



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

18 November 2007

33 in Ordinary Time



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights Church. On the 2nd & 4th Sunday in St Mark's Chapel.

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

Christ the King - 25 November

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - The Reverend Eric Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard
Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - The Reverend Eric Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Hoar
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Bible Readings

1 Jeremiah 23: 1-6 2. Colossians 1. 11-20
3 Luke 23: 33-43

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Kay Munro in loving memory of her parents.

The flowers at St Mark's Church have been given by Doreen Smart in memory of her beloved husband.

Prayer for Sunday

Lord of all quiet thoughts and prayers,
be my guide.

Because you were lowly, I will adore you;
because you came as a servant,
command me and I will serve you;
because your yoke is easy,
I will labour for you with all my strength.
Help me to see in others, however mean,
the image of yourself
and bring me, at last,
to eternal life,
through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Selwyn Veater, Brighton and Hove Circuit

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 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

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership News is also archived on our church website www.ThisisChurch.com

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—5pm Monday to Friday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team Mr Alan Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349
youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs L Parry 216724 Mobile 07922053740

Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

8.30-5.30pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

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

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

10.45am U3A Playreading St Mark's C Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

2.30pm Bedford Arts Society Putnoe Heights Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe

Heights. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Ms Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎364710

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week every month Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

7.30pm Creative Needles. Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's each month next meeting 19 November - St Mark's Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's.

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

10am -Bedord Arts Society starting at St Mark's on the 11th September. ☎Mrs Brown 771676

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Tuesday of the month Mrs Berman ☎364723

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 20 November 'Showtime with the Melodians'. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's alternate weeks. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's alternate weeks. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group

St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

7pm Creative Card Making St Mark's 1st & 3rd Week of the month Carol Houghton ☎346718

7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515

7.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week of the month. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 20 November Holiday Slides . Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.00am Paint Tots St Mark's Jacqui Harrahan ☎824475

9.30am Childminding Support Group Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman ☎313949

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787.

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

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation Putnoe Heights Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 28 November Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

2pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 3rd week of the month Ken Silvester ☎400584

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Rachell Monton ☎01234 297138

6.30pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725

7pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 4th Wednesday of the month. Ken Silvester ☎400584

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. . Sylvia Woods ☎365095

7.00pm Yoga St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎Loxley 347073

7.45pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday. Next meeting 21 November Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. 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. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play weekly at St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.75 for first child. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm-3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic. St. Mark's ☎267444

12pm Storybox weekly at St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr C Hill ☎772922

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.30pm Bedford Senior Chess Club St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs C Smith ☎344544

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday– Pastor Tarr ☎360188

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week each month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's 1st and 3rd week Next meeting Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

9.30-12.30pm & 12.30 - 2.30pm U3A Photography Group St Marks 4th week Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

1.30pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30pm Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

7pm Bedford Arts Society fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

7pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church. Contact PC Dave Hawkey ☎349179

Saturday

9.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe

Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

10.00 pm Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. Liz ☎302349.

6pm T.X.T Putnoe. for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion. Liz ☎302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 29th Jan 08, 17th June 08

St Mark's Leadership Team – 28 November 2007 27 February 2008, 13 May 2008

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 28th November 2007 at 12 noon

Putnoe H Centre Management - 19 November

Putnoe Church Council - 28 January 2008

Pastoral Group Meeting – 4.30pm 15 January 2008

Churchyard Committee - 16 January 2008

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting :

Partnership Council - 26 Feb 2007

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings

Deanery Meeting -

Circuit Meeting - 10 March 2008, 12 June 2008

Woodland Burial Trustees - January 21st 2008

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–

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



Telecare

It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feedback, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down on the

Telecare scheme, please do so. Additional members of the Pastoral Team are sharing the task of making telephone calls. Please do not be concerned if a new person calls.



33 Sunday in Ordinary

Opening Verse - But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. Malachi 4

Collect Prayer for the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world. Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us, and bring us to eternal light and joy; through the power of him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Methodist Worship

First Bible Reading - Malachi 4: 1-2a

"Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. (This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Bible Reading - 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat." We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat. And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.

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

Third Reading - Luke 21: 5-19

(After the Gospel is announced - **Glory to Christ our Saviour**)

Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, "As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down." "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?" He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. When you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away." Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. "But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. This will result in your being witnesses to them. But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. All men will hate you because of me. But not a hair of your head will perish. By standing firm you will gain life.

(Reader : This is the Gospel of Christ - **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

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. Amen

Commentary

I hate shopping more and more, let me clarify that, I hate food shopping. I have never really enjoyed doing the 'grocery shopping' but I enjoy it less and less. The cost of food is rising rapidly making ordinary things like bread and eggs suddenly seem quite expensive. But apart from the cost, I get so angry at the constant need of supermarkets to change where everything is. Just when I get used to knowing how to find something it changes. Why do they do this? It makes me cross and I just want to walk out as quickly as possible. Even if they think that they have a really clever reason to move shoe polish next to the dog food, surely it is better that before we knew where it was. If things move around all the time then we lose our bearings. That, I believe, is what is wrong with so much of society today, we are all going through so much change, change, change - and as a result we lose our bearings.

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus speaks of the terrible things that will come. He describes wars and pestilence and persecution, in what is a very frightening picture. Jesus tells his followers that in the face of world calamities, many people will come forward offering the solution. Jesus warns the disciples not to be deceived. Our age, like many others before, feels pretty grim. News reports are consistently delivering bad news. Not a day goes by without hearing of terrible murders, loss of life and destruction. In the face of this we are surrounded by 'experts' who offer us the perfect way to live our lives in a way that makes sense.

Jesus encourages his disciples not to be bothered running after this and that theory for happy and effective living. Jesus comforts his disciples with the assurance that 'not a hair of your head will perish.' He goes on to make a remarkable claim, 'By standing firm you will gain life.' This is something quite dramatic, we are to exhibit endurance, we are to stand firm and by our faithfulness we will achieve life. In our rapidly changing times in which we do not even know which isle to find the cornflakes, Jesus calls upon us to show endurance and stickability.

I remember visiting a relative who had a house in which everything was just as it was in the 1950's. The same kitchen units and tiles, the same bathroom suite and banisters. It was quite a strange thing, almost like stepping back in time every time I visited. However I contrast that with an increasingly modern throwaway culture where kitchens and bathrooms are changed with every whim of fashion. This is just a sign of our times, the lack of permanence and shallow commitment is not just for kitchens but towards friends, even spouses.

In spiritual affairs the same tendency to chop and change appears to prevail. People pick and mix from the smorgasbord of religious choice and seldom give time to understand with any depth the choices which they have made. Indeed it is regarded as being of little consequence. So we need today to listen afresh to the words of Jesus as he calls for our faithfulness. Our life choices may be full of change, with shifting tastes and appetites, but we must never lose sight of the need to be faithful and resting in the assurance of the teaching of Jesus. It is only this that will keep us secure and stable as human beings, in the midst of a turbulent and rapidly changing world. In times of uncertainty, when the wheels come off and things become very difficult for us personally or as a community, in such times of despair or confusion, it is at these times that we need to be able to remain true to our faith. Trust in God and all will be well, Jesus promised.

Charles Royden

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise with the Holy Communion Books)

1. All my hope on God is founded 16
2. Come and see the shining hope 86
3. Lo he Comes with Clouds descending 424
4. Strengthen for service Lord the hands - On Partnership News (Tune Dominus Regit Me)

Meditation

Judging by the reading from 2 Thessalonians some of the early Christians believed that work was an option, but not a necessity for all. Paul rebukes that tendency directly: "Whoever doesn't work doesn't eat" (2 Thessalonians 3:10). It is not clear from this passage whether this referred to poorer members of the community whose livelihood might be provided from the generosity of others, or perhaps to the richer members of the community who actually did not need to work to support themselves and could choose lives of "idleness," becoming "mere busybodies."

Paul, as a bringer of truth and wisdom, could certainly have expected in a Greek culture to have been treated as a scholar, and so to have had his needs provided for so that he didn't have to work to support himself. But, he reminds them, he did not do that at all. He paid for everything he received after having worked, even day and night, to get the money to do so. He continued to see work as a blessing, not a curse, and to draw a connection between physical labour and the food that would be on his table. Leisure was not the highest good, especially when having it increased the possibility for individuals to become destroyers rather than builders of community. So perhaps there is a message for our society in which many people refuse manual labour and such jobs are filled by migrant workers.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

O God, the Sun behind all suns and the Being behind all being, draw near to us in every friend we possess and in every enemy who crosses our path. Let us see your glory in the greyness of the dawn, in the eye of the storm and in the trivial sacraments of everyday life; through Christ our Lord. Amen. *George Macleod, 1895-1991*

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship Shorter*

What was the response of the Methodist Church to the Queens Speech ?

Anthea Cox, Coordinating Secretary for Public Life and Social Justice, says; "The Government wants to make education, housing and health care the centre of its work over the new Parliamentary session. Methodists care passionately about these issues and welcome the opportunity for debate.

The Methodist Church welcomes the introduction of the Climate Change Bill. Earlier this year we responded to this bill in its draft form. As a nation the UK must achieve real year-on-year cuts in carbon emissions. The urgency for action is underlined by a report published by the UN today stating that carbon emissions from industrialized countries are at a record high. We argue that long-term targets should be revised in the light of the findings published this year by the International Panel on Climate Change. In addition we must not use the purchasing of carbon credits overseas to buy out our own responsibility at home.

The Human Tissues and Embryos Bill will prompt further debate on abortion and the ethical and moral issues around early human life. The Methodist Church will seek to listen, learn and speak with great care on this sensitive issue.

We take a keen interest in the proposals to combat terrorism. The Methodist Church previously opposed extending the time for which people can be held before trial to 90 days but we recognise the need to consider how a balance can be achieved between providing adequate powers to address terrorism and ensuring the right to liberty and justice for all."

For all your Christmas presents this year



Please always log on to Amazon through www.thisischurch.com to buy all your books, music, DVD's, electrical goods, we receive 5% commission.



Church Christmas Cards in aid of church funds. Are now available from the church offices. The cards are priced at £2.50 for 10 cards and envelopes. If you ordered from St Mark's Church these are now ready for collection. More orders are still being taken.

Footprints Walking Group

Sunday 2 December 2.00pm start. Meet at St Mark's Church for walk in Mowsbury area followed by cup of tea in the coffee shop. Contact Sue 407264

Partnership' God Talk ' Group. For the last two years a group of women have been meeting on a Monday morning to pray, to share talks about God and enjoy each other's company. Since many of us are now working, we have decided to meet monthly on a Wednesday evening. We hope that you might like to join us. Our first meeting is on Wednesday 5 December 8-9pm at the home of Claire Peck, 22 Brecon Way. Contact Majella Atkinson (group co-ordinator) on 325293 or Liz 302349

Wednesday Holy Communion - Please do not forget that there is a service of Holy Communion every Wednesday at St Mark's Chapel, you are always offered a warm welcome and the service is followed by refreshments.

Christmas Voices - Come and enjoy a selection of poetry and prose and a little music around the Christmas Tree as some of our regular Putnoe readers help us capture the Christmas Spirit. Mulled Wine and Mince Pies during the interval. Thursday December 6th at Putnoe Heights at 7.30pm. Tickets £3 from Putnoe Office or on the door. Proceeds to Keech Cottage

Putnoe Provender - The Christmas Provender will take place on Sunday 2nd December after morning service. Cakes, jam, marmalade, chutney, mince pies and Putnoe's own Christmas puds will be on sale. Please help to make this a record fund-raiser for the work of our Missions Group. John & Sally Gunning tel. 305925.

The 1st Putnoe Brownies would like to invite you to their Christmas Fund Raising Sale Monday 26 November at 6.30pm. Does anyone know the history of a wooden owl carved by a 2nd World War P.O.W & inscribed 1st Putnoe Brownies. If so please see Liz.

Thanks to everyone who brought shoes for the Malawi appeal. We collect 330 pairs, enough to buy a bicycle for a community worker. The appeal has now finished.

Partnership Council Christmas Party. Please note the date of Sunday 16 December. You are all invited for lunch at the Vicarage from any time after 1.00pm

Peals of Wisdom Quiz- £1 per entry, proceeds to Putnoe Mission Funds. Draw made on Sunday 25 November. Quiz sheets available from the church office. Sylvia Cohen

Young Peoples Music Group If you enjoy singing or play an instrument join us on Friday 30 November 8 - 9 pm at Putnoe to prepare some Christmas Music. Contact Julia 295964.

Journeying towards Christmas with the travelling Nativity figures. If you would like to host Mary & Joseph for the evening during Advent, please see Liz.

St Mark's Church Council Launches Organ Fund St Mark's Church Council has agreed to launch a fund to raise £15,000 to replace the church organ. The computerised organ will be replaced by a newer computerised digital system with additional speakers at the front of the church.

Hymn For Sunday

Tune Dominus Regit Me

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
that holy things have taken;
let ears that now have heard thy songs
to clamour never waken.

Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang
keep free from all deceiving;
the eyes which saw thy love be bright,
thy blessed hope perceiving.

The feet that tread thy holy courts
from light do thou not banish;
the bodies by thy Body fed
with thy new life replenish.

Hayyel Maran 'idhe daphshat Ephraim the Syrian (Ephrem of Edessa) (c 307-373) translated John Mason Neale (1818-1866), Charles William Humphreys (1840-1921) and Percy Dearmer (1867-1936). Tune Dominus Regit Me

Mission Update. Thank you to all who have already taken their envelopes. If you were unable to get one last week they are still available from the table in the foyer at St Mark's or from the church offices. Please return as soon as possible and at the latest by 2 December. We will keep you updated on progress.

Smartie Tubes will be available at St. Mark's and Putnoe today. Eat the Smarties & replace with money for BeCHAR / Keech Cottage. Please return cash filled tubes on Gift Sunday 2 December.

TNT meets 25th November for Christmas crafts. This will be our last meeting until the New Year.

Putnoe Heights Church Council: There will be a special meeting of the Church Council in the Church at 12.15pm on Sunday 25th November 2007. Thank you.

Delivery of the Christmas paper will take place on Saturday 8th December. Meet at church at 10am and enjoy coffee and mince pies when we return. Please join us. All welcome.

Christmas card notice board. This will be erected in the church at the beginning of December for members of the congregation to post their Christmas wishes to all friends at St Mark's. A donation to 'Bechar' can be handed in at the Church office.

We welcome Mike Puttock who has graciously agreed to join us as organist. We look forward to joining with him in worship together.

Sponsored Head Shave. Lorraine Haines from St Mark's is raising money for Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust (Paediatric Oncology) by taking part in a sponsored 'Head Shave' at Toni and Guy. Harpur Centre, Bedford on Saturday 1st December at 2pm. A sponsor form can be found on the notice board in the foyer at St Mark's.

The Methodist Church has launched an emergency appeal for funds following the devastating floods that have swept through South Mexico in the wake of the heaviest rains to hit the country for 40 years.

The extent of the flooding is massive with the states of Tabasco and Veracruz particularly affected. At least 500,000 people have been made homeless and are facing the destruction of their crops and outbreaks of disease. People can give securely online at www.justgiving.com/mexicoflood. This is part of the Church's new easy-to-use online giving facility through www.justgiving.com.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre

There is only 1 week left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 24th November 2007. We would be grateful for help with the following:-
Tombola – Any NEW unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola stall. Please bring any items up to the Church Office in the week beginning 19th November 2007.

Raffle – Raffle books are now available as for Sunday 21st October.

It would be appreciated if you could take a few books to sell to family and friends. We would also be grateful for any new items suitable for the raffle.

Cake Stall -Milly is kindly co-ordinating the cake stall again. If you are able to bake a cake for this stall please contact the Church Office.

Refreshments – We would very much appreciate donations of tray bakes to sell with tea and coffee. Ploughman's lunches will be on sale at lunchtime as usual. Volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day would be very much appreciated. To put your name down please see Avril Williams or Trudy Bunday. Any help gratefully received.

Second-hand Book Stall

Any good second hand books can be brought up to the Church anytime during the week beginning 19th November 2007.

This is one of our main fundraising events of the year and we are hoping to make it an even bigger success than last year, with your help I am sure we can achieve this. Thank you. Avril Williams

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

**George Mallows
Hilda Iris Brown**

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

Rest in Peace



The funeral of Phyllis Serena Webb will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 23rd November at 1.45.
(Crossley)

The funeral of Isabella Morfill will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 23 November at 3.45pm (Royden)