neil.

## **All Age Teddy Bear Service Bring your Teddy to church**

Sunday 5 February 2006  
9.30am at St Mark's Church  
11.00am at Putnoe Heights Church

Followed by teddy bear treats and drinks  
'Teddy bear, teddy bear,  
say your prayers'

For details please speak to Liz Spavins  
Partnership Children's Worker 01234 302349

## **Nova Property Services**

17 Stratford Way, Lower Shelton  
Tel: 01234 766056 Fax: 01234 767827  
office@novapropertyservices.co.uk

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## Mildmay 'Continuing the mission of Jesus'

Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.

*Mark 1 v 14 – 42.*

We are pleased this morning to welcome to our services Dr Veronica Moss who is the Chief Executive and Chief Medical Officer from the Mildmay Charity which we have been supporting over the Christmas period. Mildmay is a Christian charity which works with victims of Aids in London and sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern Europe.

Thank you for your gifts for the Mildmay appeal, please continue to give generously for the men, women, children and babies who are afflicted by this terrible disease in our own country and across the world. **Sam**

### What you gifts can do

**£10** buys minibus fuel, to bring in sick children to our centre in Uganda

**£28** pays for intensive counselling to help UK patients overcome the trauma of AIDS illnesses

**£49** pays for the crucial services provided by our pastoral care team in Uganda

**£75** pays for vital physiotherapy to get Ugandan patients back on their feet again after illness

**£100** provides expert medical care at our UK hospital to keep patients free of pain and monitored for side-effects from strong anti-HIV drugs

**£250** provide a special air-cushioned mattress to make a chronically ill patient more comfortable

**£500** pays for a whole day's nursing care for 'family admissions' at our UK hospital

**Children living with HIV infection or AIDS** - related illnesses themselves are amongst the most vulnerable of all children. They and their families experience enormous losses as well as stigma and prejudice, which may be felt in their communities, schools, and often, even in church and Sunday school. The latest estimate from UNAIDS (end of 2004) indicates that there are 2.2 million children worldwide under 15 years of age who are living with HIV themselves, and of these, 640,000 became infected during 2004. The number who died in the same year was just over half a million. The total number of adults and children living with HIV in 2004 is approximately 40 million.

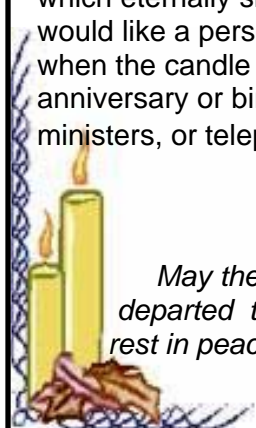
Martin was referred to the Mildmay Harare Children's Hospital Specialist Clinic in Zimbabwe. He was eleven years old, and had a right sided hemiplegia, the legacy of cryptococcal meningitis. He was very malnourished and depressed, having had to stop school, and move to live with his elderly grandmother who was already overwhelmed with the other orphans for whom she was caring. He had severe oral thrush which made eating difficult and he was losing weight. His grandmother had little hope for him, but she brought him to the clinic as a 'last straw' at which to clutch, having been told that children brought to the clinic usually improved. He was admitted to the Day Care programme, where he received intensive physiotherapy, good nutrition, counselling and daily schooling to his level of ability. A year later, he has learned to walk again, and can write with his left hand and feed himself. Counselling and spiritual support for Martin and his grandmother has given them both a new outlook on life. A school has been found that is willing to take him in spite of his continuing disability. His grandmother is grateful and has found that the support and help she has received has given her the strength to cope with Martin and the other children for whom she cares. It is hoped that a sponsor will pay for Martin to start taking antiretroviral drugs very soon.

### 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.

**Doris Wilson**

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



### Rest in Peace

Forthcoming funerals  
to be taken by our Ministers

**The funeral of Douglas Bland** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 17 January at 9.15am *Royden*

**The funeral of Evelyn May Ingram** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 17 January at 11.30am *Royden*

The funeral of Valerie Hall will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday 19 January at 1pm NBC

The funeral of Arthur Meli will take place on Friday 20 January at 1pm NBC